

SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM UNDERGRADUATE REQUIREMENTS GUIDE

*These requirements are for freshman entering KU in Fall 2012 or later and transfer students entering 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.



Journalism New Student Orientation

Recently-admitted students are required to attend a Journalism New Student Orientation. It is an opportunity to learn about J-School culture, advising, academic requirements, student organizations and career services. These sessions will be held in September and February each year. Students will receive detailed information after admission into the J-School.

POPULATION SNAPSHOT

85% of classes have fewer than 50 students

62% of classes have fewer than 20 students

COURSES AND GRADUATION

General Education Requirements

- ENGL 101, ENGL 102 or 105, and ENGL 203, 205, 209, 210 or 211 (see advisers for exemption information)
- MATH through 105, 115, 121 or 365
- COMS 130 or 230 (see advisers for exemption information)
- A 4- or 5-credit hour principle course in the natural sciences with a lab
- A principal course in the humanities
- A principal course in the social sciences
- A principal course in the nonwestern culture area
- ECON 104, 142 or 144
- Foreign language (fourth semester proficiency required)
- HWC 204 and 205 (Western Civilization 1 and 2)

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

Diversity Requirement

Students must complete one journalism diversity course by the time they graduate. See advisers for approved courses.

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.

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

SELECTING A TRACK

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

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)



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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