

# Journalism

---

**Graduate School of Journalism** (<http://journalism.berkeley.edu>)

**Office: 121 North Gate Hall, (510) 642-3383**

**Dean: Edward Wasserman, PhD**

**School Website: Journalism** (<http://journalism.berkeley.edu>)

## Overview

The goal of the Graduate School of Journalism is to produce professional journalists who move on to positions of leadership and influence in American journalism. The Master of Journalism (MJ) program provides intensive training in journalism skills and a knowledge of the traditions and principles of the field. A professional project is required to complete the two-year program. The program is rooted in the idea that the best possible preparation for careers in journalism is a sound liberal arts education followed by training in journalism at the graduate level. Concurrent degree programs with Law, Asian Studies, International and Area Studies, Latin American Studies, and Public Health are available.

The school offers courses in print, broadcasting, documentary film, radio, television, multimedia, and photojournalism. All students must take a focused and demanding core course which stresses reporting and writing skills. This is because members of the faculty believe that the best way to train students for careers in journalism is to place them under the supervision and guidance of seasoned journalists in small classes, give them instruction in the skills and attitudes of the craft, and introduce them to intensive practice in reporting, writing, and editing. Professors give exhaustive critiques of students' work. Students are also required to take Journalism Law and Ethics and to complete a summer internship at a media outlet.

Beyond the core course there are courses in specific areas, such as political, business, environmental, community, science, international, and cultural reporting. There are also courses that focus on different techniques, such as investigative reporting and magazine reporting. The curriculum also includes courses in copy-editing and photography and a sequence of courses in television and radio reporting.

Another group of courses is intended to increase understanding and practice of multimedia reporting. A host of webskills and software classes are offered to give student expert level training with these tools.

Candidates for the MJ degree are expected to complete their work for the degree in four semesters. They must complete 36 units in approved upper division and graduate courses, of which at least 24 must be in graduate courses in journalism, and must present an acceptable master's project. Students are encouraged to take courses in disciplines other than journalism.

Applicants for graduate study should hold a bachelor's degree comparable to that given by the University of California. Requirements and procedures are outlined in the brochure *Graduate Application for Admission and Fellowships*, available at the Office of the Dean of the Graduate Division, and in the *Announcement of the Graduate School of Journalism*. Complete admissions information is available on the Journalism website (<http://journalism.berkeley.edu>).

The Graduate School of Journalism also offers courses for undergraduates designed to give them insight into journalism.

For more information and application requirements, go to the Graduate School of Journalism website (<http://journalism.berkeley.edu>) . (<http://journalism.berkeley.edu/admissions/request>)

## Degree Requirements for the Master of Journalism Degree

The Master of Journalism (MJ) degree at Berkeley requires the completion of at least 36 semester units of coursework and the submission of a satisfactory Master's project. A minimum of 24 units must be earned from coursework in the Graduate School of Journalism. All students are expected to graduate in four consecutive semesters.

Total units needed to graduate: 36

## Required Courses

6 units Journalism 200 Reporting the News (first semester)  
 1 unit Journalism 209 Multimedia Bootcamp (first semester)  
 3 units Journalism 211 Reporting the News Lab (first semester)  
 3 units Journalism 215 Introduction to Multimedia (first semester)  
 1 unit Journalism 219 Numeracy (first semester)  
 2 units Journalism 298 Public Records (first semester)  
 4 units Journalism 282 Introduction to Television (first semester) \*  
 3 units Journalism 217 Introduction to Visual Journalism (first semester)\*\*  
 5 units Journalism 283 Reporting for Television (second semester)\*\*  
 3 units Journalism 223 Advanced Visual Journalism (second semester)\*\*  
 3 units Journalism 255 Law and Ethics  
 2 units Journalism 297 Reporting Internship (300 supervised hours)  
 2 units Journalism 294 Master's Project Seminar (1 unit in third semester; 1 unit in fourth semester)

\* Student must take either J282 Introduction to Television or J217 Introduction to Visual Journalism in their first semester.

\*\* Student must take either J283 Introduction to Television or J223 Advanced Visual Journalism in their second semester.

## Additional Requirements

- One advanced reporting course is required for each semester after the first semester.
- Two units from the J297 Reporting Internship can count toward the 36 units requirement. Therefore, 34 of 36 units required for the MJ degree must be from coursework.
- Submission of an approved Master's project with all valid signatures is required by the announced deadline.
- Twelve units per semester are required for all Berkeley graduate students. Maximum units per semester are 16.
- All courses must be taken at Berkeley; credit from other institutions is not transferable.
- Students may take up to four units of J601 Master's Study each semester without approval. Approval is required for more than four units of J601 Master's Study in a semester. J601 Master's Study units do not apply towards the 36 total units requirement.
- Submission of all required Graduate Division paperwork is required by the announced deadline.
- All required classes must be taken for a letter grade except for the J297 Reporting Internship and J219 Numeracy. Only one third of total UC master's credits can be S grades.

- Up to 12 of the required 36 units for the MJ degree can be from other departments at Berkeley. Graduate level courses (numbered 200-299) and upper division undergraduate courses (numbered 100-199) are acceptable.
- Concurrent degree students may have additional or modified requirements and should confirm requirements with a student affairs officer.

For Incoming Year Fall 2013

Information is subject to change

#### **JOURN 24 Freshman Seminars 1 Unit**

**Department:** Journalism

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Terms course may be offered:** Fall and spring

**Grading:** The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.

**Hours and format:** 1 hour of Seminar per week for 15 weeks.

The Berkeley Seminar Program has been designed to provide new students with the opportunity to explore an intellectual topic with a faculty member in a small-seminar setting. Berkeley Seminars are offered in all campus departments, and topics vary from department to department and semester to semester.

Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

#### **JOURN 39H Freshman/Sophomore Seminar 1.5 - 4 Units**

**Department:** Journalism

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Terms course may be offered:** Fall and spring

**Grading:** The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.

**Hours and format:** Seminar format.

**Prerequisites:** Priority given to freshmen and sophomores.

Freshman and sophomore seminars offer lower division students the opportunity to explore an intellectual topic with a faculty member and a group of peers in a small-seminar setting. These seminars are offered in all campus departments; topics vary from department to department and from semester to semester.

Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

#### **JOURN 39J Freshman/Sophomore Seminar 1.5 - 4 Units**

**Department:** Journalism

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Terms course may be offered:** Fall and spring

**Grading:** The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.

**Hours and format:** Seminar format.

**Prerequisites:** Priority given to freshmen and sophomores.

Freshman and sophomore seminars offer lower division students the opportunity to explore an intellectual topic with a faculty member and a group of peers in a small-seminar setting. These seminars are offered in all campus departments; topics vary from department to department and from semester to semester.

Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

#### **JOURN 39K Freshman/Sophomore Seminar 1.5 - 4 Units**

**Department:** Journalism

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Terms course may be offered:** Fall and spring

**Grading:** The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.

**Hours and format:** Seminar format.

**Prerequisites:** Priority given to freshmen and sophomores.

Freshman and sophomore seminars offer lower division students the opportunity to explore an intellectual topic with a faculty member and a group of peers in a small-seminar setting. These seminars are offered in all campus departments; topics vary from department to department and from semester to semester.

Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

#### **JOURN 98 Directed Group Study in Journalism 1 - 4 Units**

**Department:** Journalism

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Terms course may be offered:** Fall and spring

**Grading:** Offered for pass/not pass grade only.

**Hours and format:** Hours to be arranged.

Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit