

Journalism (JOUR) Curriculum

Recommended Four-Year Course Sequence for Students Who Started College in Fall 2026 or later

Freshman		Sophomore		Junior		Senior	
Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
JOUR 201: Culture of Journalism, Past, Present, Future (4)	ASCJ 200: Navigating Media and News in the Digital Age (4) or JOUR 300: Journalism and Society (4)	JOUR 206: Media Center Practicum (1)	JOUR 206: Media Center Practicum - Live Reporting (1)	JOUR 372: Engaging Diverse Communities (2)	JOUR Advanced Reporting Elective: 402 (6) or 403 (6) or 405 (4) or 409 (4) or 448 (4)	JOUR 301: The Business of News (2)	JOUR 414: Advanced Digital Media Storytelling (2)
Foreign Language 1 (4)	JOUR 207: Reporting/Writing (4)	JOUR 321: Visual Journalism (3)	JOUR 307: Reporting and Writing II (3)	JOUR/PR Upper-Division Elective (300-499) (2)	JOUR 322: Data Journalism (2)	JOUR/PR Upper-Division Elective (300-499) (4)	JOUR/PR Upper-Division Elective (300-499) (4)
GESM Core Literacy: A-F (4)	Foreign Language 2 (4)	Foreign Language 3 (4)	JOUR 462: Law of Mass Communication (4)	GE Core Literacy: A-F (4)	GE Core Literacy: A-F (4)	WRIT 340 (4)	Elective/Double Major/Minor (100+) (4)
GE Core Literacy: A-F (4)	WRIT 150 (4)	GE Core Literacy: A-F (4)	GE Core Literacy: A-F (4)	GE Core Literacy: A-F (4)	GE Global Perspective: G or H (4)	Elective/Double Major/Minor (100+) (4)	Elective/Double Major/Minor (100+) (4)
		Elective/Double Major/Minor (100+) (4)	GE Core Literacy: A-F (4)	GE Global Perspective: G or H (4)	Elective/Double Major/Minor (100+) (2)	Elective/Double Major/Minor (100+) (2)	Elective/Double Major/Minor (100+) (2)
16 units	16 units	16 units	16 units	16 units	16 - 18 units	16 units	16 units

Legend:

General Education Requirements

Foreign Language Requirement

Writing Requirements

Major Requirements

Elective Courses / Double Major Courses / Minor Courses

*This chart represents a standard four-year plan (typically 16 units per semester). Each student's course plan may differ according to courses completed prior to admission.

*Created by Annenberg Advisement and Academic Services
(rev. May 2026)*

Journalism (JOUR) Major Course Descriptions

Required Courses, Lower Division:

JOUR 201 Culture of Journalism: Past, Present and Future (4 units): Understanding key moments, debates and ideas that have shaped journalism in the United States from the Revolutionary War period through today. Examination of the social, cultural, political and technological aspects of journalism and its impact on the profession and public service.

JOUR 206 Reporting and Writing Practicum (1 unit; 2 units required): One semester is spent in "Live Production," producing television, radio and digital content on deadline for student-led news outlets, and one semester in "Community Reporting," developing sources and stories for Annenberg Media's website and social media accounts. Students can take JOUR 206 Live Production and JOUR 206 Community Reporting in either sequence, but all students will do both. **Concurrent enrollment: JOUR 307 & 321.*

JOUR 207 Reporting and Writing I (4 units): Provides students with foundational skills to report, write and produce journalism content across multiple platforms, including broadcast, digital and text.

Required Courses, Upper Division:

JOUR 301 The Business of News (2 units): An overview of how journalism organizations and independent creators sustain their operations. **Prerequisite: JOUR 307 .*

JOUR 307 Reporting and Writing II (3 units): Report, write, produce and distribute in-depth stories produced off beats on multiple platforms for diverse audiences; enhance understanding of news judgment; develop and maintain sources; engage communities through field reporting and emerging digital tools. **Prerequisites: JOUR 207. Concurrent enrollment: JOUR 206.*

JOUR 321 Visual Journalism (3 units): Video for digital platforms, principles of photography, design for web and mobile platforms. Introduction to principles of digital news design, interactivity and presentation in interactive storytelling. **Concurrent enrollment: JOUR 206.*

JOUR 322 Introduction to Investigative and Data Journalism (2 units): Reportorial and analytical skills and techniques required for portraying and evaluating contemporary newsworthy events using basic data journalism techniques and tools for statistical analysis. **Prerequisite: JOUR 307.*

JOUR 372 Engaging Diverse Communities (2 units): Explores how to engage diverse local communities through participatory journalism and communication strategies. Focuses on using digital tools to increase engagement with communities via field reporting and mobile platforms to produce stories across platforms. **Prerequisite: JOUR 307.*

JOUR 414 Advanced Digital Media Storytelling (2 units): Production of a well-reported advanced multimedia package, with a blend of text, audio, video, photos, navigation and interactivity; final projects will be published by the Annenberg Media Center. **Prerequisites: JOUR 322 & 372.*

JOUR 462: Law of Mass Communication (4 units): Press law; government controls on the news media; legal responsibilities of the journalist.

Annenberg Experience (Choose one of the following required core courses):

ASCJ 200 Navigating Media and News in the Digital Age (4 units): Students will be engaged as discriminating media/news consumers and contributors. Emphasis on critical skills needed to understand, employ, enjoy and help shape our media landscape. **Should be completed prior to enrolling in JOUR 321.*

JOUR 300 Journalism and Society (4 units): Examination of media and society by applying concepts on power, ideology, discourse and representation to specific case studies from the field and practice of journalism.

Advanced Reporting Elective (Choose one course):

Choose from: JOUR 310 Investigative Reporting (4), JOUR 320 Introduction to Coding for Storytelling (2), JOUR 402 Advanced Video Reporting (6), JOUR 403 Television News and Sports Production (6), JOUR 405 Non-Fiction Television (4), Audio Storytelling for Radio and Podcast (4), JOUR 435 Writing Magazine Non-Fiction (4), JOUR 441 Sports Reporting (4), JOUR 445 Reporting on Race (4), JOUR 446 Entertainment Reporting (4), JOUR 447 Arts Reporting (4), JOUR 448 Government and Public Affairs Reporting (4), JOUR 458 Media, Food and Culture (4) or JOUR 488 Data-Driven Storytelling About Los Angeles (4)

Upper-Division Electives:

Complete 8-10 upper-division journalism or public relations elective units chosen in consultation with your adviser. Note: Students who choose a 4-unit Advanced Reporting course will need 10 units of upper-division electives; students who choose a 6-unit Advanced Reporting course will need 8 units of upper-division electives.

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