

# Department of Journalism and Communication

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**Degrees offered:** Bachelor of Science (BS) and Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Journalism; BS in Agricultural Communication and Journalism (offered jointly with Agricultural Systems Technology and Education Department, see pages 143-145); Master of Science (MS) and Master of Arts (MA) in Communication

**Undergraduate emphases:** Broadcast/Electronic Media, Print Journalism, Public Relations/Corporate Communications

## Undergraduate Programs

### Objectives

The undergraduate major in the Journalism and Communication Department, leading to the Bachelor of Arts or the Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism, is designed to prepare students for careers in a wide range of communication fields, through instruction in the philosophical groundings, theoretical perspectives, and hands-on applications of communications skills and practice. The curriculum integrates practical mass communications skills training with critical thinking skills, while helping students to understand the processes and effects of communication, as well as the relationships, roles, and interactions of mass communication with other social institutions.

Attainment of the goals articulated in the Journalism and Communication Mission Statement requires that Journalism majors exhibit proficiency in the following areas:

- 1. Journalism and Communication Skills:** Writing and verbal skills, information-gathering, fact-checking, the synthesis of ideas, and deductive logic.
- 2. Technological Skills:** Both the ability to use effectively, as well as the knowledge of, current delivery systems for information and their impacts.
- 3. Philosophical Grounding:** Understanding of the philosophical, historical, and ethical antecedents of modern mass journalism and communication practice in the context of the First Amendment and a free and open society, and how these lessons apply in day-to-day mass media practice for media producers and consumers.
- 4. Critical Thinking:** The ability to evaluate mass media messages and campaigns, to understand how media and society interact, and the implications of that interaction.
- 5. Professional and Personal Responsibility:** Affirmation of the individual's responsibilities as either a producer or consumer of information in a democratic mass media age.
- 6. Market Savvy:** Exposure to real-world situations that instruct and demonstrate application of classroom lessons.

The Department of Journalism and Communication maintains professional studios and labs, designed to train students in various communications and journalism skills. These include the multimedia computer newsroom, a digital nonlinear video editing lab, a full TV studio, and a digital (Mac) photography lab. Students receive instruction in traditional journalistic basics, such as writing, information-gathering, reporting, and video production; in new technologies of online information gathering; and in critical-thinking skills of media literacy.

## Requirements

### Course Requirements

Journalism majors must complete a minimum of 30 credits and a maximum of 36 credits (38 for Broadcast/Electronic Media emphasis) in Journalism and Communication courses, while pursuing one of the three course sequences outlined below. Of the 120 semester credits required for graduation from Utah State University, Journalism majors must complete at least 65 credits in other departments within the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences. In addition, majors must complete a minor/cognate area outside of the Journalism and Communication Department, selected with the approval of an advisor.

Therefore, the basic Journalism course of study is as follows: Journalism and Communication courses, 30-36 credits; General Education requirements, 27-31 credits; Depth Education requirements, 15 credits; courses in the minor/cognate area, 12-21 credits; electives from outside the Journalism and Communication Department, 17-33 credits; **Total Credits, 120.**

### Major Status

Students may apply for major status upon completion of a minimum of 60 semester credits, including the Journalism Premajor Core requirements, while maintaining a 2.5 cumulative GPA. Students may declare themselves as Journalism Premajors at any time after their admission to the University. Majors must maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA, both overall and in the major. Students whose GPA drops below 2.5 will be placed on probation and may be dropped from the major if grades do not improve within one semester. All courses in the major must be taken for a grade (not *Pass-Fail*). Courses must be taken in sequence.

Students transferring from other institutions may be accepted into the major if they fulfill these requirements. Up to 9 transferred semester credits may count toward the major, if approved by an advisor.

The Department of Journalism and Communication, as well as Utah State University, allows students to take a class a *maximum* of three times. Failure to achieve the Journalism and Communication Department's minimum grade of C+ in three attempts in any of the three premajor core classes, or a minimum grade of C in any other JCOM course required for the major, will result in the student being dropped from the Journalism major.

Students attempting to register for any JCOM class for the third time will be required to meet with the department head, who will remind them of the three-and-out rule. Students will be asked to sign a form attesting to their understanding of this rule.

Students must complete the premajor core (JCOM 1130, 1500, and 2010) with a C+ or better before continuing in the Journalism major. Students lacking the minimum grades in the premajor core will be blocked from taking courses in the Broadcast/Electronic Media, Print Journalism, and Public Relations/Corporate Communications emphases.

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Students dropped from the Journalism major for failure to achieve the minimum grades within three attempts, or for failure to maintain a GPA of at least 2.5, should speak with an advisor. Options may include switching to another major or creating an Interdisciplinary Studies major.

## Premajor Core Requirement (9 credits)

The following courses are required for all majors, and must be completed prior to application for major status:

<b>JCOM 1500 (BSS)</b> Introduction to Mass Communication (F,Sp) .....	3
<b>JCOM 1130</b> Beginning Newswriting for Mass Media (F,Sp,Su) .....	3
<b>JCOM 2010 (BSS)</b> Media Smarts: Making Sense of the Information Age (F,Sp).....	3

Prior to taking JCOM 1130, students must complete ENGL 1010, Introduction to Writing (or equivalent) and an English proficiency test. Passing scores on the Computer and Information Literacy (CIL) exams are also required prior to enrollment in JCOM 1130. Majors must complete each of the premajor requirements with a C+ or better.

## Major Requirements (6 credits)

The following courses are required for all majors after acceptance into the department:

<b>JCOM 2160 (CI)</b> Introduction to Online Journalism (F,Sp).....	3
(prereq: min of C+ in JCOM 1130, 1500, and 2010)	
<b>JCOM 4030</b> Mass Media Law (F,Sp).....	3
(prereq: junior standing or instructor's permission)	

## Emphasis Areas

Each student must select one of the following emphasis areas:

### Broadcast/Electronic Media Emphasis (30-38 credits)

#### A. Premajor Core Requirements (9 credits)

Journalism majors must complete the Premajor Core Requirements *before* taking courses in section B below.

#### B. Broadcast/Electronic Media Requirements (12 credits)

<b>JCOM 2220</b> Introduction to Video Media (F,Sp).....	3
<b>JCOM 2230</b> Writing for Electronic Media (F).....	3
Additional major requirements (JCOM 2160, 4030) .....	6

#### C. Newscast or Corporate Video/Multimedia (6-8 credits)

Students should complete *one* of the two options of courses listed below.

<b>JCOM 4210 (CI)</b> Newscast I (F,Sp) (4 cr) <b>and</b> <b>JCOM 4220 (CI)</b> Newscast II (F,Sp) (4 cr).....	8
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Or

<b>JCOM 4230</b> Corporate Video (F,Sp) (3 cr) <b>and</b> <b>JCOM 5210</b> Website Design and Production (F,Sp) (3 cr).....	6
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#### D. Communication Electives (3-9 credits)

Students should consult with their advisor to choose appropriate electives.

### Print Journalism Emphasis (30-36 credits)

#### A. Premajor Core Requirements (9 credits)

Journalism majors must complete the Premajor Core Requirements *before* taking courses in section B below.

#### B. Print Journalism Requirements (15 credits)

<b>JCOM 2170 (CI)</b> Reporting Public Affairs (F,Sp) .....	3
<b>JCOM 3110 (CI)</b> Beyond the Inverted Pyramid (F,Sp) .....	3
<b>JCOM 3120 (CI)</b> Copy Editing and Publication Design (F,Sp) .....	3
Additional major requirements (JCOM 2160, 4030) .....	6

#### C. Communication Electives (6-12 credits)

Students should consult with their advisor to choose appropriate electives.

### Public Relations/Corporate Communications Emphasis (30-36 credits)

#### A. Premajor Core Requirements (9 credits)

Journalism majors must complete the Premajor Core Requirements *before* taking courses in section B below.

#### B. Required Courses (12 credits, may be taken concurrently)

<b>JCOM 2300</b> Introduction to Public Relations (F,Sp) .....	3
<b>JCOM 2310 (CI)</b> Writing for Public Relations (F,Sp) .....	3
Additional major requirements (JCOM 2160, 4030) .....	6

#### C. Upper-division Required Courses (6 credits; must be taken in sequence after completion of JCOM 2300, 2310)

<b>JCOM 3300</b> Strategic Research Methods in Public Relations (F,Sp) ...	3
<b>JCOM 5300 (CI)</b> Case Studies in Public Relations (F,Sp) (3 cr) <b>or</b> <b>JCOM 5320</b> Public Relations Agency (F,Sp) (3 cr).....	3

#### D. Electives (3-9 credits; at least 3 credits in skills course and 3 credits upper division. A 3-credit upper-division skills course meets all elective requirements.)

## Other Communications Electives

In addition to the Pre-major, major, and emphasis area courses listed above, students must select additional electives from courses in the Department of Journalism and Communication, to ensure a total of 30-36 credits completed in the Journalism and Communication Department.

## Sample Four-year Plan for Journalism Major, Broadcast/Electronic Media Emphasis

**Minimum GPA for Admission:** 2.5, Career

**Minimum GPA for Graduation:** 2.5, major courses; 2.5 USU; 2.5, Career

**Minimum Grade Accepted:** C in major courses; C+ in JCOM 1130, 1500, and 2010

This is a sample plan. It outlines University and major requirements in very general terms. While there are requirements that are sequential, many are flexible and do not need to be completed exactly in the order listed. Students should always check with their faculty and professional advisors to be sure they are meeting the requirements appropriately. To make an appointment with a professional advisor, call (435) 797-3883.

### Freshman Year (30 credits)

#### Fall Semester (15 credits)

<b>ENGL 1010 (CL1)</b> Introduction to Writing: Academic Prose .....	3
<b>JCOM 1500 (BSS)</b> Introduction to Mass Communication .....	3
Quantitative Literacy (QL) course .....	3
University Studies Breadth course .....	3
Elective course(s) .....	3

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## Spring Semester (15 credits)

JCOM 1130 Beginning Newswriting for the Mass Media .....	3
Minor or Cognate course .....	3
University Studies Breadth courses .....	6
Elective course(s) .....	3

Complete the CIL exams by the end of the Freshman Year.

## Sophomore Year (30 credits)

### Fall Semester (15 credits)

ENGL 2010 (CL2) Intermediate Writing: Research Writing in a Persuasive Mode .....	3
JCOM 2010 (BSS) Media Smarts: Making Sense of the Information Age .....	3
Minor or Cognate courses .....	3
University Studies Breadth courses .....	6

### Spring Semester (15 credits)

JCOM 2160 (CI) Introduction to Online Journalism .....	3
JCOM 2220 Introduction to Video Media .....	3
Minor or Cognate course .....	3
Minor or Cognate upper-division course .....	3
Quantitative Intensive (QI) course .....	3

## Junior Year (31 Credits)

### Fall Semester (13 credits)

JCOM 2230 Writing for Electronic Media .....	3
JCOM 4210 (CI) <sup>1</sup> Newscast I .....	4
Minor or Cognate upper-division course .....	3
Depth Humanities and Creative Arts (DHA) course .....	3

### Spring Semester (15 credits)

JCOM 4220 (CI) <sup>1</sup> Newscast II .....	4
Depth Life and Physical Sciences (DSC) course .....	3
Elective courses .....	8

## Summer Semester (3 credits)

JCOM 4510 Communication Internship .....	3
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## Senior Year (30 credits)

### Fall Semester (15 credits)

JCOM 4030 Mass Media Law .....	3
Minor or Cognate upper-division course .....	3
Upper-division elective courses .....	6
Elective course(s) .....	3

### Spring Semester (15 credits)

JCOM elective course .....	3
Upper-division elective courses .....	5
Elective courses .....	7

<sup>1</sup>Students completing this emphasis have the option of taking *both* JCOM 4210 (CI) Newscast I (4 cr) and JCOM 4220 (CI) Newscast II (4 cr) *or* substituting *both* JCOM 4230 Corporate Video (3 cr) and JCOM 5210 Website Design and Production (3 cr). Students choosing the second option must make up the credit difference with a 3-credit JCOM upper-division elective course to accumulate a minimum of 120 credits, as required for graduation. In addition, students completing the second option must complete two Communications Intensive (CI) courses.

## Sample Four-year Plan for Journalism Major, Print Journalism Emphasis

**Minimum GPA for Admission:** 2.5, Career

**Minimum GPA for Graduation:** 2.5, major courses; 2.0 USU; 2.0, Career

**Minimum Grade Accepted:** C in major courses; C+ in JCOM 1130, 1500, and 2010

This is a sample plan. It outlines University and major requirements in very general terms. While there are requirements that are sequential, many are flexible and do not need to be completed exactly in the order listed. Students should always check with their faculty and professional advisors to be sure they are meeting the requirements appropriately. To make an appointment with a professional advisor, call (435) 797-3883.

## Freshman Year (30 credits)

### Fall Semester (15 credits)

ENGL 1010 (CL1) Introduction to Writing: Academic Prose .....	3
JCOM 1500 (BSS) Introduction to Mass Communication .....	3
Quantitative Literacy (QL) course .....	3
University Studies Breadth course .....	3
Elective course(s) .....	3

### Spring Semester (15 credits)

JCOM 1130 Beginning Newswriting for the Mass Media .....	3
Minor or Cognate course .....	3
University Studies Breadth courses .....	6
Elective course(s) .....	3

Complete the CIL exams by the end of the Freshman Year.

## Sophomore Year (30 credits)

### Fall Semester (15 credits)

ENGL 2010 (CL2) Intermediate Writing: Research Writing in a Persuasive Mode .....	3
JCOM 2010 (BSS) Media Smarts: Making Sense of the Information Age .....	3
Minor or Cognate courses .....	3
University Studies Breadth courses .....	6

### Spring Semester (15 credits)

JCOM 2160 (CI) Introduction to Online Journalism .....	3
JCOM 2170 (CI) Reporting Public Affairs .....	3
Minor or Cognate upper-division course .....	3
Quantitative Intensive (QI) course .....	3
Elective course(s) .....	3

## Junior Year (33 credits)

### Fall Semester (15 credits)

JCOM 3110 (CI) Beyond the Inverted Pyramid .....	3
JCOM elective course .....	3
Minor or Cognate upper-division course .....	3
Depth Humanities and Creative Arts (DHA) course .....	3
Upper-division elective course .....	3

### Spring Semester (15 credits)

JCOM 3120 (CI) Copy Editing and Publication Design .....	3
JCOM 4030 Mass Media Law .....	3
Depth Life and Physical Sciences (DSC) course .....	3
Elective courses .....	6

## Summer Semester (3 credits)

JCOM 4510 Communication Internship .....	3
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## Senior Year (28 credits)

### Fall Semester (15 credits)

JCOM elective courses.....	6
Minor or Cognate upper-division course.....	3
Upper-division elective course.....	3
Elective course(s).....	3

### Spring Semester (13 credits)

JCOM upper-division courses.....	7
Elective courses.....	6

## Sample Four-year Plan for Journalism Major, Public Relations/Corporate Communications Emphasis

**Minimum GPA for Admission:** 2.5, Career

**Minimum GPA for Graduation:** 2.5, major courses; 2.5 USU; 2.5, Career

**Minimum Grade Accepted:** C in major courses; C+ in JCOM 1130, 1500, and 2010

This is a sample plan. It outlines University and major requirements in very general terms. While there are requirements that are sequential, many are flexible and do not need to be completed exactly in the order listed. Students should always check with their faculty and professional advisors to be sure they are meeting the requirements appropriately. To make an appointment with a professional advisor, call (435) 797-3883.

## Freshman Year (30 credits)

### Fall Semester (15 credits)

<b>ENGL 1010 (CL1)</b> Introduction to Writing: Academic Prose.....	3
<b>JCOM 1500 (BSS)</b> Introduction to Mass Communication.....	3
Quantitative Literacy (QL) course.....	3
University Studies Breadth course.....	3
Elective course.....	3

### Spring Semester (15 credits)

<b>JCOM 1130</b> Beginning Newswriting for the Mass Media.....	3
Minor or Cognate course.....	3
University Studies Breadth courses.....	6
Elective course(s).....	3

Complete the CIL exams by the end of the Freshman Year.

## Sophomore Year (30 credits)

### Fall Semester (15 credits)

<b>ENGL 2010 (CL2)</b> Intermediate Writing: Research Writing in a Persuasive Mode.....	3
<b>JCOM 2010 (BSS)</b> Media Smarts: Making Sense of the Information Age.....	3
Minor or Cognate courses.....	3
University Studies Breadth courses.....	6

### Spring Semester (15 credits)

<b>JCOM 2160 (CI)</b> Introduction to Online Journalism.....	3
<b>JCOM 2300</b> Introduction to Public Relations.....	3
Minor or Cognate course.....	3
Minor or Cognate upper-division course.....	3
Quantitative Intensive (QI) course.....	3

## Junior Year (30 credits)

### Fall Semester (15 credits)

<b>JCOM 2310 (CI)</b> Writing for Public Relations.....	3
Minor or Cognate upper-division course.....	3
Depth Humanities and Creative Arts (DHA) course.....	3
Depth Life and Physical Sciences (DSC) course.....	3
Upper-division elective course.....	3

### Spring Semester (12 credits)

<b>JCOM 3300</b> Strategic Research Methods in Public Relations.....	3
<b>JCOM 4030</b> Mass Media Law.....	3
JCOM upper-division Skills elective course.....	3
Communications Intensive (CI) course.....	3

### Summer Semester (3 credits)

<b>JCOM 4510</b> Communication Internship.....	3
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## Senior Year (31 credits)

### Fall Semester (15 credits)

<b>JCOM 4530</b> Special Topics in Communication: Integrated Marketing.....	3
<b>JCOM 5300 (CI)</b> Case Studies in Public Relations (3 cr) or <b>JCOM 5320</b> Public Relations Agency (3 cr).....	3
Minor or Cognate upper-division course.....	3
Upper-division elective courses.....	6

### Spring Semester (16 credits)

Elective courses.....	16
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## Journalism Minor

Students may earn a minor in Journalism by completing a minimum of 18 JCOM credits. The minimum GPA requirements for Journalism minors are the same as those required for Journalism majors.

These credits must include:

<b>JCOM 1130</b> Beginning Newswriting for the Mass Media (F,Sp,Su) (3 cr) or <b>JCOM 2010 (BSS)</b> Media Smarts: Making Sense of the Information Age (F,Sp) (3 cr).....	3
<b>JCOM 1500 (BSS)</b> Introduction to Mass Communication (F,Sp).....	3

For the remaining 12 JCOM credits, students must select one of the following options:

(a)	
<b>JCOM 2170 (CI)</b> Reporting Public Affairs (F,Sp).....	3
JCOM faculty advisor-approved upper-division JCOM credits.....	9
(b)	
<b>JCOM 2220</b> Introduction to Video Media (F,Sp).....	3
<b>JCOM 2230</b> Writing for Electronic Media (F,Sp).....	3
JCOM faculty advisor-approved upper-division JCOM credits.....	6
(c)	
<b>JCOM 2300</b> Introduction to Public Relations (F,Sp).....	3
<b>JCOM 2310 (CI)</b> Writing for Public Relations (F,Sp).....	3
JCOM faculty advisor-approved upper-division JCOM credits.....	6

## Financial Support

In addition to general scholarships and other financial support opportunities available through the University and the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, the Department of Journalism

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and Communication awards various scholarships to juniors, seniors, and graduate students. For a listing of scholarships, deadlines, and application requirements, contact the Department of Journalism and Communication. In addition, many professional paid and unpaid internships are available through the department.

## Careers in Journalism and Communication

Journalism majors often begin their careers in various media professions, such as newspapers, radio and TV broadcasting, and public relations, many serving as interns while still attending school. Upon graduation, they land jobs in a variety of capacities for both journalism businesses and other industries requiring workers with excellent communication and problem-solving skills. In recent years, USU journalism students have routinely won state, regional, and national awards in print and video journalism, multimedia and new technologies, and, increasingly, public relations.

This success translates into an excellent reputation for USU students among businesses hiring USU students as interns and hiring USU graduates for professional positions. Jobs held by recent graduates include newspaper and magazine reporter, photographer, graphic artist, and editor; radio and television reporter, anchor, and producer; public relations director and account executive; multimedia software designer for HTML, web pages, CD-ROMs, etc.; and public information officer for politicians, legislative and lobbying groups, sports teams, and colleges, as well as for environmental organizations and other groups in the business and public sectors. Training and expertise in communication, including writing and reporting, visual literacy, publication layout and design, computer graphics, and online applications, prove to be valuable add-on skills for graduates entering a variety of occupations or going on to graduate school and law school.

In addition to these kinds of opportunities enjoyed by undergraduates, master's degree graduates often return to communication careers in new capacities, or teach at the community college level in journalism and communication departments.

## Departmental Honors

Students who would like to experience greater academic depth within their major are encouraged to enroll in departmental honors. Through original, independent work, Honors students enjoy the benefits of close supervision and mentoring, as they work one-on-one with faculty in select upper-division departmental courses. Honors students also complete a senior project, which provides another opportunity to collaborate with faculty on a problem that is significant, both personally and in the student's discipline. Participating in departmental honors enhances students' chances for obtaining fellowships and admission to graduate school. Minimum GPA requirements for participation in departmental honors vary by department, but usually fall within the range of 3.30-3.50. Students may enter the Honors Program at almost any stage in their academic career, including at the junior (and sometimes senior) level. The campus-wide Honors Program, which is open to all qualified students regardless of major, offers a rich array of cultural and social activities, special classes, and the benefit of Honors early registration. Interested students should contact the Honors Program, Main 15, (435) 797-2715, [honors@cc.usu.edu](mailto:honors@cc.usu.edu); or contact the Journalism and Communication departmental advisor, Penny Byrne, at [penny.byrne@usu.edu](mailto:penny.byrne@usu.edu). Additional information can be found online at: <http://www.usu.edu/honors/>

## Additional Information

For further information about publications, curriculum, scholarships, faculty, and other program offerings, including USU's TV studio facilities; weekly newscasts and TV programs; the award-winning student news website, the Hard News Café; and the Media and Society Lecture Series; check out the Journalism and Communication Department's website: <http://www.usu.edu/journalism>

For detailed information about requirements for the Journalism major and minor, see the major requirement sheet, which can be obtained from the department, or accessed online at: <http://www.usu.edu/majorsheets/>

## Graduate Programs

The Master of Science (MS) and the Master of Arts (MA) degrees in Communication combine professional practice and theoretical training, and are designed to fit individual student needs. Students may specialize in print, photo, or broadcast journalism. Application to the graduate program is made through the USU School of Graduate Studies.

## Objectives

The master's program in Communication at Utah State University offers a three-track approach to graduate study, designed for the maximum individual flexibility in pursuit of the student's goals.

The **Plan A**, also known as the "Thesis Option" or "Media Research," is a course of study designed for students considering or planning to go on to a doctoral program. The Plan A option requires more coursework in theory and methodology, as well as in research tools, in order to provide grounding for advanced study at the PhD level, whether in communication or another discipline. This option also requires completion of a master's thesis, consisting of original research.

The **Plan B**, also known as the "Professional Option" or "Media Practice," is designed for students seeking the master's degree as a terminal degree, and planning to go from USU into the mass media professions, or into a teaching position at the junior college level. Typically, Plan B students are mid-career media professionals seeking retooling, refreshers, or credentials for community college teaching. The Plan B option requires a professional project, approved by a major professor, in place of the research thesis.

The **Plan C**, another "Professional Option," is the same as the Plan B *except*, instead of a professional project, the student enrolls in additional coursework.

All three options—A, B, and C—require the student to pass comprehensive exit exams.

Graduate students in Communication work closely with advisors throughout their programs to design coursework and a research or professional activity agenda, along with appropriate study in a cognate area outside of Communication, that will permit them to achieve their individual goals, within the core framework of Communication coursework, whether they include professional training or additional doctoral work.

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## Admission Requirements

For admission to the graduate program in Communication, all students must complete the department's English Language Proficiency Examination, and must complete or demonstrate competency in the following Communication foundation courses:

<b>JCOM 1130</b> Beginning Newswriting for the Mass Media (F,Sp,Su) .....	3
<b>JCOM 2010 (BSS)</b> Media Smarts: Making Sense of the Information Age (F,Sp).....	3
<b>JCOM 3110 (CI)</b> Beyond the Inverted Pyramid (F,Sp) .....	3
<b>JCOM 4030 (DSS)</b> Mass Media Law (F,Sp).....	3

Competency may be demonstrated through previous coursework or experience, and one or more of these requirements may be waived with permission of the graduate program coordinator. These credits do not count toward the graduate degree. In addition, other undergraduate courses may be required.

## Degree Requirements

Students may enroll in the Plan A (thesis), Plan B (Professional Option, with professional project), or Plan C (Professional Option with additional coursework in lieu of project) as outlined below. Plans A and B require 30 semester credits, while Plan C requires 33 semester credits. Plan A is intended for students planning to continue graduate study, teach, or enter professions requiring research skills. Plans B and C are intended for students seeking a terminal professional degree. Selection of the A, B or C option must be made in consultation with the student's advisor and filed with the graduate coordinator by the end of the first semester of study.

All students must complete core requirements. Students must, in consultation with their advisor, select an appropriate research tools class in research methods; the course need not be taught by the Journalism and Communication Department. To remain in good standing, all students must fulfill Graduate School requirements.

### Plan A: Media Research

**Core Requirements (21 credits).** All students must complete the following courses: JCOM 6000 (3 cr.), 6020 (3 cr.), 6040 (3 cr.), 6400 (3 cr.), and 6970 (6 cr.). In addition, students must select an appropriate 3-credit Research Tools course (from any department), providing methodological training most appropriate for the student, in consultation with the advisor.

**Cognate/Electives (9 credits).** With advisor permission, students may include additional Journalism and Communication electives.

### Plan B: Professional Option (Project)

**Core Requirements (18 credits).** All students must complete the following courses: JCOM 6000 (3 cr.), 6020 (3 cr.), 6040 (3 cr.), 6400 (3 cr.), and 6970 (3 cr.). In addition, students must select an appropriate 3-credit Research Tools course (from any department), providing methodological training most appropriate for the student, in consultation with the advisor.

**Cognate/Electives (12 credits).** With advisor permission, students may include additional Journalism and Communication electives.

## Plan C: Professional Option (Additional Coursework)

**Core Requirements (15 credits).** All students must complete the following courses: JCOM 6000 (3 cr.), 6020 (3 cr.), 6040 (3 cr.), and 6400 (3 cr.). In addition, students must select a 3-credit Research Tools course (from any department), in consultation with the advisor.

**Cognate/Electives (18 credits).** With advisor permission, students may include additional Journalism and Communication electives.

## Additional Information

For more information about graduate studies in the Department of Journalism and Communication, contact the School of Graduate Studies or the Department of Journalism and Communication. Also, check out the departmental website at: <http://www.usu.edu/journalism>

## Journalism and Communication Faculty

### Professors

*Edward C. Pease*, journalism, media criticism  
*Michael S. Sweeney*, print journalism, media history

### Professor Emeritus

*Nelson B. Wadsworth*, print journalism

### Associate Professors

*Penny M. Byrne*, broadcasting, media law  
*Brenda Cooper*, media criticism, gender and mass communication

### Associate Professors Emeritus

*Scott A. Chisholm*, media management, literary journalism  
*James O. Derry*, international mass communication development

### Assistant Professors

*Cathy Ferrand Bullock*, mass communication theory and research methods  
*Les A. Roka*, public relations  
*Nancy M. Williams*, print journalism, Internet

### Video Lab Supervisor

*S. Dean Byrne*, broadcast and electronic media

### Lecturer

*R. Troy Oldham*, public relations, corporate communications

### Adjunct Instructors

*Cami Boehme*, Internet  
*Tim Vitale*, public relations  
*Jay C. Wamsley*, print journalism

## Course Descriptions

Journalism and Communication (JCOM), [click here](#)