Journalism and Mass Communication, B.A.

Academic Plans

Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the University’s Four-Year Graduation Plan.

Students must declare the journalism and mass communication major by the first semester of their sophomore year in order to be eligible for the Four-Year Graduation Plan. The checkpoints below include the required work in journalism and mass communication plus a second concentration area, but they do not include the requirements of a second major, since the Four-Year Graduation Plan does not apply to second majors.

Before the fifth semester begins: JMC:1100 Media Uses and Effects, JMC:1200 Media History and Culture, JMC:1300 Principles of Strategic Communication or JMC:1400 Principles of Journalism, JMC:1600 Writing Fundamentals, and at least one quarter of the semester hours required for graduation

Before the seventh semester begins: JMC:2010 Journalistic Reporting and Writing, JMC:2020 Introduction to Multimedia Storytelling, JMC:2600 Freedom of Expression, JMC:2700 Media Ethics and Diversity, one managing/planning course, one writing/storytelling or one designing/producing course, and at least one-half of the semester hours required for graduation

During the seventh semester: one writing/storytelling or designing/producing course, one understanding media course, and at least three-quarters of the semester hours required for graduation

During the eighth semester: one writing/storytelling or designing/producing course, one advanced or capstone course, all remaining GE CLAS Core courses, and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

Journalism and Mass Communication, B.A.

Course | Title | Hours
--- | --- | ---
First Year |  | 
Fall |  | 
JMC:1200 | Media History and Culture | 3
JMC:1600 | Writing Fundamentals | 1
RHET:1030 or ENGL:1200 | Rhetoric or The Interpretation of Literature | 3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency or elective course | 4 - 5
CSI:1600 | Success at Iowa | 2
Hours | 13-15

Spring |  | 
JMC:1100 | Media Uses and Effects | 3
RHET:1030 or ENGL:1200 | Rhetoric or The Interpretation of Literature | 3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences with Lab | 4
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course | 4 - 5
Hours | 14-16

Second Year |  | 
Fall |  | 
JMC:1400 or JMC:1300 | Principles of Journalism or Principles of Strategic Communication | 3
JMC:2600 | Freedom of Expression | 3
Major: second program of study | 4
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course | 4 - 5
Hours | 14-15

Spring |  | 
JMC:2010 | Journalistic Reporting and Writing | 4
JMC:2020 | Introduction to Multimedia Storytelling | 4
Major: second program of study | 4
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Fourth Level Proficiency or elective course | 4 - 5
Internship: begin planning to apply for internships (not required for the degree but strongly encouraged) | 
Hours | 16-17

Third Year |  | 
Fall |  | 
JMC:2700 | Media Ethics and Diversity | 3
Major: writing/storytelling course (prefix JMC, numbered 34XX) | 3
Major: second program of study | 4
GE CLAS Core: Quantitative or Formal Reasoning | 3
GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues | 3
Hours | 16

Spring |  | 
Major: designing/producing course (prefix JMC, numbered 36XX) | 3
Major: managing/planning course (prefix JMC, numbered 35XX) | 3
Major: second program of study | 4
GE CLAS Core: Values and Culture | 3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences without Lab | 3
Hours | 16

Fourth Year |  | 
Fall |  | 
Major: understanding media course (prefix JMC, numbered 31XX) | 3
Major: writing/storytelling course (prefix JMC, numbered 34XX) | 3
Major: second program of study | 4
Major: second program of study or elective | 3
Major: second program of study or elective | 3
Hours | 16
## Spring

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major: advanced or capstone course (prefix JMC, numbered 4100-4400)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Major: second program of study</td>
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<tr>
<td>Major: second program of study or elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts</td>
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Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall)

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<tr>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>15</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Hours</td>
<td>120-126</td>
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### Notes:

- **a** Students must complete these courses before they enroll in JMC:2010 and JMC:2020.
- **b** Fulfills a major requirement and may fulfill a GE requirement.
- **c** Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course.
- **d** GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.
- **e** Students must complete a second area of study. There are three options: 1. complete a second major, 2. complete a certificate on the School of Journalism and Mass Communication's list of approved certificate programs (the Business Administration Minor is also on this list), or 3. complete a student-designed area of concentration, which must be approved by the SJMC and consist of a minimum of 24 s.h.; at least 15 of the 24 s.h. must be earned in advanced courses (typically numbered above 3000).
- **f** JMC:2010 and JMC:2020 should be taken concurrently. Students must complete JMC:2010 and JMC:2020 before they enroll in a designing/producing or writing/storytelling course.
- **g** Please see Academic Calendar, Office of the Registrar website for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor or Graduation Services.