The Department of Journalism is founded on the principle that a well-informed and engaged public is essential to democracy—perhaps more so now, at a time of dizzying change, than it has ever been; and that, in the face of this change, journalism retains a unique role in contributing to civic life and to the quality of public discourse.

We put this principle to work by helping students become constructive participants in an ever-evolving global media landscape, where distinctions between producers and consumers of content have blurred. More specifically, we prepare them, at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, for careers in journalism and other fields of public communication. We train students to gather information from a diversity of sources, to analyze it critically, and to report what is significant through stories and other media forms across multiple media platforms. We encourage ethical awareness so that students will think independently, being prepared to reflect on and to help shape media practices and norms rather than take them at face value.

We believe in the integration of classroom instruction with practical experience. Many of our students work for, and manage, campus online news and entertainment sites, television programs and a radio station. They intern at broadcast stations, newspapers, magazines, websites and social media companies. Lastly, as a faculty, and with the help of colleagues elsewhere in our College who are working on new and innovative forms of human communication, we are committed to improving journalism through pioneering research and creative work.

Course code for this program is JRNL.

Master's Degree
- Journalism - Master of Arts (MA) (catalog.colorado.edu/graduate-colleges-schools/media-communication-information/programs-study/journalism/journalism-master-arts-ma)
- Journalism Entrepreneurship - Master of Arts (MA) (catalog.colorado.edu/graduate-colleges-schools/media-communication-information/programs-study/journalism/journalism-entrepreneurship-master-arts-ma)

Doctoral Degree
- Media Research and Practice - Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) (catalog.colorado.edu/graduate-colleges-schools/media-communication-information/programs-study/media-studies/media-research-and-practice-doctor-philosophy-phd)

Faculty

While many faculty teach both undergraduate and graduate students, some instruct students at the undergraduate level only. For more information, contact the faculty member's home department.

Ackland, Len
Professor Emeritus

Brinkman, P. Delbert
Professor Emeritus

Chuang, Angie
Associate Professor

Clark, Patrick Ryan (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_156499)
Instructor; MFA, San Diego State University

Daugherty, Paul J (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_128801)
Senior Instructor; MA, University of Colorado Boulder

Ferrucci, Patrick Richard (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_156307)
Assistant Professor; PhD, University of Missouri-Columbia

Jones, Stephen B (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_101578)
Senior Instructor; PhD, University of Utah

Kaplan, Frank L.
Professor Emeritus

Kim, Hun Shik (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_141126)
Associate Professor; PhD, University of Missouri-Columbia

Kodas, Michael George (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_147577)
Instructor; BS, University of Missouri-Columbia

Kuczun, Sam
Professor Emeritus

Larson, Christine
Assistant Professor; PhD, Stanford University

McDevitt, Michael Joseph (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_122949)
Professor; PhD, Stanford University

Mcnamara, Mei-Ling J (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_158310)
Assistant Professor; PhD, Univ of Edinburgh (Scotland)

Moritz, Marguerite J.
Professor Emeritus; PhD, Northwestern University; PhD, Northwestern University

Raybon, Patricia
Professor Emeritus

Ryan, Kathleen Marie (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_148481)
Associate Professor; PhD, University of Oregon

Skewes Cummings, Elizabeth (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_122724)
Associate Professor; PhD, Syracuse University

Taylor, David Ross (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_156501)
Assistant Professor

Voakes, Paul S (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_130279)
Professor Emeritus; PhD, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Whitt, Jan (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_103027)
Professor; PhD, University of Denver

Yulsman, Thomas H (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_109386)
Professor; MS, Columbia University In the City of New York
Courses

JRNL 5001 (3) Media Technology Boot Camp
Offers a foundation in the technologies of journalistic storytelling across a variety of established and emerging media platforms, such as print, television, radio, online publications, blogs, social media and emerging forms of communication. Students will emerge from the course with basic competence in the technical tools they will need as journalists.

Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.

JRNL 5011 (3) News Gathering and Multimedia Storytelling
Develops skills in research and reporting on public issues and news events, and in the construction of narrative in the journalistic and documentary traditions, using a variety of media platforms.

Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.

JRNL 5102 (3) Photojournalism Portfolio
Advanced course intended to give students a forum in which technical skills will be brought to professional standards. Build a polished portfolio of work to present to editors and buyers.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: JRNL 4102

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of JRNL 5001 and JRNL 5011 (all minimum grade C-). Restricted to graduate students only.

Additional Information: Departmental Category: Broadcast Journalism

JRNL 5211 (3) Funding Journalism in the 21st Century
Explores new business models and strategies that could sustain the news industry as it makes the transition to primarily digital platforms. The course examines both for-profit and nonprofit models in the United States, while also investigating projects around the world. The class answers the question: If journalism is funded this way, how can I use this in my own career?

Grading Basis: Letter Grade

JRNL 5344 (3) Video Documentary Production
Designed to give students the experience of researching, writing, shooting and editing their own documentaries.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: JRNL 4344

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of JRNL 5001 and JRNL 5011 and JRNL 5514 (all minimum grade C-). Restricted to graduate students only.

Additional Information: Departmental Category: Broadcast Journalism

JRNL 5521 (3) Data Journalism
Instructs students in data-driven investigative reporting. Includes hands-on, in-depth instruction in gathering data from census reports, commercial databases, information networks, and other sources, and utilizing statistical analysis software and spreadsheets to analyze the information in ways that can help deepen and strengthen journalistic stories on a wide variety of subjects.

Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.

Grading Basis: Letter Grade

Additional Information: Departmental Category: Core Curriculum and General Electives

JRNL 5552 (3) News Editing
Discusses principles and practice in copy editing and writing headlines for local and wire stories. Practice in page makeup, picture editing, and electronic editing.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of JRNL 5001 and JRNL 5011 (all minimum grade C). Restricted to graduate students only.

Additional Information: Departmental Category: Print Online Journalism

JRNL 5562 (3) Digital Journalism
Builds upon digital production skills through the creation of multimedia project. Applies media theory to evaluate digital media content and explore how digital forms influence the news industry, politics, culture and society.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: JRNL 4562

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of JRNL 5001 and JRNL 5011 (all minimum grade C-). Restricted to graduate students only.

Additional Information: Departmental Category: Print Online Journalism

JRNL 5572 (3) CU News Corps
Provides students the opportunity to immerse themselves in an explanatory/investigative news project that gives students a chance to use in-depth research to produce content for Colorado news outlets and practice the skills they’ve learned in previous reporting classes. Students spend several weeks studying the subject in question before reporting and producing their stories.

Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.

Grading Basis: Letter Grade

JRNL 5602 (3) Opinion Writing
Concentrates on several of the subjective areas of journalism. Emphasizes editorial and column writing, editorial pages and blogging.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: JRNL 4602

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of JRNL 5001 and JRNL 5011 (all minimum grade C-). Restricted to graduate students only.

Additional Information: Departmental Category: Print Online Journalism

JRNL 5624 (4) News Team
Students participate in Newsteam Boulder a program broadcast live over the Boulder cable television system.

Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: JRNL 4624

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of JRNL 5001 and JRNL 5011 and JRNL 5514 (all minimum grade C-). Restricted to graduate students only.

Additional Information: Departmental Category: Broadcast Journalism
JRNL 5634 (1-3) Broadcast Projects
Covers interpretation, preparation, and/or reporting in programs for broadcast media. Prepares radio or television documentaries and informational/entertainment programs. Instructor consent required.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: JRNL 4634
Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of JRNL 5001 and JRNL 5011 and JRNL 5514 (all minimum grade C). Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Broadcast Journalism

JRNL 5651 (3) Journalism Law & Ethics
Explores the legal and ethical frameworks of journalistic practice and media production. Covers historical as well as current frameworks used in examining the legal and ethical issues that arise in newsgathering and publication. Examines the relationships between ethics and the law in various media context.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.

JRNL 5684 (3) Advanced Camera and Editing
Emphasizes the advanced techniques in digital video camera usage and digital editing for professional broadcast video production.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: JRNL 4684
Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of JRNL 5001 and JRNL 5011 and JRNL 5514 (all minimum grade C). Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Print Online Journalism

JRNL 5702 (3) Arts/Cultural Reporting and Criticism
Emphasizes composition of criticism for the performing arts and other areas of entertainment.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: JRNL 4702
Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of JRNL 5001 and JRNL 5011 (all minimum grade C). Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Print Online Journalism

JRNL 5802 (3) Feature Writing
Provides practice in writing freelance articles. Considers types, sources, methods, titles, illustrations, and freelance markets. Students submit work for publication.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: JRNL 4802
Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of JRNL 5001 and JRNL 5011 (all minimum grade C). Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Print Online Journalism

JRNL 5812 (3) Science Writing
Helps students acquire the basic skills and knowledge required of science journalists. Also examines issues of scientific importance such as climate change, the nature of scientific knowledge, and how science is covered in various media.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Print Online Journalism

JRNL 5822 (3) Reporting on the Environment
Involves reporting and writing about the environment by taking into account the scientific, technological, political, economic and cultural dimensions of environmental subjects.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: JRNL 4822
Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of JRNL 5001 and JRNL 5011 (all minimum grade C). Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Print Online Journalism

JRNL 5841 (1-3) Graduate Independent Study
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 6.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Core Curriculum and General Electives

JRNL 5851 (1-6) Graduate Professional Project
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 9.00 total credit hours.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Core Curriculum and General Electives

JRNL 5871 (1-3) Special Topics
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 15.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Core Curriculum and General Electives

JRNL 5872 (1-3) Special Topics: Print
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: JRNL 4872
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 15.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Print Online Journalism

JRNL 5874 (1-3) Special Topics: Electronic Media
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 15.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.
Requisites: Restricted to Journalism (JRNL) graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Broadcast Journalism

JRNL 5931 (1-3) Internship
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 3.00 total credit hours.
Requisites: Requires pre-requisite of JRNL 5001 and JRNL 5011 and JRNL 5521 (all minimum grade of C-). Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Core Curriculum and General Electives

JRNL 6321 (3) Literary Journalism
Analyzes the work of journalists who became some of the greatest fiction writers of the 19th and 20th centuries, and examines the increasingly indistinct lines between journalism and narrative fiction.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Core Curriculum and General Electives

JRNL 6651 (3) Media Law
Graduate seminar in communications law. Studies changing law and applied legal research techniques.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Core Curriculum and General Electives

JRNL 6871 (3) Special Topics
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 15.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.

JRNL 6940 (1) Master's Degree Candidate
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail

JRNL 7001 (3) Theories of Journalism Studies
Introduces the principal concepts, literature and theoretical and paradigmatic perspectives of journalism studies, and explores their ties and contributions to parallel domains in the social sciences and humanities.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
JRNL 7002 (3) Journalism Research Design
Adopts a holistic and creative approach to bridging theory with method for the purpose of research design. Students explore designs that effectively address research questions through elaboration of theoretical and operational linkages.

Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of JRNL 7001 and MDRP 7051 and MDRP 7061 (all minimum grade C-). Restricted to graduate students only.

MDRP 7871 (3) Special Topics
Special topics.

Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 15.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.

Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.