

Emphasis in Journalism

The Master of Arts in Communication with an emphasis in Journalism program prepares students for careers in news organizations and related areas in mass media. The program includes courses in print and broadcast management skills, organizational communication, Internet-based reporting and communication and cultural diversity issues. Students finish their Masters in Journalism under Plan B with a final three-credit essay. At least 36 credit hours of total coursework are required to graduate from the program.

Required Courses:

- COM 7000: Introduction to M.A. Studies (3 credits)
- COM 5080: History and Law of American Journalism (4 credits)
- COM 6280: Media and Diversity (3 credits)

One research methods course from the following:

- COM 6530: Audience Measurement and Survey Techniques (3 credits)
- COM 7260: Behavioral Research Methods in Communication (4 credits)
- COM 7580: Content Analysis (3 credits)
- COM 8230: Ethnographic Methods for Communication Research (3 credits)

One theory course from among the following:

- COM 7410: Communication Theory (3 credits)
- COM 7520: Theories of Media Effects (3 credits)
- COM 7700: Mass Media and Political Communication (3 credits)

From the following courses, choose **five electives**. The courses should be appropriate to the student's concentration, should be selected in consultation with the student advisor, and approved by the Director of Graduate Studies.

- COM 5250: Professional Issues in News Media Management (4 credits)
- COM 5300: Desktop Publishing (4 credits)
- COM 5310: Investigative Reporting (4 credits)
- COM 5381: TV News Reporting and Digital Editing (4 credits)
- COM 5420: Director's Workshop (4 credits)
- COM 5460: Magazine Writing (3 credits)
- COM 5500: Publishing on the Internet (3 credits)
- COM 5700: Political and Government Reporting (4 credits)
- COM 6190: Internship (3 credits each, maximum two internships)
- COM 6540: Media Operation and Management (3 credits)
- COM 6560: Journalism and New Media (3 credits)
- COM 7330: Advanced Desktop Publishing (3 credits)
- COM 7400: Media Arts Production (3 credits)

One elective from another department selected in consultation with your advisor. Possible departments include Political Science, Anthropology, History, Sociology, Business, or others appropriate to the student's interests.

Choose one of the following Plans:

Plan B: Three credit hours of COM 7999 with an approved essay for a minimum of 36 credits.

Plan C: Coursework selected from the above requirements totaling a minimum of 36 credits.

Acknowledgment of M.A. Degree Handbook Policies and Procedures

I have read the Department of Communication Master of Arts Handbook and familiarized myself with the policies and procedures governing the degree program I am pursuing. I also understand that I must familiarize myself with the policies, procedures, and directives from the Graduate School as detailed in the Graduate Bulletin.

I understand that deviations from the Department of Communication or Graduate School policies and procedures may interfere with reasonable and normal academic progress and, in extreme circumstances, may result in my dismissal from the program. I further understand that I am to maintain regular contact with my academic advisor so that I may complete my degree in a timely manner.

Student's Name (Please Print):

Signature and date:

Please sign and return this form to the Graduate Secretary of the Department of Communication, 585 Manoogian Hall, with your Plan of Work. The Plan of Work is to be completed in consultation with your academic advisor and must be filed by the completion of twelve credit hours of academic study.

For office use only:

Received by and date