



# MASTER OF ARTS

## Specialized Journalism

### Program Overview

The M.A. in Specialized Journalism is an intensive nine and a half month program that prepares you to produce high-level reporting and long-form narrative journalism on topics of your choosing. Specialized reporting courses are offered in business, economics, entertainment, climate change and the environment, immigration, international affairs, sports, religion and spirituality, science, and other topics. Long-form narrative journalism is embedded in the program so if you are interested in magazine writing, radio and video documentaries, writing books and producing interactive multi-media projects, this program will have special appeal.

### Faculty & Students

Your mentors and professors are some of the best journalists in the world, including Pulitzer Prize, DuPont, and Emmy award winners, and leaders across every sector of the media industry. You and your fellow students will form a tight cohort of passionate and talented writers and producers taking advantage of the unique multi-media opportunities made possible by our world-class Julie Chen and Leslie Moonves CBS Media Center.

### Curriculum

This unique program invites you to create your own course of study focused on your interests, your needs and your career trajectory. You will have the opportunity to take courses in USC's world-renowned schools and research centers, including law, engineering, cinema, medicine, gaming, the brain and creativity, and dozens more. As a capstone project, you will be able to create radio and film documentaries, long-form literary and investigative journalism, or interactive multi-media projects. Your opportunities are limited only by your imagination and willingness to work.

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## Specialized Journalism

*Spend a year being mentored  
by some of the world's great journalists.*

# FACULTY MENTORS & TOPICS INCLUDE

## M.A. in Specialized Journalism



### Alan Abrahamson (Sports)

Alan Abrahamson is a renowned sportswriter, best-selling author, television analyst, and leading expert on the Olympics who won an Emmy for innovative coverage of the 2008 Beijing Games and 2014 Sochi games. A 17-year veteran of the Los Angeles Times, he is the co-author of two New York Times best-sellers: Michael Phelps' *No Limits: The Will to Succeed*, and Apolo Ohno's *Zero Regrets: Be Greater than Yesterday*.



### Michael Parks (International)

Michael Parks, one of America's most distinguished foreign correspondents, has reported from Moscow, Beijing, Jerusalem, Cairo, Johannesburg, Hong Kong, and Saigon. He received the 1987 Pulitzer Prize for International Reporting for his coverage of the struggle against apartheid in South Africa. From 1997-2000, while Parks was the editor of the Los Angeles Times, the paper garnered four additional Pulitzer Prizes.



### Dan Birman (Documentary)

Dan Birman is a prolific, award-winning documentary filmmaker. His films include *Me Facing Life: Cyntoia's Story*, a celebrated PBS feature documentary about a juvenile sentenced to life in prison, and *Brace for Impact*, a special for Discovery and TLC about Capt. Sullenberger's historic landing of Flight 1549. He is also on the board of governors for the TV Academy.



### Richard Reeves (Politics)

Richard Reeves was the chief political correspondent at The New York Times, national editor at Esquire, and chief correspondent on PBS's "Frontline." He has published 12 books and made six films, winning all of television's major documentary awards including an Emmy, a Columbia-DuPont Award, and a Peabody Award. His newest book is *Infamy: The Shocking Story of the Japanese American Internment in World War II*.



### K.C. Cole (Science)

K.C. Cole, a former award-winning science writer for the Los Angeles Times, has written eight nonfiction books. Her articles, which have appeared in The New York Times, Discover, Wired, The New Yorker, and Smithsonian, were featured in *The Best American Science Writing* in 2004 and 2005.



### Joe Saltzman (Journalism in Popular Culture)

Joe Saltzman, the director of the Image of the Journalist in Popular Culture and the author of *Frank Capra and the Image of the Journalist in American Film*, is an award-winning journalist who is professor of journalism and communication, and former associate dean at the Annenberg School. He is the co-author of new book *Heroes and Scoundrels: The Image of the Journalist in Popular Culture*.



### Geoffrey Cowan (Narrative History)

A former director of the Voice of America, Geoffrey Cowan is the author of the best-selling book *The People v. Clarence Darrow: The Bribery Trial of America's Greatest Lawyer*, and the award-winning play, *Top Secret: The Battle for the Pentagon Papers*. His newest book, *Let the People Rule: Theodore Roosevelt and the Birth of the Presidential Primary*, will be published in January 2016.



### Roberto Suro (Immigration & Politics)

Roberto Suro, who was the deputy national editor at The Washington Post and the New York Times bureau chief in Rome, has written four books including *Strangers Among Us: Latino Lives in a Changing America*, and *Writing Immigration: Scholars and Journalists in Dialogue*. From 2001-07, he was the director of the Pew Hispanic Center in Washington D.C.



### Gabriel Kahn (Economics & Entrepreneurship)

Gabriel Kahn spent 10 years at The Wall Street Journal, where he served as LA bureau chief, deputy Hong Kong bureau chief and deputy Southern Europe bureau chief. His work has appeared in publications including Slate, Los Angeles Magazine, Pacific Standard Salon, and New York Times Magazine.



### Sandy Tolan (Radio & Long-form Writing)

Sandy Tolan is a best-selling writer and award-winning radio and print journalist. The author of *The Lemon Tree: An Arab, A Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East*, a National Book Critics Circle Award Finalist, and *Children of the Stone: The Power of Music in a Hard Land*, he has reported from more than 35 countries and produced dozens of documentaries for NPR and public radio's Marketplace.



### Judy Muller (Broadcast & Radio)

Judy Muller is an Emmy, duPont-Columbia and Peabody Award-winning television correspondent and National Public Radio commentator. She has covered several significant news events including the O.J. Simpson trials for ABC News' Nightline and has also worked for CBS News Sunday Morning and CBS Weekend News. Her newest book is *Emus Loose in Egnar: Big Stories from Small Towns*.



### Miki Turner (Sports & Photojournalism)

Award-winning photojournalist, producer, and author Miki Turner has been working in the communications industry for more than 30 years specializing in print, television, radio and new media. Turner has held positions at the NFL Network, Jet magazine, ESPN, MSNBC.com, AOL.com, BET, and several newspapers. Turner became the first regularly-featured African American female sports columnist at a major metropolitan daily.



### Mary Murphy (Entertainment)

Mary Murphy, one of America's great entertainment journalists, covered topics ranging from pop culture to sports to presidential elections as a senior writer for TV Guide. She has been a top on-air talent for Entertainment Tonight and The Insider, and a writer for the Los Angeles Times, New York Magazine and Esquire. Her latest book, *The New News: The Digital Revolution in Newsrooms Across America*, will be released in 2016.



### Diane Winston (Religion)

A national authority on religion and the media, Winston covered religion at publications including the Dallas Times Herald and the Baltimore Sun. Her work has appeared in outlets including The New York Times, Washington Post, and Los Angeles Times. Winston received a Ph.D. in Religion from Princeton University and has authored several books on American religion.