

Journalism

**JOURNALISM – JRNAL**

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 English Division  
 Faculty Office Building, Room 136

**Possible career opportunities**

The journalism program prepares students in the writing, reporting, and critical thinking skills required for jobs in the news media or for transfer to a journalism program at a four-year institution. Career options include copy editor, script writer, broadcast journalist, newspaper reporter, magazine writer, columnist, public information officer, online writer, speech writer, freelance writer, advertising copy writer, editor, and photojournalist. Some career options may require more than two years of college study.

**Program-level student learning outcomes**

Program learning outcomes are subject to change. The most current list of program learning outcomes for each program is published on the DVC website at [www.dvc.edu/slo](http://www.dvc.edu/slo).

**Associate in arts in journalism for transfer**

**Students completing the program will be able to...**

- A. use a variety of media and sources to produce journalistic products that demonstrate good news judgment, appropriate sourcing, accuracy and completeness, technical competence and adherence to ethical, legal and style guidelines.
- B. understand and analyze how history, economics, politics, law or government regulation affect the climate for journalism and freedom of speech in the United States.
- C. demonstrate good work habits, time management and professionalism while working collaboratively and under deadline pressure to produce a news product.

**Associate in arts in journalism for transfer**

The journalism program prepares students in the writing, reporting and critical thinking skills required for jobs in the news media and for transfer to a journalism program at a four-year institution. Career options include copy editor, script writer, broadcast journalist, news reporter, magazine writer, columnist, public information officer, online writer, freelance writer, advertising copy writer, editor and photojournalist. Some career options may require more than two years of college study.

The associate in arts in journalism for transfer is intended for students who plan to complete a bachelor’s degree in a similar major at a CSU campus. Students completing this degree are guaranteed admission to the CSU system, but not to a particular campus or major.

In order to earn the degree, students must:

- Complete 60 semester CSU-transferable units.
- Complete the California State University-General Education pattern (CSU GE); or the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) pattern.
- Complete a minimum of 18 semester units in the major.
- Obtain of a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0.
- Earn a grade of “C” or higher in all courses required for the major.

Students transferring to a CSU campus that accepts the degree will be required to complete no more than 60 units after transfer to earn a bachelor’s degree. This degree may not be the best option for students intending to transfer to a particular CSU campus or to university or college that is not part of the CSU system, or those students who do not intend to transfer.

Some courses in the major satisfy both major and CSU GE/IGETC general education requirements; however, the units are only counted once toward the 60 unit requirement for an associate’s degree. Some variations in requirements may exist at certain four-year institutions; therefore, students who intend to transfer are advised to refer to the catalog of the prospective transfer institution and consult a counselor.

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| <i>major requirements:</i>   | <i>units</i> |
| JRNAL-110 Mass Media of Communications .....                         | 3            |
| JRNAL-120 Introduction to Newswriting and Reporting .....            | 3            |
| JRNAL-126 News Production Laboratory I .....                         | 3            |
| <i>plus at least 3 units from:</i>                                   |              |
| JRNAL-127 News Production Laboratory II .....                        | 3            |
| JRNAL-130 Multimedia Reporting .....                                 | 3            |
| <i>plus at least 6 units from:</i>                                   |              |
| ART-160 Photography I .....  | 3            |
| BUS-240 Business Statistics .....                                    | 3            |
| or   |              |
| MATH-142 Elementary Statistics with Probability .....                | 4            |
| COMM-123 Argumentation and Debate .....                              | 3            |
| ENGL-126 Critical Thinking: The Shaping of Meaning in Language ..... | 3            |
| ECON-220 Principles of Macroeconomics .....                          | 3            |
| or   |              |
| ECON-221 Principles of Microeconomics .....                          | 3            |
| POLSC-121 Introduction to United States Government .....             | 3            |
| POLSC-220 Comparative Politics .....                                 | 3            |
| <b>total minimum required units</b>                                  | <b>18</b>    |

## Journalism

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### JRNAL-110 Mass Media of Communication

3 units SC

- 54 hours lecture per term
- Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL-122 or equivalent

This course presents an introduction to major mass media and their impact on American life. The history of mass media, how they are structured, who controls them and how they influence individual and social values will be explored. Topics include First Amendment rights and responsibilities, techniques of persuasion and propaganda, the blurred line between entertainment and news, the role of journalists in war time, issues of credibility and trust and the impact of the "new media" - digital technology and the Internet - on the traditional forms of mass communication. Critical thinking and analysis of the images and sounds that so powerfully shape the public mind will be emphasized. C-ID JOUR 100, CSU, UC

### JRNAL-120 Introduction to Newswriting and Reporting

3 units SC

- 54 hours lecture per term
- Recommended: ENGL-118 or equivalent

This course introduces students to journalism reporting and writing for print, online and the broadcast media. It includes generating story ideas, developing sources, conducting interviews and online research, taking accurate notes, observing detail, exercising news judgment and crafting stories appropriate for various media. The course also covers sensitivity to multicultural issues and explores libel laws and media ethics. Students will learn how to write strong lead sentences, how to organize their findings into lively and informative stories, and how to write and revise their work on deadline. Students may publish some assignments in the college's student newspaper, *The Inquirer*, or use them for other student media. C-ID JOUR 110, CSU

### JRNAL-124 Fundamentals of Journalism for Non-Majors I

1.5 units SC

- 9 hours lecture/54 hours laboratory by arrangement per term
- Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL-122 or equivalent
- Note: Journalism transfer students should take JRNAL-120

This course introduces non-journalism majors to the fundamentals of reporting and writing the news through a practical approach that includes student media experience. It includes exercising news judgment, conducting interviews, taking accurate notes, observing detail, taking simple digital news photographs and crafting a basic news story. Students will learn how to write strong lead sentences, how to organize their findings into lively and informative stories, and how to write and revise their work on deadline. Their work will be published in the college's student newspaper, *The Inquirer*, or its online news site. CSU

### JRNAL-125 News Production Fundamentals

2-3 units SC

- Variable hours
- Note: Journalism transfer students should take JRNAL-120.

This course introduces non-journalism majors to the fundamentals of reporting and writing the news through a practical approach that includes student media experience. Work will be published in the college's student newspaper, *The Inquirer*, or its online news site. All students will learn to exercise news judgment, apply basic legal and ethical principles, conduct and document interviews, take simple digital news photographs and craft a basic news story. Students who enroll in three units will go into greater depths on these topics and may begin to apply their skills using different media or in feature-style writing. CSU

### JRNAL-126 News Production Laboratory I

3 units SC

- 18 hours lecture/108 hours laboratory by arrangement per term
- Prerequisite: JRNAL-120 (may be taken concurrently) or JRNAL-125 or equivalent
- Recommended: ENGL-118 or equivalent

Intermediate journalism students will broaden their news-gathering skills while producing content for the college's student newspaper, *The Inquirer*, and its website. Beat coverage and working in formats suitable for print, social media and the Web will be emphasized in this class. Students will be expected to exercise news judgment, meet daily and weekly deadlines, adhere to the highest ethical principles and be vigilant about accuracy. They will also exercise their First Amendment responsibilities by allowing *The Inquirer* to be a forum for the diverse views of the DVC community. C-ID JOUR 130, CSU

### JRNAL-127 News Production Laboratory II

3 units SC

- 18 hours lecture/108 hours laboratory by arrangement per term
- Prerequisite: JRNAL-126 or equivalent

Students with previous experience in working for publication will provide editorial leadership and in-depth coverage for the college's student newspaper, *The Inquirer*, and its website. Management skills, methods for tackling longer-term projects, and working in formats suitable for print, social media and the Web will be emphasized in this class. Students will be expected to exercise news judgment, meet daily and weekly deadlines, adhere to the highest ethical principles and be vigilant about accuracy. They will also exercise their First Amendment responsibilities by allowing *The Inquirer* to be a forum for the diverse views of the DVC community. C-ID JOUR 131, CSU

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### **JRNAL-128 News Production Portfolio Development**

2-3 units SC

- *Variable hours*
- *Note: Classes such as JRNAL-120, ART-105, ART-160, ARTDM-136, ARTDM-165, ARTDM-214 or FTVE-120 could provide good preparation for this course of instruction.*

This intermediate class is designed for students preparing for employment in journalism and associated fields. Students with prior instruction in reporting, photography, illustration, design or digital media will create and publish works for The Inquirer while learning the basic principles of preparing a professional portfolio. CSU

### **JRNAL-130 Multimedia Reporting**

3 units SC

- *36 hours lecture/54 hours laboratory per term*
- *Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL-122 or equivalent*

This course is an introduction to multimedia storytelling tools for journalism. Students will explore techniques that use tools such as text, photographs, video or audio to tell news or feature stories on the Internet or through social media. It will also include techniques in digital research. C-ID JOUR 120, CSU

### **JRNAL-160 Introduction to Feature Reporting**

3 units SC

- *54 hours lecture per term*
- *Recommended: ENGL-118 or equivalent*

This course equips students to research, write and market feature stories for magazines, websites and newspapers. Topics covered include choosing and focusing on a story idea, interviewing sources, using storytelling techniques, locating a market and framing a query. Students learn to evaluate and use online sources and public documents. Basic principles of media law, including libel and copyright, are introduced. Students develop feature stories and market them to appropriate venues. CSU

### **JRNAL-298 Independent Study**

.5-3 units SC

- *Variable hours*
- *Note: Submission of acceptable educational contract to department and Instruction Office is required.*

This course is designed for advanced students who wish to conduct additional research, a special project, or learning activities in a specific discipline/subject area and is not intended to replace an existing course. The student and instructor develop a written contract that includes objectives to be achieved, activities and procedures to accomplish the study project, and the means by which the supervising instructor may assess accomplishment. CSU