

# JOURNALISM

Journalism Program Learning Outcomes (<https://catalog.csudh.edu/program-learning-outcomes/arts-humanities/bachelor-arts-journalism-program-learning-outcomes/>)

**College of Arts and Humanities**  
**Department of Communications**  
**Bachelor of Arts**

## Faculty

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## Program Description

The Bachelor of Arts in Journalism degree program is dedicated to high standards in journalistic practices, skills, and specializations with a strong focus on analytical reasoning, critical thinking and problem solving. Through innovative teaching practices, the program provides a broad-based curriculum designed to promote news and information literacy; proficiency in the various journalistic forms and styles; an understanding of the new media landscape; and information dissemination practices through contemporary and emerging media tools. The program is committed to freedom of the press, freedom of expression, freedom of inquiry, and the questioning of dominant institutional practices and ideologies. It encourages dedication to ethical practices including truth, accuracy, fairness, diversity, inclusivity, and independence. Students seeking careers in print, digital, broadcast, and contemporary news media will complete the program proficient in journalistic practices including writing, research, reporting, interviewing, editing, and publishing across multiple platforms. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the technological, professional, and economic changes that transform the industry through a thorough examination of media institutions and structures. The program provides an understanding of media representations of gender, race, ethnicity, and sexual orientation, and encourages professional practice that respects all forms of diversity. It trains students to be sensitive to and provide a voice for underserved populations and communities; works in the public interest; and encourages community engagement and social responsibility to audiences and the society at large. Students who graduate with a Journalism degree compete for journalism careers regionally, nationally and globally.

## Academic Advisement

Full-time faculty members and a department professional advisor serve as the academic advisors for Journalism majors. Students are strongly encouraged to seek faculty advisement upon admission and regularly thereafter. Faculty advisors work with students to provide information about major degree requirements, preparation for post-baccalaureate programs, and career options. The professional advisor assists students with major degree program requirements and other curriculum-related issues.

## Preparation

High school students are encouraged to take college preparatory English courses and become involved with their high school publications. Students planning to transfer from community college should consult

with their counselor or advisor to identify appropriate transferable lower division courses.

## Career Opportunities

The critical thinking and writing skills that Journalism students acquire from their coursework, combined with the experience they gain by participation in internships and student groups, prepare them for a wide array of career opportunities.

The Bachelor of Arts in Journalism is designed for students interested in print, online, and broadcast journalism careers. Students who graduate with a journalism degree are prepared for a wide variety of media-related careers, already armed with industry experience. New technologies and media platforms have created many dynamic opportunities for journalism graduates who possess the skills, principles, and practices for a successful career in the diverse regional, national, and international job markets. We train students in the various practices of contemporary journalists, including news writing and reporting, feature writing, column and opinion writing, interviewing, broadcast journalism, video podcasting, editing, and blogging.

Taught by seasoned journalists from a variety of media outlets, the curriculum focuses on the knowledge, practices, principles, and strategies of successful journalism professionals. In addition to learning effective writing, information gathering, and production techniques, students gain an understanding of how media organizations operate through hands-on internship training and in our news and broadcast production laboratories. Students also develop a keen understanding of how to decipher and navigate through an unprecedented amount of electronic information through media literacy training.

Careers include reporter, editor, features writer, sports journalist, freelance writer, columnist, correspondent, news broadcaster, editorial writer, news director, blogger, video podcaster, media management, researcher and photojournalist.

## Student Organizations

The Department sponsors the student organization The Society of Independent Student Journalists (SISJ). Its mission is:

1. to offer educational and professional support for student journalists;
2. to reinforce and strengthen the guiding principles of independent journalists;
3. to give student journalists the opportunity to network with industry professionals and instructors; and
4. to ensure all interested students are proficient in the principles and practices of journalism professionals.

Student membership is highly recommended.

## Graduation With Honors

An undergraduate student may be a candidate for graduation with Honors in Journalism provided he or she meets the following criteria:

1. A minimum of 36 units in residence at CSU Dominguez Hills;
2. A minimum grade point average of at least 3.5 (an A or A-) in all courses used to satisfy the upper division requirements in the major;
3. In addition, the student must be recommended by the faculty of the Department of Communications.

# Bachelor of Arts in Journalism

## Total Course Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree

See the "Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree (<https://catalog.csudh.edu/general-information/baccalaureate-degrees-undergraduate-studies/>)" in the University Catalog for complete details on general degree requirements. A minimum of 40 units, including those required for the major, must be upper division. Students must take at least 72 units outside of the journalism major and related fields.

### Elective Requirements

Completion of elective courses in another discipline (not journalism or related coursework) to reach a total of a minimum of 120 units is required.

### General Education Requirements (49 units)

See the "General Education (<https://catalog.csudh.edu/general-information/double-counting-general-education-courses/general-education/>)" requirements in the University Catalog or the Class Schedule for the most current information on General Education requirements and course offerings.

### Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement

Students are strongly encouraged to fulfill the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement by the end of their junior year. See the "Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (<https://catalog.csudh.edu/general-information/graduate-writing-examination/>)" in the University Catalog.

### Major Requirements (45-48 units)

The following courses, or their approved equivalents, are required of all candidates for this degree. The academic standards of the department require that all Journalism majors pass all required and prerequisite courses with grades of "C" or better.

#### A. Lower Division Required Courses (12 units)

COM 100 Media & Society (3)  
 COM 106 Digital Toolkit (2)  
 and  
 COM 107 Digital Toolkit Lab (1)  
 COM 110 Introduction to Digital Media Production (2)  
 and  
 COM 111 Introduction to Digital Media Production Laboratory (1)  
 COM 250 Newswriting For Media (3)

#### B. Upper Division Required Courses (18-21 units)

COM 301 News and Information Literacy (3)  
 COM 302 Law Of The Mass Media (3)  
 COM 338 Cross-Cultural Journalism (3)  
 COM 346 News Gathering & Reporting (3)  
 COM 379 Media Industries (3)  
 COM 355 News Production Workshop (3)

Note: COM 355 News Production Workshop (3) is repeatable for credit.

#### C. Capstone Experience (6 units)

COM 490 Senior Project (3)  
 COM 496 Internship In Communications (1-3)

#### D. Electives (9-12 units)

COM 206 Photojournalism (3)  
 COM 314 Broadcast Journalism (2)  
 COM 315 Broadcast Journalism Lab (1)  
 COM 320 Sports Journalism (3)

COM 328 Entertainment and Lifestyle Journalism (3)  
 COM 333 Digital Journalism (2)  
 COM 334 Digital Journalism Laboratory (1)  
 COM 347 Multimedia Interviewing Practices (3)  
 COM 348 News Editing And Design (3)  
 COM 352 Feature And Critical Writing (3)  
 COM 358 Communications Graphics (3)  
 COM 360 Pub Affairs & Edit. Writing (3)  
 COM 368 Investigative Reporting (3)  
 COM 388 Digital Magazine Production (1)  
 and  
 COM 389 Digital Magazine Production Laboratory (2)  
 COM 400 Media Analysis and Research Methods (3)  
 COM 435 Media Psychology (3)  
 COM 494 Independent Study (1-3)  
 COM 495 Special Topics: (3)