

JOURNALISM

TRANSFER

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The major focus in the journalism curriculum centers on writing and reporting for the media. Skills emphasized are the same basic skills students will need for nearly all careers in the communications field because people working in those professions must understand the nature of news and how to communicate it effectively to others.

Careers in communications include print and online newspaper reporting and writing, broadcast reporting, public relations, advertising, magazine writing, technical writing, web page development, freelance writing, book publishing and other related professions.

Students planning to study journalism should have an interest in writing and a potential to communicate information obtained by observation and interviews. Other characteristics helpful to those planning a career in this field are curiosity, an eye for detail and a desire to learn by reading and talking with others.

Those enrolled in journalism classes at BSC will be writing with the intent of being published. Students are encouraged to become involved with and submit work to the college newspaper, the *Mystician*. This allows them to gain firsthand experience in the complete process of publication, from gathering news, to writing stories, to designing the layout of pages both print and online.

Students following this curriculum may earn an Associate in Arts degree. However, to be marketable in the communications field, students should plan to obtain a four-year degree by transferring to a college or university that offers a major in journalism or communications.

The courses suggested should provide for smooth transfer of credits, but students should consult the catalog and requirements of the institution to which they anticipate transferring.

Career Possibilities: News Analyst, Reporter, Correspondent, Editor, Public Relations Specialist, Technical Writer, News Director, Broadcaster, Web Page Writer or Editor.

SUGGESTED CURRICULUM FOR ASSOCIATE IN ARTS:

FRESHMAN

CREDITS

Communications (College Composition ENGL 110-120).....	6
Arts and Humanities (HIST 101-102 or *SPAN 101-102)	6-8
Social Behavioral Science (SOC 110)	3
Math/Science/Technology (MATH 103 and CSCI 101)	4/3
Introduction to Media Writing (COMM 200).....	3
English Usage I and II (ENGL 205 and ENGL 206)	2/2
Reporting and Feature Writing (COMM 244)	3
Reporting and Editing (COMM 281 repeatable)	1
Total credits.....	33-35

SOPHOMORE

CREDITS

Communications (Fundamentals of Public Speaking (COMM 110)	3
Arts and Humanities (RELS 203 or *SPAN 201-202)	3-8
Social Behavioral Sciences (PSYC 111 and POLS 115)	3/3
Math/Science/Technology (BIOL 150-150L).....	4
Understanding Media and Social Change (COMM 112).....	3
Interpretive and Opinion Writing (COMM 201)	3
Introduction to News Photography (COMM 240).....	3
Advanced News Photography (COMM 242)	3
Basic TV and Video (COMM 270 repeatable)	3
Reporting and Editing (COMM 281 repeatable)	1
Total credits.....	32-36

*For students planning to transfer to a four-year journalism program, study in a second language is recommended.

JOURNALISM (COMM)

COMM 112 Understanding Media and Social Change

F&S

3 credits

Students in this course explore the purpose, function and impact of media on society.

COMM 200	Introduction to Media Writing	Fall	3 credits
This course is an introduction to writing in the styles and forms required in journalism, broadcast, online media, public relations and advertising. Students gather, organize, and write news stories using Associated Press style and learn about the media process through the applied process of publication.			
COMM 201	Interpretive and Opinion Writing	F&S	3 credits
Students are introduced to writing in-depth interpretive stories and editorials with practice in publication.			
COMM 240	Introduction to News Photography	F&S	3 credits
Basic principles of the digital photographic process are explored. Major areas covered are equipment selection and handling, light, composition, exposure, and accessories such as filters and proper flash techniques. Good picture taking methods are explained including image transfer, digital file types, and basic Photoshop tools.			
COMM 242	Advanced News Photography	F&S	3 credits
This course is further exploration of photography in all phases of news and general use. Equipment selection and handling, exposure, and accessories are further explained. Students will be required to shoot assignments for the school paper and yearbook. Prerequisite: COMM 240 or consent of instructor.			
COMM 244	Reporting and Feature Writing	Spring	3 credits
In this course students discuss current practices, problems and ethics of news reporting. Students are introduced to the differences between hard news and soft news with continued practice in gathering, organizing and writing stories using Associated Press style as well as continued practice in the process of publication. Prerequisite: COMM 200 or consent of instructor.			
COMM 270	Basic TV and Video	F&S	3 credits
This course teaches the principles of video production. Students learn basic picture and sound generation, recording, editing and scripting and the fundamentals of lighting and equipment setup. Repeatable.			
COMM 281	Reporting and Editing	F&S	1 credit
Students in this laboratory course become staff members of the campus newspaper the <i>Mystician</i> . Options for involvement include editors, writers, photographers, graphic design artists and advertising personnel. Repeatable.			
COMM 282	Yearbook Editing	F&S	1 credit
Students in this laboratory course are members of the yearbook staff, who develop, design and create the yearly publication of the <i>Prairie Mystic</i> . Repeatable.			
COMM 294	Independent Study	BD	1-3 credits
Students may opt for independent or directed study of special topics in journalism. This form of study requires approval of the department chair.			
COMM 299	Special Topics in Journalism	BD	1-3 credits
This course offers an examination of special topics in journalism. Repeatable to six semester hours.			
COMM 195-295	Service Learning	BD	1-3 credits
Service learning may be accomplished by one of three methods: joining a club that has a public service component, doing volunteer work at a non-profit organization, or taking a course that links public service with its curriculum. Repeatable to six semester hours.			
COMM 197-297	Cooperative Education/Internship	F&S SM	1-3 credits
Employer, adviser and student arrange work hours. Progress is checked by oral and written reports from the employer. Periodic student-adviser conferences are required to discuss progress or problems. Students are required to submit an accounting of their experiences to their instructor. All co-op experiences are based on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis. Approval of the department chair is required. Repeatable to six semester hours.			
ENGL 213	Literary Publications	Spring	3 credits
Theory and practice in all aspects of the process of producing a literary magazine. Students will solicit, screen, select and edit manuscripts and visual arts pieces for publication. They will develop and design the journal for printing and production. The final step will be public presentation of the journal to the campus and community.			