2026-27 Academic Year

WAYNE STATE COLLEGE

JOURNALISM

Writer, photographer, investigator, critic – a journalist wears many different hats. The exciting field of journalism is always changing, but the fundamentals behind a journalist's work remain the same. These include quality writing, ethical decision-making, honesty, hard work, and, most importantly, the desire to tell the truth. You'll learn all of these and more in the Journalism degree program at Wayne State. You'll learn what makes a good story, how to lay out a newspaper, law, and ethics – and don't forget the element of photography. What's more, you'll get to practice your communication skills at Wayne State's own student-run newspaper, The Wayne Stater. A Journalism degree can lead to many different routes – newspapers, magazines, online news, television, radio – even marketing and public relations.

fast facts

Credit hours: 36 (non-comprehensive) or 48

Students must also take 30 credit hours of General Studies courses. A total of 120 credit hours are needed to graduate from WSC. Additional majors or minors can be added to help meet graduation requirements.

Degree options: B.A. or B.S.

Department: Communication Arts

School: Arts and Humanities

Popular pairings: Agricultural Communication and Leadership, Criminal Justice, Graphic Design, Photography, Political Science

focus on results

Skills Learned

- Advanced news reporting and editing
- Leadership
- Interviewing and research
- Legal and ethical standards of journalism
- Photography for print media
- Multiplatform content creation
- Layout and design for publications
- Critical thinking and problem-solving
- Time management
- Oral and written communication
- Professional standards and ethics

Possible Careers

- Reporter
- Editor
- Newscaster
- Digital journalist
- News analyst
- Freelance writer
- Publisher
- Editorial writer
- Digital content specialist
- Scriptwriter or technical writer
- Critic or reviewer

Types of Employers

- Newspapers and magazines
- Publishing companies
- TV networks
- Media companies
- Radio stations
- Public relations firms
- Advertising agencies
- Marketing firms
- Government agencies
- Non-profit organizations
- Businesses and corporations

outside the classroom

Visit www.wsc.edu/clubs to learn more about clubs and organizations on campus.

Activities/Opportunities

- Career Scholars Program
- Media workshops
- Trips and conferences
- Peer mentoring and tutoring
- Service-Learning
- Study Abroad

Clubs/Organizations

- Film Club
- Lambda Pi Eta *(national honor society for communication majors)*
- Photography Club
- WSC Student Media *(KWSC-FM, KWSC-TV, The Wayne Stater)*

Courses and outcomes

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The following courses are required for the program of study described on this sheet. Every effort is made to ensure this information is current, but please be aware that some content may have changed. To develop a plan for registering and taking these courses, please consult the current academic catalog and your advisor.

Program courses

Mass Communication Core Courses

CNA 263 Introduction to Mass Communication 3
CNA 280 News Writing 3
CNA 372 Media Ethics 3
CNA 471 Mass Media and Society 3
CNA 475 Communication Law 3
CNA 480 Senior Seminar in Mass Communication 3

Journalism Concentration

CNA J220/320/420 Journalism Workshop 3
CNA 290 Editing and Copy Editing 3
CNA 389 Photojournalism 3
CNA 390 Multiplatform Journalism 3
CNA 458 Advanced News Writing and Reporting 3
CNA 497 Journalism Internship 3

Additional Courses for the 48-Hour Option

Choose from the following electives 12
ART 363 Digital Photography I (3)
BUS 270 Principles of Marketing (3)
BUS 374 Advertising and Integrated Marketing (3)
CNA 102 Media Literacy (3)
CNA J220/320/420 Journalism Workshop (3)
CNA 301 Advertising Copywriting (3)
CNA 352 Organizational Presentations (3)
CNA 374 Public Relations (3)
CNA 391/491 Special Project in Communication (3)
CNA 392 Sports Writing (3)
CNA 426 Public Relations through Social Media (3)
CNA 453 Integrated Brand Promotion (3)
CNA 454 Advanced Web Development (3)
CNA 457 Special Topics in Communication (3)
CNA 463 Advanced Media Writing (3)
CNA 467 Intercultural Communication (3)
ENG 200 Expository Writing (3)
ENG 206 Workplace Writing (3)
ENG 321 Production and Design for Publication (3)
ENG 426 Linguistic Theory and Applications (3)
GEO 305 Political Geography (3)
POS 350 The American Presidency (3)
POS 402 State and Local Politics (3)
POS 430 Public Policy (3)

Student learning outcomes

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the basic concepts of mass communication
2. Demonstrate mass communication skills
3. Apply principles of mass media

communication arts faculty

Visit www.wsc.edu/communication-arts-department to learn more about the Department of Communication Arts.

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