SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM UNDERGRADUATE REQUIREMENTS GUIDE

*These requirements are for students entering KU in Fall 2013 or later. All other students should see a journalism adviser for assistance.

ADMISSION AND POLICIES

Admission Paths

PATH 1: High School Automatic Admission

- Have a composite 30 ACT / 1330 SAT or higher
- Have a cumulative, unweighted GPA of 3.7 or higher
- Apply to KU and indicate journalism as your intended major by Feb. 1
  *Must satisfy both test and GPA criterion

PATH 2: High School Considered Admission

- Have a composite 24 ACT / 1090 SAT or higher
- Have a cumulative, unweighted GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Apply to KU and indicate journalism as your intended major by Feb. 1
  *Must satisfy both test and GPA criterion

PATH 3: College Considered Admission

- Earn or be enrolled in 24 or more credit hours (at KU or elsewhere) and have a 2.5 KU cumulative GPA or higher.
- Complete or be enrolled in JOUR 101 Media and Society (or the course equivalent) and earn a C or higher.
- Apply to the KU J-School by Feb. 1 for fall and summer admission or Sept. 1 for spring admission

Admission is competitive.

COURSES AND GRADUATION

Journalism students must meet all goals and learning objectives in the KU Core. No more than 18 journalism hours may be used to fulfill Core requirements.

Journalism Degree Requirements

These requirements may overlap with KU Core requirements.

- Journalism grammar (or course exemption)
- One course in business and leadership
- One course in historical context
- Foreign language - 4th semester proficiency in one language or 3rd semester proficiency in one language and one course in another language.
- Quantitative literacy (one course beyond MATH 101)
- Natural science with a lab

Find a list of approved courses at: journalism.ku.edu/important-j-school-documents

Diversity Requirement

Students must complete one journalism diversity course by the time they graduate. Approved courses include JOUR 201, 534, 590 and 613.

Area Distribution Requirement

Students must complete one of the following area distribution requirements:

- Complete a minor outside of journalism
- Complete a second degree outside of journalism

Academic Standards

A student is placed on probation when their KU or J-School GPA falls below 2.5.

A student's admission to the J-School is rescinded if they do not earn a C in JOUR 101. They may regain admission by retaking the class and earning a C. (Assuming all other admission criteria are met.)

A student is dismissed from the J-School if they're unable to pass JOUR 002 after two attempts. They cannot apply for readmission.

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ACADEMIC TRACKS

News and Information

Foundation Core
JOUR 101: Media and Society (3)
JOUR 300: Visual Storytelling (3)
JOUR 302: Infomania (3)
JOUR 304: Writing for the Media (3)

Intermediate Core
JOUR 415: Multimedia Reporting (3)
JOUR 419: Multimedia Editing (3)
JOUR 550: Digital Media (4)

Upper-Level Core
JOUR 608: Ethics and the Media (3)
JOUR 618: First Amendment and Society (3)

Two semesters of advanced media courses
JOUR 610, 621, 630, 635, 636, 650, 690, 699 or approved sections of 500

Strategic Communication

Foundation Core
JOUR 101: Media and Society (3)
JOUR 300: Visual Storytelling (3)
JOUR 302: Infomania (3)
JOUR 304: Writing for the Media (3)

Intermediate Core
JOUR 320: Strategic Communication 1 (3)
JOUR 420: Strategic Communication 2 (3)
JOUR 460: Research Methods in Strategic Communication (3)
JOUR 560: Message Development (3)

Upper-Level Core
JOUR 608: Ethics and the Media (3)
JOUR 618: First Amendment and Society (3)

Capstone Course
JOUR 640: Strategic Campaigns (3)

SELECTING A TRACK
Students choose an academic track to follow before they complete the foundation core of courses.

Campus media
Getting involved with campus media outlets is imperative to your success during and after the J-School. Good news is, you can get involved through classes, volunteering and paid positions. Contact the outlets’ general managers for more information.

CAREERS

Journalism Career Center
The JCC offers career guidance and counseling to students at any stage in their college career, whether they’re ready to enter the job market or just exploring possibilities in the journalism field. The JCC helps students with resume creation, cover letter writing, interview preparation, on-campus recruitment connections, and networking opportunities.

Go to journalism.ku.edu/career-center-students to set up an appointment with the JCC.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

By the Numbers
• 120 total hours
• 40 journalism hours
• 72 hours outside journalism
• 45 junior/senior hours
• 2.5 KU GPA
• 2.5 Journalism GPA

JOURNALISM ADVISING & RECORDS
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