

JOURNALISM

Journalism is a 36-credit major offered by the Department of Communication. Undergraduate majors may choose from professional emphases in journalism or broadcasting.

The Program

Students interested in pursuing an undergraduate degree offered by the Department of Communication must first complete all courses and requirements associated with the pre-communication preparation designation. Once all pre-communication preparation courses and requirements are met, the student completes and submits the pre-communication form, available on the department website, to the department's academic assistant. After verification of accuracy, the student is accepted into the professional program and can continue pursuing a degree in the Department of Communication.

Pre-Communication Preparation

Students must complete 21 credits of selected courses with a grade of B or above to become a journalism major. The courses are COMM 110; COMM 112; COMM 114; COMM 212; COMM 216; ENGL 110 (unless exempt); and ENGL 120; SOC 110 or POLS 110 or PSYC 111 or CJ 201. Pre-communication preparation courses may be retaken only once.

Journalism Major

Students majoring in journalism may earn a Bachelor of Science degree (includes an approved minor) or a Bachelor of Arts degree (includes a modern language proficiency) upon completion of all pre-communication preparation courses and requirements. Students will select one of two tracks. The print track will orient students to the principles and practices of news reporting and writing as both a practice and field of study. The broadcasting track will introduce students to the principles and practices of TV and radio production and broadcasting. Students will complete an applied capstone course after completing all other required course work.

Career Opportunities

Course work in the journalism major prepares students for careers in news reporting, media writing, broadcast writing, production, web design and web management. The courses in each track emphasize written and oral communication skills and prepare students to communicate in meaningful and effective ways.

Journalism Minor

Many other majors offered at North Dakota State University can be greatly enhanced by a journalism minor. The 21-credit minor includes a 12-credit core and nine credits of communication professional specialization.

Internship Program

Internships offer practical experience for journalism students. Students must propose an internship, gain approval from the departmental internship coordinator, have an on-site evaluation and report on the internship experience. Internships must be taken for credit at least once, and a student may have more than one.

Students intern with newspaper and broadcasting firms, computer software agencies and governmental officials, among others. Internships often lead to recommendations and jobs.

Scholarships

The Department of Communication awards a number of scholarships to juniors and seniors with financial need who excel in academics and who have demonstrated career potential and commitment. Applications are available in March for awards in May. Visit the department website for information.

Extra-Curricular Activities

NDSU has two honoraries for top students majoring in a degree program offered by the Department of Communication. Pi Kappa Delta is a national honor fraternity for students involved in human communication activities. Lambda Pi Eta is a national honorary for communication majors with high grades and achievement. Students can gain additional experience through participation in the Bison Information Network (television), KNDS-96.9 (radio) or The Spectrum (print).

High School Preparation

A well-rounded high school education with some experiences in high school music, forensics, theater, journalism, FFA and scouting often serves as good preparation for the major in journalism. Students with interests in science and art, business and service, and publicity and promotion will find a major in journalism very compatible.

The Faculty

Faculty members in the Department of Communication are all committed teachers, researchers, scholars and practitioners. The faculty earned doctorates at the Universities of Indiana, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Southern California, Tennessee, Wyoming, Arizona State University, Michigan State University, Purdue University, and University of Cambridge (UK).

Sample Curriculum

General Education Requirements Credits

First Year Experience	
UNIV 189 - Skills for Academic Success.....	1
Communication	
COMM 110 - Fundamentals of Public Speaking.....	3
ENGL 110, 120 - College Composition I, II.....	3, 3
English Upper Division Writing.....	3
Quantitative Reasoning.....	3
Science & Technology.....	10
Humanities & Fine Arts.....	6
Social & Behavioral Sciences	
COMM 112 - Understanding Media and Social Change.....	3
COMM 114 - Human Communication.....	3
Wellness.....	2
Cultural Diversity	
COMM 216 - Intercultural Communication.....	-
Global Perspective.....	-
Total.....	40

College/Department Requirements Credits

Humanities Elective(s).....	3 or 6
Social Science Elective	
SOC 110 - Introduction to Sociology <i>or</i>	
POLS 110 - Introduction to Psychology <i>or</i>	
PSYC 111 - Introduction to Psychology <i>or</i>	
CJ 201 - Introduction to Criminal Justice.....	3
Fine Arts Elective(s).....	3 or 6
Total.....	12

Major Requirements Credits

COMM 200 - Introduction to Media Writing.....	3
COMM 212 - Interpersonal Communication.....	3
COMM 301 - Rhetorical Traditions <i>or</i>	
COMM 321 - Introduction to Communication Theory.....	3
COMM 310 - Advanced Media Writing.....	3
COMM 320 - Communication Analysis.....	3
COMM 431 - Communication Ethics.....	3
COMM 434 - Communication Law.....	3
COMM 496 - Field Experience.....	3
300-400 Level Communication Electives.....	6
Electives.....	25
Total.....	55

Print Track Credits

COMM 313 - Editorial Processes.....	3
COMM 362 - Principles of Design for Print.....	3
COMM 425 - Specialty Writing (Capstone).....	3
Total.....	9

Broadcasting Track Credits

COMM 345 - Principles of Broadcast Production.....	3
COMM 442 - Digital Media and Society.....	3
COMM 445 - Advanced Broadcast Production (Capstone).....	3
Total.....	9

CURRICULUM TOTAL..... 122

An academic minor or foreign language is required.

This sample curriculum is not intended to serve as a curriculum guide for current students, but rather an example of course offerings for prospective students. For the curriculum requirements in effect at the time of entrance into a program, consult with an academic advisor or with the Office of Registration and Records.

For Further Information

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