

A Guide for your Educational Journey

Every new journey requires some type of guide to help us navigate unfamiliar terrain. The purpose of this guide is to help you identify key milestones we believe are important for you to reach on your journey towards graduation. Think of these milestones as signposts that point you in the right direction, moving you along your educational journey. Each year includes milestones for *Building Your Brand; Building Your Team; and Building Your Skills*

First Year:

- Establish relationship with advisors in [Journalism Student Services](#) & [Schedule an Appointment](#)
- Become familiar with the [KU Catalog](#)
- Explore potential Minors and/or Double Majors:
 - [Thinking About Your Minor Worksheet](#)
 - [Choosing a Major/Minor Worksheet](#)
- Connect with [Campus Media and Journalism Student Organizations](#):
- Identify potential faculty mentors: [J School Faculty](#) & [Faculty Mentoring](#)
- Explore the following possibilities for your educational plan:
 - [Study Abroad](#)
 - [KU Experiential Learning Certificate Programs](#)
 - [Student Involvement & Leadership Center](#)
 - [Service Learning](#)
 - [Community Service](#)
 - [KU Alternative Breaks](#)
- Become familiar with student success resources:
 - [Academic Achievement & Access Center \(AAAC\)](#) and [Tutoring Services](#)
 - [KU Writing Center](#)
 - [Bremner Editing Center in the J-School](#)
- Learn about KU policies that affect student success:
 - [Course Repeat Policy](#)
 - [Credit/No Credit Policy](#)
 - [Falling Below 12 Hours](#)
 - [Add/Drop](#)
- Learn answers to the “how do I...” types of questions: [How Do I?](#)
- Become familiar with your Degree Progress Report (DPR): [DPR](#)
- Become familiar with your degree requirements: [NIJ](#) or [SCJ](#)
- ***[Apply for Journalism Scholarships](#)***

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Second Year: Solidifying Plans and Taking Next Steps

- Meet with Journalism advisors to update educational plan and develop a [four year graduation plan](#).
- Meet with advisor for your minor and/or second major. Your Journalism advisor will connect you to your minor/double major advisor.
- Complete [JOUR 101, 300, 302, and 304](#) core courses to stay on track for graduation.
- Meet with [Journalism Career Services](#) and the [University Career Center](#) to identify meaningful internship opportunities for summer.
- Develop relationship with at least one faculty mentor in the J-School: [Faculty Mentor](#)
- Know your degree requirements: [NIJ-BSJ](#) or [SCJ-BSJ](#)
- Meet with the [Office of Study Abroad](#) to discuss Junior year options.
- Continue involvement in [campus media](#) and [student organizations](#), and consider leadership positions for your third year.
- ***[Apply for Journalism Scholarships](#)***

Third Year:

- Work with the [Journalism Career Center](#) to connect with alumni, identify internship opportunities, and update your resume.
- Participate in [J-School Generations](#) to extend your network with J-School alumni and area employers.
- Meet with your [Faculty Mentors](#) regularly to discuss career interests and planning.
- Begin building your [portfolio](#) in conversation with faculty, faculty mentors, and Journalism Career Services.
- Participate in the annual [J-School Career Fair](#) to network with potential employers.
- Declare your minor or second major and meet with your advisor.
- [News & Information](#) students complete [JOUR 415, 419, and 550](#) to be ready for your Advanced Medias.
- [Strategic Communication](#) students complete [JOUR 320, 420, 460, and 560](#) to be ready for Strategic Campaigns.
- Finalize plans to complete [KU Certificate Programs](#) as part of your educational plan.
- ***[Apply for Journalism Scholarships](#)***

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Fourth Year:

- Meet with your Journalism advisor for your [term prior graduation check](#).
- Meet with your second major advisor for your term prior graduation check, or meet with your minor advisor to certify your minor.
- [Apply for your Degree \(AFD\)](#) with the University.
- Work with the [Journalism Career Center](#) as you officially start the job search!
- Participate in [J-School Generations](#) as a senior and extend your network with J-School alum and area employers.
- Work with your faculty mentors and past employers to serve as references for your job search or graduate/professional school applications.
- Polish your [portfolio](#) and [resume](#) as part of your job search strategy.
- Participate in your final [J-School Career Fair](#) as an undergraduate!
- Experience the joy of [KU Commencement](#) weekend!

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Quick Links to Helpful Resources

Journalism Degree Requirements

- [News & Information](#)
- [Strategic Communication](#)
- [Historical Context Course List](#)
- [Quantitative Literacy Course List](#)
- [Business and Leadership Course List](#)
- [Choosing a 2nd Major/Minor](#)
- [Thinking About Your Minor](#)
- [KU Catalog](#)

Student Involvement

- [Campus Media and J-School Organizations](#)
- [Student Organizations](#)

Educational Opportunities

- [Study Abroad](#)
- [KU Certificate Programs](#)
- [Service Learning](#)
- [Community Service](#)
- [KU Alternative Breaks](#)

Student Success Resources

- [Faculty Mentors](#)
- [Journalism Student Services](#)
- [Academic Achievement & Access Center AAAC](#)
- [Tutoring Services](#)
- [KU Writing Center](#)
- [Bremner Editing Center](#)
- [Counseling & Psychological Services CAPS](#)

Career Resources

- [Journalism Career Services](#)
- [University Career Center](#)
- [J-School Career Fair](#)
- [Student Portfolios](#)
- [J-School Generations](#)

KU Policies

- [Course Repeat Policy](#)
- [Credit/No Credit Policy](#)
- [Falling Below 12 Hours](#)
- [Adding/Dropping Classes](#)
- [Journalism Retroactive Withdraw Policy](#)

Journalism Resources

- [Directed Studies](#)
- [Internship Policy](#)
- [Journalism Scholarships](#)
- [Journalism FAQ](#)
- [How Do I...?](#)