

UCF Degree Programs

Journalism (B.A.)

College of Sciences

Nicholson School of Communication, NSC, Room: 143

<http://communication.cos.ucf.edu>

Email: journalism@ucf.edu

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Admission Requirements

- The Journalism program is a limited access program that requires a separate application.
- Students should apply to become Journalism majors only after completing all requirements for admission.
- Admission is based on multiple factors, not strictly GPA.
- Attain an overall minimum 2.5 GPA based on a minimum of 30 credit hours of college work. NOTE: Meeting the minimum GPA does not guarantee admission because students are admitted on a space available basis.
- See a NSC advisor for additional admission criteria.
- Meet a grammar proficiency standard. Students must pass a grammar proficiency exam administered by UCF's Testing Center unless they have AP or IB credit in English or an "A-" or better in both of the following courses:

ENC 1101	Composition I	3 hrs
ENC 1102	Composition II	3 hrs

Application Deadlines:

- October 1 to be admitted the next spring term
- February 1 to be admitted the next summer term
- June 1 to be admitted the next fall term

Degree Requirements

- Students who change degree programs (other than from Journalism Pending) and select this major must adopt the most current catalog.
- The Journalism faculty strongly recommend that majors work for a student news outlet.
- Journalism majors may obtain an off-campus internship with a news organization.
- To receive credit for an internship, students must have a 2.5 GPA in their required major courses. Students with less than a 2.5 GPA will not be given academic internship credit.
- Students can enroll in a maximum of three hours of internship credit. However, the internships must be with different employers. Each internship must be approved by and supervised by a Journalism faculty advisor.
- A portfolio of representative work must be submitted to, and approved by, a faculty committee at least one semester before graduation. At least 75% of the work must be produced while at UCF.
- Co-op or internship credit cannot be used in this major without prior approval.
- Students should consult with a school advisor.
- Of the 120 hours required for graduation, a minimum of 72 hours must be taken outside of the disciplines represented within the Nicholson School of Communication.
- Of these 72 hours, 56 must be taken in the liberal arts (i.e. within the College of Arts & Humanities or the College of Sciences).
- To ensure completion within 120 hours and to comply with the 72 hour minimum rule, no more than 48 (or 51 if a GEP speech class was taken at UCF) of the 120 hours may be taken within the Nicholson School of Communication.
- Journalism majors must select their required minor or area of concentration from outside the Nicholson School of Communication to remain below the 48 credit hour school maximum.
- School residency requirement consists of at least 24 semester hours of regularly scheduled 3000-4000 level courses taken from the UCF Nicholson School of Communication.

- The Journalism program follows the Society of Professional Journalists Code of Ethics. Students who violate the code (plagiarizing, cheating or fabricating, for example) may be removed from the program.
- All prerequisites of courses taught within the College of Sciences will be enforced.
- Courses designated in 1 (General Education Program) and 2 (Common Program Prerequisites) are usually completed in the first 60 hours.

1. UCF General Education Program (GEP) (36 hrs)

A: Communication Foundations (9 hrs)

Composition: Complete both courses. 6 hrs

Required	ENC 1101	Composition I and	3 hrs
Required	ENC 1102	Composition II	3 hrs

Speech: Select one of the following. 3 hrs

Required	SPC 1608	Fundamentals of Oral Communication or	3 hrs
Suggested	SPC 1603C	Fundamentals of Technical Presentations	3 hrs

B: Cultural & Historical Foundations (9 hrs)

Group 1: Select a course from group 1. 3 hrs

Prefer	AMH 2010	U.S. History: 1492-1877	3 hrs
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Group 2: Select a course from group 2. 3 hrs

Group 3: Select a third course from either group 1 or 2. 3 hrs

C: Mathematical Foundations (6 hrs)

Statistics-Computers: 3 hrs

Suggested	CGS 1060C	Introduction to Computers or	3 hrs
Suggested	STA 2014C	Principles of Statistics	3 hrs

Math: 3 hrs

Suggested	MGF 1106	Finite Mathematics or	3 hrs
Suggested	MGF 1107	Explorations in Mathematics	3 hrs

or
You may substitute a higher level math with appropriate scores on the Math Placement Exam. 3 hrs

D: Social Foundations (6 hrs)

Group 1: 3 hrs

Prefer	POS 2041	American National Government	3 hrs
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Group 2: Select a listed course 3 hrs

E: Science Foundations (6 hrs)

2. Common Program Prerequisites (CPP)

- See "Common Prerequisites" in the Transfer and Transitions Services section for more information.

Complete one of the following:

SPC 1608	Fundamentals of Oral Communication or	GEP
SPC 1603C	Fundamentals of Technical Presentations	GEP

3. Core Requirements: Basic Level (15 hrs)

- Grammar Proficiency must be satisfied before enrolling in JOU 2100C.
- These courses may be completed before acceptance into the program.
- All courses specifically identified in the preceding Common Program Prerequisites section of this catalog are also required in the Basic Core, and must be taken along with the following;

Core: Required, satisfies the CPP

SPC 1608	Fundamentals of Oral Communication or	GEP/CPP
SPC 1603C	Fundamentals of Technical Presentations	GEP/CPP

Core 15 hrs

- Must earn at least a "C" (2.0) in these courses in order to enroll in subsequent courses.

JOU 2100C	News Reporting and	3 hrs
JOU 3004	History of American Journalism and	3 hrs
MMC 3200	Mass Communication Law and	3 hrs
JOU 3015	Principles of Journalism and	3 hrs
MMC 2004	Mass Media	3 hrs

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4. Core Requirements: Advanced Level (3 hrs)

- These courses may be completed either before or after acceptance into the program.
- Must earn at least a "C" (2.0) in these courses in order to enroll in subsequent courses.

Select 1:

MMC 4300	International Media or	3 hrs
MMC 4303	Hispanics in Media in the US or	3 hrs
	Any Nicholson School advisor approved upper-division	3 hrs
	Study Abroad course	

5. Restricted Electives (19 hrs)

- These courses can only be completed after acceptance into the program.
- (NOTE: May NOT use courses in your core track as an elective; students must use a different course if they have already taken one listed as a requirement in their track).
- All prerequisites of courses will be enforced.
- Courses taken from Group A and Group B must total 9 hours.

Electronic News: Select the following: 10 hrs

RTV 3301	Electronic Journalism I	3 hrs
RTV 3304	Electronic Journalism II	3 hrs
RTV 3321	Electronic News Gathering	4 hrs

Digital News: Select the following: 10 hrs

JOU 3101	Advanced Reporting	3 hrs
RTV 3321	Electronic News Gathering	4 hrs

Select 1:

JOU 4340C	Online Journalism I or	3 hrs
JOU 4342C	Multimedia Journalism	3 hrs

Group A: Select from the following: 6 hrs

JOU 3320	News Producing	3 hrs
RTV 3301	Electronic Journalism I	3 hrs
RTV 3304	Electronic Journalism II	3 hrs
RTV 4591C	Webcasting I	3 hrs
RTV 4681C	Television News	4 hrs
JOU 3951	Knightly Latino: Spanish Language News	3 hrs
JOU 3101	Advanced Reporting	3 hrs
JOU 3130	In-Depth Reporting	3 hrs
JOU 3184C	Metro Reporting	3 hrs
JOU 3201	Editing I	3 hrs
JOU 3202	Editing II	3 hrs
JOU 3310	Social Media Writing for Magazines	3 hrs
JOU 3313C	Sports Reporting	3 hrs
JOU 3510	Magazine Publishing	3 hrs
JOU 4340C	Online Journalism I	3 hrs
JOU 4181	Public Affairs Reporting	3 hrs
JOU 4213C	Page Design	3 hrs
JOU 4300	Feature Writing	3 hrs
JOU 4306C	Critical Writing	3 hrs
JOU 4308	Freelance Writing	3 hrs
JOU 4342C	Multimedia Journalism	3 hrs
JOU 4447	Magazine Editing and Production	3 hrs
PGY 3610C	Photojournalism I	3 hrs
PGY 3620C	Photojournalism II	3 hrs
¹ JOU 4941	Internship	1 hr

¹ May be taken for a maximum of 3 hours.

Group B: Select from the following: 3 hrs

JOU 3301	Journalism Readings	3 hrs
MMC 3420	Mass Media Research Methods	3 hrs
MMC 3630	Social Media as Mass Communication	3 hrs
MMC 4263	New Media Technologies	3 hrs
MMC 4300	International Media	3 hrs
MMC 4602	Contemporary Media Issues	3 hrs
RTV 3007	Development and Structure of Electronic	3 hrs
	Media and New Technology	
RTV 3511	Production Fundamentals and Aesthetics of	3 hrs
	Electronic Media	
RTV 4403	Electronic Media, Technology, and Society	3 hrs
RTV 4503	Sports Programming in Electronic Media	3 hrs
RTV 4505	Program Issues for TV & Motion Pictures	3 hrs
RTV 4700	Regulation of Broadcasting	3 hrs
RTV 4800	Broadcast Management	3 hrs
¹ JOU 4941	Internship	1 hr

¹ May be taken for a maximum of 3 hours

- Internships must be approved in advance by the Journalism Area Coordinator

6. Capstone Requirements (4 hrs)

Electronic News:		4 hrs
	RTV 4681C Television News	4 hrs

Digital News: 4 hrs

JOU 4950	Senior Capstone in Journalism	4 hrs
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7. Foreign Language Requirements

Admissions

- Met by graduation requirement

Graduation

- Proficiency equivalent to one year of college instruction in a foreign language taught by the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures or Judaic Studies. Standardized examinations for foreign languages may be used to meet the requirement.

- Eight credits of American Sign Language (ASL) can satisfy this requirement for students graduating under this catalog; however it will not count toward the 56 hour Liberal Arts requirement. Consult with the NSC advising staff to understand how choosing ASL impacts hours needed to graduate.

8. Electives

- Select primarily from upper level courses, with school advisor's approval. Must be from outside of the Nicholson School of Communication in order to not exceed the 41 credit hour cap. The majority of electives should be taken in the Liberal Arts and Sciences to comply with the 56 hour Liberal Arts requirement.

9. Additional Requirements

- None

10. Required Minors

- Journalism majors must complete an 18 hour minor in an academic area outside of the Nicholson School of Communication. When no official minor is offered, students may complete an 18-credit-hour area of concentration approved by the Area Coordinator.

- The minor or area of concentration must be from outside of the Nicholson School of Communication in order to not exceed the 41 credit hour cap.

11. Departmental Exit Requirements

- Acceptance of portfolio by faculty.
- To avoid delaying graduation, you must request a review of requirements before registering for your last term.
- Students must achieve a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 in all UCF Nicholson School of Communication (NSC) courses taken in the major.
- All attempts of UCF NSC courses that could meet major requirements are included in the major GPA calculation, including those taken beyond the minimum required (e.g. additional restricted electives).

12. University Minimum Exit Requirements

- A 2.0 UCF GPA
- 60 semester hours earned after CLEP awarded
- 48 semester hours of upper division credit completed
- 30 of the last 39 hours of course work must be completed in residency at UCF.
- A maximum of 45 hours of extension, correspondence, CLEP, Credit by Exam, and Armed Forces credits permitted.
- Complete the General Education Program, the Gordon Rule, and nine hours of Summer credit.

Total Semester Hours Required

- 120

Honors In Major

- None

Related Programs

- English - Creative Writing
- English - Technical Communication

Certificates

- None

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Related Minors

■ NOTE: Minors taught within the Nicholson School of Communication are not open to Journalism majors.

- English - Creative Writing
- English - Linguistics
- English - Literature
- English - Technical Communication
- Writing and Rhetoric
- History
- Magazine Journalism
- Political Science
- Sociology

Advising Notes

- It is the student's responsibility to ensure that course prerequisites have been satisfied before registering for a class.
- Students are urged to contact their school advisor before registering for courses.

Transfer Notes

- Lower division courses do not substitute for upper division courses.
- Courses transferred from private and out-of-state schools must be evaluated for equivalency credit. The student must provide all supporting information.

Acceptable Substitutes for Transfer Courses

- None

Plan of Study

- One of numerous possible plans of study. See program description for all requirements. Consult a school advisor for alternate, new or more appropriate selections.
- Although most classes are listed as being taken during the academic year, you may be required to complete 9 hours of them during the Summer. Consult with an advisor to determine if you are exempt.

Freshman Year - Fall

ENC 1101	Composition I	3 hrs
GEP-Math		3 hrs
GEP		3 hrs
Foreign Language		4 hrs

Freshman Year - Spring

ENC 1102	Composition II	3 hrs
SPC 1608	Fundamentals of Oral Communication	3 hrs
GEP-Stat or CS		3 hrs
Foreign Language		4 hrs

Sophomore Year - Fall

MMC 2004	Mass Media	3 hrs
GEP		3 hrs
GEP		3 hrs
GEP		3 hrs
Elective-Minor		3 hrs

Sophomore Year - Spring

Apply for admission by Feb 1		
JOU 2100C	News Reporting	3 hrs
GEP		3 hrs
GEP		3 hrs
GEP		3 hrs
Elective-Minor		3 hrs

Junior Year - Fall

If admitted, take...		
JOU 3004	History of American Journalism	3 hrs
MMC 3200	Mass Communication Law	3 hrs
RTV 3321	Electronic News Gathering	4 hrs
Elective-Minor		3 hrs
Elective-take outside of NSC		3 hrs

Junior Year - Spring

JOU 3015	Principles of Journalism	3 hrs
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Select 1:

MMC 4300	International Media or	3 hrs
MMC 4303	Hispanics in Media in the US	3 hrs
Restricted Elective		3 hrs
Restricted Elective		3 hrs
Elective-Minor		3 hrs

Junior Year - Summer

Restricted Elective-Internship	3 hrs
Elective take outside of NSC	3 hrs

Senior Year - Fall

Submit Journalism Portfolio	15 hrs
Restricted Elective	3 hrs
Restricted Elective	3 hrs
Elective-Minor	3 hrs
Elective-Minor	3 hrs
Elective-take outside of NSC	3 hrs

Senior Year - Spring

Capstone	12 hrs
Elective-take outside of NSC	4 hrs
Elective-take outside of NSC	3 hrs
Elective	2 hrs
	3 hrs

Program Academic Learning Compacts

- Program Academic Learning Compacts (student learning outcomes) for undergraduate programs are located at: http://www.oeas.ucf.edu/alc/academic_learning_compacts.htm

Equipment Fees

- Part-Time Student: \$22 per term
- Full-Time Student: \$44 per term