

# Journalism, BA, BS

**Emphases:** Broadcast/Electronic Media; Print Journalism; Public Relations/Corporate Communications

**Department:** Journalism and Communication Department

**College:** College of Humanities and Social Sciences

## Overview

### About This Degree

The journalism program is designed to prepare students for careers in a wide range of communication fields. Students develop many skills needed to work in communications, such as writing, information-gathering, reporting, video production, online journalism, and media literacy.

Students in the department have routinely won state, regional, and national awards in print and video journalism, multimedia and new technologies, and public relations. The faculty members are more than just teachers and researchers, but are veteran mass media professionals and nationally recognized scholars with experience as newspaper journalists, editors, TV producers, public relations specialists, and Web designers.

Most students work as interns during their junior and senior year, and all students must complete a one-semester internship before graduation. Because of the hands-on learning students receive while in the program, students have substantial experience and are more likely to be hired post-graduation.

Students must have a minor in order to build expertise.

Students receive a **BS** by completing all required courses in the major. To receive a **BA**, students must also gain proficiency in one or more foreign languages.

## Career Options

With a degree in journalism, students can pursue the following careers:

### Broadcast/Electronic Media Emphasis

- News anchor
- Radio host
- Meteorologist
- Talk show host
- News analyst
- Announcer
- Actor
- Professional blogger
- News associate
- Associate producer
- Entertainment agent
- Broadcast assistant

### Print Journalism Emphasis

- News writer/editor
- Magazine writer/editor
- Professional blogger
- News analyst
- Columnist
- Designer
- Creative writer

### Public Relations Emphasis

- PR specialist (image building, media relations, social media, etc.)
- Writer
- Marketing
- Fundraising
- Event planning

- Crisis Management

[Career Services](#) provides counseling and information on hundreds of job and internship opportunities and even helps students apply and interview.

## What it takes

### Admissions Requirements

In addition to Utah State University's [admissions requirements](#), the journalism program has additional requirements:

- **Freshmen:** New freshmen admitted to USU in good standing qualify for admission as pre-majors.
- **Transfer Students:** As many as nine semester credits in journalism and communication coursework may be transferred from other institutions to count toward the major.
- To be a journalism major, students must meet the following prerequisites:
  - Complete at least 60 semester credits with a GPA of 2.5 or higher
  - Pass a departmental English proficiency test
  - Complete the journalism pre-major core courses

International students have [additional admissions requirements](#).

### Major Requirements

[Click here](#) to see course requirements for the **Bachelor of Arts**.

[Click here](#) to see course requirements for the **Bachelor of Science**.

Students must complete a minor and they have an internship requirement.

## Contact

### Advising

All new USU students participate in a [New Student Orientation](#) program, where they receive detailed information about major requirements, registering for classes, and other important advising information.

#### **Amanda Adison**

Academic Advisor

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## Get Involved

### Professional Organizations, Honor Societies, and Clubs

**Society of Professional Journalists:** Members of the Society of Professional Journalists believe that public enlightenment is the forerunner of justice and the foundation of democracy. The duty of the journalist is to further those ends by seeking truth and providing a fair and comprehensive account of events and issues. Conscientious journalists from all media and specialties strive to serve the public with thoroughness and honesty. Members of the society share a dedication to ethical behavior and adopt this code to declare the society's principles and standards of practice.

**Aggie Radio:** Aggie Radio is Utah State University's full-time radio station operated entirely by students. In partnership with Utah Public Radio, it provides Cache Valley with a quality college radio station through Internet streaming.

**Aggie TV:** Aggie Television is Utah State University's own private cable TV system. It broadcasts an exciting and varied line-up of channels to more than 20,000 students, on-campus residents, faculty, and staff. Award-winning

programs include Aggie TV News and Cache Rendezvous. Students working with Aggie TV have access to a multimedia computer news room, a digital non-linear video editing lab, and a full TV studio.

**Hard News Café:** Hard News Café started in 1996 as the first independent student news website in the country. Hard News Café is an award-winning online newspaper written and operated by students. Hard News Café partners with two local newspapers: *Cache Valley Daily* and the *Smithfield Sun*.

**Public Relations Students Society of America:** PRSSA is a student chapter of Public Relations Society of America, the world's largest and foremost organization of public relations professionals. PRSA provides professional development, sets standards of excellence, and upholds principles of ethics for its members. The society also advocates for greater understanding and adoption of public relations services and acts as one of the industry's leading voices on the important business and professional issues of our time.

**True Blue Communication:** True Blue Communication is a student firm with real-life business clients. The firm allows students to have hands-on experience working with a client for either internship credit or pay. Students mainly focus on the public relations and marketing aspects of business.

**Utah Statesman:** The Utah Statesman is the student newspaper of Utah State University, an independent newspaper published three times each week of the academic school year. During summer semester, news can be found at Statesman Online. The Statesman is a student activity, open to students of all majors and class rank.

## Labs, Centers, Research

With the second oldest [undergraduate research](#) program in the nation, USU offers students a wide range of opportunities to gain hands-on research experience. The [Undergraduate Research and Creative Opportunities](#) program allows students to apply for grants and receive funding. USU's [Honors Program](#) prepares students for excellent graduate programs by helping them build relationships with professors, participate in research projects, take smaller, more intensive classes, and develop leadership skills.