Journalism

UC Berkeley’s Graduate School of Journalism is looking for the leaders of the next generation of journalists—strongly motivated individuals with reverence for truth, a hunger to discover and to inform, a deep regard for thorough analysis, and an ardent embrace of civic engagement.

The digital explosion has created an unparalleled appetite for news as more and more people hunger to witness, experience, and learn about what’s happening around them. That’s why, more than ever, our world needs professionals who are committed to reporting on contemporary realities with precision and eloquence. You’ll be prepared not just to make a living, but to make a difference.

Our Master of Journalism degree (MJ) demands a rigorous two-year immersion. That commitment is what’s needed for you to achieve the full range of proficiencies you’ll need as a twenty-first-century journalist: narrative writing, audio, photography, broadcast and online video production, multimedia storytelling, data, and investigative-based journalism.

By the end of your second year you will have created a portfolio of ambitious, high-quality work, much of it published—with the help of our exceptional faculty of seasoned journalists. What’s more, a vibrant worldwide network of media professionals, many of them alumni, will be open to you; professionals who fully appreciate what having a Berkeley Master of Journalism degree means. Concurrent degree programs with Law, Asian Studies, International and Area Studies, Latin American Studies, and Public Health are available.

Admission to the Program

The Journalism Program requires two statements (Statement of Purpose and Personal History Statement), one PDF of your transcript (official transcript requested if admitted), letters of recommendation, journalist work samples, and resume. All admissions are subject to Graduate Division approval. For full details, see the admissions page on the school’s website (http://journalism.berkeley.edu/admissions/).

Admission to the University

Minimum Requirements for Admission

The following minimum requirements apply to all graduate programs and will be verified by the Graduate Division:

1. A bachelor’s degree or recognized equivalent from an accredited institution;
2. A grade point average of B or better (3.0);
3. If the applicant has completed a basic degree from a country or political entity (e.g., Quebec) where English is not the official language, adequate proficiency in English to do graduate work, as evidenced by a TOEFL score of at least 90 on the iBT test, 570 on the paper-and-pencil test, or an IELTS Band score of at least 7 on a 9-point scale (note that individual programs may set higher levels for any of these); and
4. Sufficient undergraduate training to do graduate work in the given field.

Applicants Who Already Hold a Graduate Degree

The Graduate Council views academic degrees not as vocational training certificates, but as evidence of broad training in research methods, independent study, and articulation of learning. Therefore, applicants who already have academic graduate degrees should be able to pursue new subject matter at an advanced level without the need to enroll in a related or similar graduate program.

Programs may consider students for an additional academic master’s or professional master’s degree only if the additional degree is in a distinctly different field.

Applicants admitted to a doctoral program that requires a master’s degree to be earned at Berkeley as a prerequisite (even though the applicant already has a master’s degree from another institution in the same or a closely allied field of study) will be permitted to undertake the second master’s degree, despite the overlap in field.

The Graduate Division will admit students for a second doctoral degree only if they meet the following guidelines:

1. Applicants with doctoral degrees may be admitted for an additional doctoral degree only if that degree program is in a general area of knowledge distinctly different from the field in which they earned their original degree. For example, a physics PhD could be admitted to a doctoral degree program in music or history; however, a student with a doctoral degree in mathematics would not be permitted to add a PhD in statistics.
2. Applicants who hold the PhD degree may be admitted to a professional doctorate or professional master’s degree program if there is no duplication of training involved.

Applicants may apply only to one single degree program or one concurrent degree program per admission cycle.

Required Documents for Applications

1. Transcripts: Applicants may upload unofficial transcripts with your application for the departmental initial review. If the applicant is admitted, then official transcripts of all college-level work will be required. Official transcripts must be in sealed envelopes as issued by the school(s) attended. If you have attended Berkeley, upload your unofficial transcript with your application for the departmental initial review. If you are admitted, an official transcript with evidence of degree conferral will not be required.
2. Letters of recommendation: Applicants may request online letters of recommendation through the online application system. Hard copies of recommendation letters must be sent directly to the program, not the Graduate Division.
3. Evidence of English language proficiency: All applicants who have completed a basic degree from a country or political entity in which the official language is not English are required to submit official evidence of English language proficiency. This applies to institutions from Bangladesh, Burma, Nepal, India, Pakistan, Latin America, the Middle East, the People’s Republic of China, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, Southeast Asia, most European countries, and Quebec (Canada). However, applicants who, at the time of application, have already completed at least one year of full-time academic course work with grades of B or better at a US university may submit an official transcript from the US university to fulfill this requirement. The following courses will not fulfill this requirement:
   • courses in English as a Second Language,
   • courses conducted in a language other than English,
- courses that will be completed after the application is submitted, and
- courses of a non-academic nature.

If applicants have previously been denied admission to Berkeley on the basis of their English language proficiency, they must submit new test scores that meet the current minimum from one of the standardized tests. Official TOEFL score reports must be sent directly from Educational Test Services (ETS). The institution code for Berkeley is 4833. Official IELTS score reports must be sent electronically from the testing center to University of California, Berkeley, Graduate Division, Sproul Hall, Rm 318 MC 5900, Berkeley, CA 94720. TOEFL and IELTS score reports are only valid for two years.

Where to Apply
Visit the Berkeley Graduate Division application page (http://grad.berkeley.edu/admissions/apply/).

Unit Requirements
The Master of Journalism (MJ) degree at Berkeley requires the completion of at least 36 semester units of coursework and the submission of a satisfactory master's project. A minimum of 24 units must be earned from coursework in the Graduate School of Journalism. All students are expected to graduate in four consecutive semesters.

Total number of units needed to graduate is 36.

Curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JOURN 200</td>
<td>Reporting the News (first semester)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOURN 211</td>
<td>News Reporting Laboratory (first semester)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOURN 219</td>
<td>Mini-Special Topics</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOURN 255</td>
<td>Media Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOURN 294</td>
<td>Master’s Project Seminar (1 unit in 3rd semester; 1 unit in 4th semester)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOURN 297</td>
<td>Field Study in Journalism (300 supervised hours)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOURN 298</td>
<td>Group Study - Special Topics</td>
<td>2-4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Required Courses for Multimedia, Video Storytelling and Documentary

**Multimedia**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JOURN 216</td>
<td>Multimedia Reporting (third and fourth semester)</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOURN 222</td>
<td>Interactive Narratives</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select at least one or more for second semester:</td>
<td>3-9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOURN 220</td>
<td>Coding For Journalists [2]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOURN 221</td>
<td>Introduction to Data Visualization [3]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOURN 283</td>
<td>Reporting for Television [5]</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Video Reporting and Storytelling**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JOURN 219</td>
<td>Mini-Special Topics (Picture and Sound; third semester)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOURN 283</td>
<td>Reporting for Television (Second semester TV/ Documentary)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOURN 284</td>
<td>Documentary Production (third and fourth semester Documentary)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOURN 286</td>
<td>History of Documentary (second semester required for Documentary, optional for TV)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Requirements**

1. One advanced reporting course is required for each semester after the first semester.
2. Two units from the JOURN 297 can count toward the 36 units requirement. Therefore, 34 of 36 units required for the MJ degree must be from coursework.
3. Submission of an approved master's project with all valid approvals is required by the announced deadline.
4. Twelve units per semester are required for all Berkeley graduate students.
5. All courses must be taken at Berkeley; credit from other institutions is not transferable.
6. Students may take up to 4 units of JOURN 601 each semester without approval. Approval is required for more than 4 units JOURN 601 in a semester. JOURN 601 units cannot be counted towards the 36 total units requirement.
7. Submission of all required Graduate Division paperwork is required by the announced deadline.
8. All required classes must be taken for a letter grade except for the JOURN 297. Only one-third of total UC master's credits can be S grades.
9. Up to 12 of the required 36 units for the MJ degree can be from other departments at Berkeley. Graduate-level courses (numbered 200-299) and upper division undergraduate courses (numbered 100-199) are acceptable.
10. Concurrent degree students may have additional or modified requirements and should confirm requirements with a student affairs officer.

**Internship/Field Work/Practicum**

The Master of Journalism degree requires two (S/U) units of JOURN 297 Credit. The internship requirement is met once a student completes 300 hours of journalistic work under the tutelage of a mentor/supervisor who can vouch for the student's professional progress. A 2-3 paragraph report is due from both the student and the mentor/supervisor at the end of the internship period. You may combine the hours of two different internships. You may also get additional credits during the academic year as needed if an employer requires this.

**Capstone/Master's Project (Plan II)**

The master's project represents the culmination of two years of study. It can take many forms: a polished piece of in-depth writing, a long-form television story or series of stories, a series of shorter print stories on a single connected theme, a documentary, a radio, photography, multimedia or editing project incorporating original journalistic content. The faculty added a new category that allows a student to fulfill the master's project requirement as a community site fellow.

Successful completion of the master's project is a requirement for graduation. While we will encourage you to try to publish your project, the publication is not a requirement for graduation. Work may originate in another course, such as investigative reporting, magazine writing, multimedia, or television. In other words, it does not have to be a special project developed for the master's tutorial alone. However, the quality
of the final project must be more polished and substantial than the work originally produced for another course.

The program’s career services offer a full complement of career planning workshops and opportunities for professional development including resume building, interviewing skills, and branding. Students learn about internship and job opportunities throughout the year and are coached to make their best decisions.

Professional Experience
To work in journalism, students need professional experience. One of the solid benefits of Berkeley’s two-year program is our students’ unmatched opportunities to get hands-on experience both inside and outside the classroom—covering news and developing enterprise projects for their courses and for individual and group projects, and producing freelance work as reporters or interns for scores of media outlets in the Bay Area and nationally.

Students first build skills and confidence through the J#School’s own publications and broadcasts. In the fall of their first year, students learn the basics of reporting while contributing to Richmond Confidential and Oakland North, the School’s hyperlocal websites, and creating specialized content for the topical reporting classes. Later, they write long-form articles intended for publication; they produce broadcasts for Berkeley’s student radio station, and they develop magazine-style and theme-based television shows that are showcased throughout each semester and welcomed by web-based sites and broadcasters with whom the school has collaborative relations.


Career Services
Our students are well supported when the time comes to plan their moves to internships or jobs in the field. The J#School maintains an extensive database of the best and newest internship and job opportunities drawn from industry newsletters, internet job listings, and contact lists in print, broadcast, and new media. We cull the most interesting prospects and distribute them to students in frequent email bulletins and a weekly internal newsletter. What’s more, individual faculty make it a point of pride to keep their own networks fresh and vibrant, and routinely link students to promising opportunities.

Most importantly, we work one-on-one with students. Students fill out questionnaires and meet regularly with our career services director to discuss their aspirations and changing interests, and to develop a strategy to achieve those objectives through freelancing, part-time school year internships, full-time summer internships between the first and second years of the program and finally, a rewarding job—or a demanding startup opportunity—in the the media workforce.

We offer workshops to prepare students for interviewing, writing CVs and cover letters, clip selection, job-hunting strategies and making the most of their first internships or jobs. Each year, print, broadcast, and new media organizations send representatives to Berkeley to recruit and interview our students.

Our commitment to students doesn’t end at graduation. We are now developing a comprehensive career resources program for students and alumni so that we can provide long-term alumni career services. At the same time, we value and cultivate relationships with graduates who can serve as mentors and contacts for our students.

More information can be found on our website (http://journalism.berkeley.edu/career/).

Journalism
Expand all course descriptions [+]
Collapse all course descriptions [-]
JOURN 200 Reporting the News 3 - 7 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2021, Fall 2020, Fall 2019
This course is an intensive 15-week research and workshop experience. It provides the foundation for the rest of the curriculum offered at the J-School. 200 Stresses hard news reporting, writing, and editing. In small classes faculty members with extensive experience in newspaper reporting work to develop the scope and quality of the reporting and writing ability of their students. The researching, reporting, rewriting, and editing schedule is extensive and students work on a range of stories covering a broad spectrum of subjects. The aim is to produce professional level work--publishable newspaper stories--in an environment and timeline similar to a professional environment.

Reporting the News: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-7 hours of seminar and 5-12 hours of fieldwork per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructors: Platoni, Chavez, Conis
Reporting the News: Read Less [-]

JOURN 201 Advanced News Reporting 3 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Spring 2021, Spring 2020
Advanced study of reporting in more complex subject areas and more sophisticated writing styles.
Advanced News Reporting: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 200 or consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar and 8 hours of fieldwork per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Platoni
Advanced News Reporting: Read Less [-]
JOURN 209 Multimedia Reporting Bootcamp 1 Unit
Terms offered: Fall 2021, Fall 2020, Fall 2019
This is a required one-week intensive multimedia training workshop at the beginning of the fall semester to equip all first-year graduate journalism students with basic knowledge of digital storytelling techniques as well as the use of multimedia equipment and editing software to produce multimedia content. The objective is to train all students—regardless of their planned area of specialty—with some foundational digital skills to be applied during their reporting for the school’s local online news sites in the J200 Intro To Reporting class. The concepts and skills taught during the workshop also will be reaffirmed and expanded over the semester in the Multimedia Skills class.

JOURN 210 News Photography 2 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Fall 2021, Spring 2021
Fundamentals of photography and taking news photography.

JOURN 211 News Reporting Laboratory 2 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2021, Fall 2020, Fall 2019
This course is an intensive laboratory course taken in conjunction with our core reporting class, 200. It is designed to simulate as closely as possible the deadline and production pressures of a modern, multi-media news organization. Students report to the newsroom during the week to receive their reporting assignments. Print, audio, and video elements are gathered, produced, edited, rewritten as necessary and then made available to pre-selected media outlets for publication. Each section will produce a themed final project.

JOURN 212 Advanced Radio 1 - 3 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Fall 2021, Spring 2021
Radio students may continue to develop their news and production skills in several formats: (1) the reporting and production of the weekly “Inside Oakland” program (broadcast on KALX-FM). Each episode explores a specific theme with focus on the geographic, cultural, and political entity known as Oakland; (2) the collaborative production of a documentary program focusing on a particular topic; (3) the development and production of independent long-form pieces for broadcast on different outlets.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-4 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Manilla
News Reporting Laboratory: Read Less [-]
JOURN 213 Documentary Photography 3 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Fall 2021, Spring 2021
An exploration of magazine photography as applied to photo essay, day assignments and book projects, as well as content based lectures (location lighting, environmental portraiture, etc.) and critiques. Students work on in-depth assignments that include research, reporting, and photographing. Legal/ethical and business issues are explored, including fund-raising and grant writing to support extended projects.
Documentary Photography: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Light
Documentary Photography: Read Less [-]

JOURN 215 Multimedia Skills 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2021, Fall 2019, Fall 2017
This class teaches the fundamentals of using digital video, audio, and photo equipment, as well as editing digital files. The class is designed to expose students to what it is like to report in a multimedia environment. While primarily for students taking new media publishing courses, the class will be valuable to any student who wants to better prepare for the emerging convergence of broadcast, print, and web media.
Multimedia Skills: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of workshop per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructors: Rue, Hernandez
Multimedia Skills: Read Less [-]

JOURN 216 Multimedia Reporting 2 or 3 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Fall 2021, Spring 2021
For journalists, the World Wide Web opens a powerful way to tell stories by combining text, video, audio, still photos, graphics, and interactivity. Students learn multimedia-reporting basics, how the web is changing journalism, and its relationship to democracy and community. Students use storyboarding techniques to construct nonlinear stories; they research, report, edit, and assemble two story projects.
Multimedia Reporting: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Journalism 215 (can be taken concurrently); Dreamweaver, Photoshop, and iMovie or Final Cut Pro
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of workshop per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructors: Rue, Hernandez
Multimedia Reporting: Read Less [-]

JOURN 219 Mini-Special Topics 1 Unit
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Fall 2021, Spring 2021
A mini course is a four to ten-week intensive workshop designed to accompany and enhance other courses in the program. Workshop topics vary from semester to semester, but have included: Associate Producer, Sports Reporting, FOIA Reporting, Foreign Reporting, Bias and Journalism, Social Media, Sound Design and the Journalist as Freelancer.
Mini-Special Topics: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring:
4 weeks - 3 hours of workshop per week
5 weeks - 2-3 hours of workshop per week
6 weeks - 2-3 hours of workshop per week
10 weeks - 2 hours of workshop per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.
Mini-Special Topics: Read Less [-]
JOURN 220 Coding For Journalists 2 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Spring 2021, Spring 2020
This course is an introduction to programming concepts as they relate to the journalism industry. The goal of this course is to equip students with a foundational technical literacy to construct interactive online stories such as data visualizations, infographics, maps, multimedia packages, games or innumerable other types of projects students may conceive.

Coding For Journalists: Read More [+]  
Rules & Requirements  
Prerequisites: Students must have completed the Digital News Packages class in the fall. Students who have not taken this course should contact the instructor for exceptions to the prerequisite. Basic knowledge of jQuery is highly encouraged  
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.  
Hours & Format  
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week  
Additional Details  
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate  
Grading: Letter grade.  
Instructor: Rue  

Coding For Journalists: Read Less [-]  

JOURN 221 Introduction to Data Visualization 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2021, Fall 2020, Fall 2019
This weekly three-hour course will explore the skills needed to find, clean, analyze and visualize data. The class consists of two hours of instruction and one hour of supervised lab time working on directed projects. Students will create a final project suitable for publication. The focus will be on free and open source tools that can immediately be applied to other projects and professional work.  
Introduction to Data Visualization: Read More [+]  
Rules & Requirements  
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.  
Hours & Format  
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week  
Additional Details  
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate  
Grading: Letter grade.  
Instructor: De Groot  

Introduction to Data Visualization: Read Less [-]  

JOURN 222 Interactive Narratives 3 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Spring 2021, Spring 2020
This class teaches students how to develop interactive online news packages using best practices in design and web development. The course focuses on story structure and production of content and will cover the following topics: Best practices in developing interactive multimedia stories online; Design fundamentals and typography for online content; HTML and CSS for designing and constructing web projects; jQuery coding for adding interactivity to online content.  
Interactive Narratives: Read More [+]  
Rules & Requirements  
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.  
Hours & Format  
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week  
Additional Details  
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate  
Grading: Letter grade.  
Instructors: Hernandez, Rue  

Interactive Narratives: Read Less [-]  

JOURN 223 New Media Visuals 3 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2015, Fall 2013
“Visual journalism” explores narratives as they are designed, produced, and consumed in various digital forms. Students will have the opportunity to explore various digital technologies, create and produce narratives, and analyze stories in digital forms. DSLR video narrative, animated visual explainers, data visualization design will all be explored and will serve as the primary areas of inquiry for this project-driven course.  
New Media Visuals: Read More [+]  
Rules & Requirements  
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.  
Hours & Format  
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week  
Additional Details  
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate  
Grading: Letter grade.  
Instructor: Hernandez  

New Media Visuals: Read Less [-]
JOURN 226 Science Reporting 3 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Spring 2021, Spring 2020
Advanced study of methods of reporting developments in such fields as science, education, health, or the environment.
Science Reporting: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: For journalism students, Journalism 200 or equivalent; for others, consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 8 hours of fieldwork per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Conis
Science Reporting: Read Less [-]

JOURN 228 Political Reporting 3 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2012, Fall 2010, Fall 2009
Study and discussion of politics and practice in reporting political events and campaigns.
Political Reporting: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: For journalism students, 200 or equivalent; for others, consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 8 hours of fieldwork per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Rasky
Political Reporting: Read Less [-]

JOURN 230 Business Reporting 3 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018
Reporting and writing of business, financial, and consumer affairs.
Business Reporting: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: For journalism students, 200
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 8 hours of fieldwork per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Business Reporting: Read Less [-]

JOURN 233 Advanced Coding Interactive Stories 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2021, Fall 2020
This course teaches students code literacy. Beyond the specific skills they learn, students will have a more well-rounded understanding of crucial technologies that influence the news industry in innumerable ways. They become better decision makers when working with technologists, and will help to forge the future of the journalism industry. This class covers prototypical object-oriented programming, an important component in many web coding languages. Topics covered include variables, typecasting, arrays, for-loops, conditional statements, comparison operators, functions, enclosures and cross-domain data requesting. This course will also cover popular data libraries like D3 and Pandas.
Advanced Coding Interactive Stories: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Rue
Advanced Coding Interactive Stories: Read Less [-]
JOURN 234 International Reporting 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Spring 2019, Spring 2018
This course is designed for students who are interested in foreign reporting. Course will include a broad overview of the issues that need to be researched when reporting on the politics, economics, and social issues of a foreign country. Past classes have traveled to Mexico, China, Cuba, Hungary, Ghana, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Peru.

International Reporting: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Chavez

International Reporting: Read Less [-]

JOURN 242 Profiles 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2021, Fall 2020, Fall 2019
In this workshop students use the profile form to develop a variety of skills that may be helpful whenever undertaking an ambitious story: figuring out what the story is and why you are writing it; interviewing; observation; background reporting; structuring material; finding your voice; describing people without resorting to cliche; crafting a lead from what seems an infinite number of possibilities. Readings will be from great magazine and newspaper profile writers.

Profiles: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Journalism 200 or consent of instructor

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Kahn

Profiles: Read Less [-]

JOURN 243 Long-Form Writing 3 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018
This class will trace the process of writing long-form pieces: how writers choose their sources, gather information, organize their material, and decide whether or not to believe what people tell them. Students will act as an editorial board for each other. Readings include profiles, books and book excerpts, Pulitzer-winning newspaper features, and magazine pieces from a variety of outlets. All assignments are intended for publication.

Long-Form Writing: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Journalism 200 or consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: English

Long-Form Writing: Read Less [-]

JOURN 254 Opinion Writing 2 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2012, Spring 2011, Fall 2009
The reporting, writing, and editing of newspaper editorials and op-ed essays.

Opinion Writing: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Rasky

Opinion Writing: Read Less [-]
JOURN 255 Media Ethics 1.5 Unit
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Fall 2020, Fall 2019
Media Ethics will concentrate on ethical dilemmas faced by reporters and editors. Using case studies, readings and guest lecturers, the course examines the murkier conflicts that don’t necessarily make it to court but nevertheless force difficult newsroom decision-making. What should journalists do? How should they justify their decisions? This course examines key ethical questions facing journalists, many of which took root in a pre-digital era. The central premise of this course is that journalism has the capacity to challenge social injustice, which is one reason to participate in and protect the profession. At the same time, dominant journalism has regularly dehumanized marginalized communities.

Media Ethics: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 200 or consent of instructor

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 7 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Ed Wasserman

Media Ethics: Read Less [-]

JOURN 256 Journalism Law 1.5 Unit
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Fall 2021
This course will familiarize you with the basic principles of American law under which you operate as a professional journalist. Coincidentally you will also become familiar with some basic legal concepts, and how courts operate. While this is a course about law it is not a law school course; it is intended to give you enough law to recognize when you face possible legal issues and when to seek legal counsel or other help before you (or your publisher/broadcaster/platform) get into trouble.

Journalism Law: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for JOURN 256 after completing JOURN 256. A deficient grade in JOURN 256 may be removed by taking JOURN 256.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 8 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Ed Wasserman

JOURN 260 Investigative Reporting for TV and Print 2 or 3 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Spring 2021, Spring 2020
Students will be required to investigate leads that are received by the faculty, and prepare briefing papers for the class to introduce guest speakers. They will work on researching and reporting assignments related to documentary productions and print stories for different outlets. “Sources,” people with information critical to developing a story, need to be developed. The responsibilities of a reporter engaged in developing sources will be a constant theme of the seminar.

Investigative Reporting for TV and Print: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Bergman

Investigative Reporting for TV and Print: Read Less [-]

JOURN 275 Radio News Reporting 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2021, Fall 2020, Fall 2019
Study of techniques, practices, and methods of gathering and writing radio news. Students will produce weekly live radio news programs. Enrollment is limited to 15.

Radio News Reporting: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Manilla

Radio News Reporting: Read Less [-]
JOURN 276 Audio on Assignment 3 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2021, Spring 2020
Assigned stories are part of life as a professional journalist. This course teaches students how to be creative, resourceful and rigorous in pursuing a wide range of stories, of the sort students could be expected to do as public radio journalists. Students in this class will report early and often, building on their existing audio journalism skills and honing their ability to tell mid-length (5-12 minute) audio journalism stories well. Guest-speakers will include award-winning audio journalists and editors, who will share tips for making audio stories memorable and impactful.
Audio on Assignment: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Journalism 275 Intro to Radio, or previous experience in audio journalism

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Magistad

Audio on Assignment: Read Less [-]

JOURN 282 Introduction to Visual Journalism 3 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2021, Fall 2020, Fall 2019
Study of the history and institutions of broadcast journalism (nine weeks), practice, techniques of reporting news for radio and television.
Introduction to Visual Journalism: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.

Introduction to Visual Journalism: Read Less [-]

JOURN 283 Reporting for Television 5 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Spring 2021, Spring 2020
Producing, directing, writing, and videotaping of live weekly television news program.
Reporting for Television: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 282 and consent of instructor

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.

Reporting for Television: Read Less [-]

JOURN 284 Documentary Production 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Fall 2021, Spring 2021
Production of television documentary news programs.
Documentary Production: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 282, 283, and consent of instructor

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 12 hours of laboratory per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Nakasako

Documentary Production: Read Less [-]
JOURN 285 Longform Video Reporting and Storytelling 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Fall 2021, Spring 2021
Reporting and production of television news magazine stories and programs.
Longform Video Reporting and Storytelling: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Journalism 282, 283 and consent of instructor

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture and 8 hours of laboratory per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Cediel

Longform Video Reporting and Storytelling: Read Less [-]

JOURN 286 History of Documentary 3 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Spring 2021, Spring 2020
This course covers the evolution of American documentary film from 1920 to the present, with special attention to independent productions and documentaries for network television. In the works of Fred Wiseman, Henry Hampton, Lourdes Portillo, Errol Morris, Marlon Riggs, Barbara Kopple, Orlando Bagwell, the Maysles, and the network staff producers, we look at the practical problems of making documentaries for a mass audience. (Required for J-School students who are considering specializing in documentary.)
History of Documentary: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Lozano

History of Documentary: Read Less [-]

JOURN 290 Editing Workshop 2 or 3 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2011, Fall 2009
It can take a lifetime of writing to learn how to critique and revise your work. Hard as writing can be, rewriting -- breaking back into your own framework, rethinking, re-imagining, and revising -- can be harder yet. Sometimes only an editor can help you gain the distance needed to view your work. No matter how good a journalist you may be, an editor can help you reach another stage in your writing process.
Editing Workshop: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Journalism students only; priority to second-year students completing master's project
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.

Editing Workshop: Read Less [-]

JOURN 294 Master's Project Seminar 1 - 2 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Fall 2021, Spring 2021
Group meetings plus individual tutorials. Methods of research, organization, and preparation of professional thesis projects. Required of M.J. candidates working on thesis projects during both Fall and Spring semesters.
Master's Project Seminar: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 200 and consent of instructor

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-2 hours of seminar per week
Summer:
8 weeks - 2-4 hours of seminar per week
10 weeks - 1.5-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.

Master's Project Seminar: Read Less [-]
JOURN 296 Topical Reporting in Journalism
1 - 3 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022
This seminar course will explore a topic related to current events in the media. The topic will vary from year to year. Topics may include climate change, elections and politics, public health crises, war reporting, the economy of journalistic media, international conflicts, and many similar areas. It will include readings and critical discussions on media coverage of the topic; analysis on the reporting efforts to cover stories within this topic; and discussion on the ethical dilemmas encountered both by individual reporters and the media organizations they work for, and the role they play in shaping the public's understanding of an issue.
Topical Reporting in Journalism: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes. Students may enroll in multiple sections of this course within the same semester.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.

Topical Reporting in Journalism: Read Less [-]

JOURN 297 Field Study in Journalism 1 - 2 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2021, Fall 2020, Spring 2020
Supervised experience in the practice of journalism in off-campus organizations. Individual meeting with faculty sponsor and written reports required. See Additional Information, "Field Study and Internships."
Field Study in Journalism: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of fieldwork per week
Summer:
6 weeks - 5-7.5 hours of fieldwork per week
8 weeks - 1-3 hours of fieldwork per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.

Field Study in Journalism: Read Less [-]

JOURN 298 Group Study - Special Topics 2 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2022, Fall 2021, Spring 2021
Specialized seminar topics in reporting and writing.
Group Study - Special Topics: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week
Summer:
6 weeks - 5-7.5 hours of seminar per week
8 weeks - 1-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.

Group Study - Special Topics: Read Less [-]

JOURN 299 Individual Study 1 - 3 Units
Terms offered: Summer 2022 First 6 Week Session, Fall 2021, Summer 2021 First 6 Week Session
Supervised individual study and research.
Individual Study: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week
Summer:
6 weeks - 2-5 hours of independent study per week
8 weeks - 1-3 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.

Individual Study: Read Less [-]
JOURN 601 Individual Study for Master’s Students 1 - 8 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2022, Fall 2021, Fall 2020
Individual preparation or study in consultation with faculty adviser. Study ultimately leads to the completion of the Master's Project/Examination. Units may not be used to meet either unit or residence requirements for a master's degree.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Course is restricted to journalism students

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with advisor consent.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-8 hours of independent study per week

Summer:
6 weeks - 2.5-20 hours of independent study per week
8 weeks - 1.5-15 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Journalism/Graduate examination preparation

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

Individual Study for Master's Students: Read Less [-]