

JOURNALISM

COLLEGE OF MASS COMMUNICATION
MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Program Overview

Students interested in the world of news or magazine journalism enroll in the journalism concentration. A choice of course sequences allows specialization in news or magazine reporting and editing for print and for the Web. Majors take courses in related sequences, such as photography and media design.

The course of study includes a mix of theoretical and practical skills courses. Students learn to write and edit news, features, editorials, reviews, magazine articles and other story forms. The concentration includes the study of media history, law, ethics, editing, research and international communication, as well as media design.

Scholarships

Christopher Nathan Bell Memorial Scholarship

\$250-\$400/semester scholarship to a junior or senior journalism major. Established by parents Caleb and Beth Bell in memory of their son Chris, an MTSU journalism graduate. Requirements: writing contest (topic to be announced annually).

Gene Graham Journalism Award

\$50/year award to an outstanding junior in news-editorial or magazine, to be announced at spring awards ceremony. Established in recognition of contributions by Pulitzer Prize-winning Tennessean reporter Gene Graham, later a cartoonist and distinguished professor, in creating the original Mass Communication Department. Requirements: Junior standing; demonstration of excellence in classroom or publications by journalism faculty committee.

Herman Eskew Award

Yearly scholarship awarded to a student who exhibits the most promise as an editor. Established in memory of Tennessean City Editor Herman Eskew.

Requirements: Demonstration of promise as an editor.

Brenda Blanton Lane Scholarship

\$125/semester scholarship awarded in memory of an outstanding journalism student from Bedford County.

Requirements: A graduating senior from a Bedford County, Tenn., high school who plans to major in Mass Communication or English and/or has literary ability/experience (e.g., with school newspaper or yearbook).

Pinckney Keel Memorial Scholarship

\$200/semester scholarship. Established in memory of Nashville Banner forum editor.

Requirements: Requirements: junior or senior standing; preference given to Midstate-area students with interest in print media.

Elizabeth Stratton Porter Memorial Scholarship

\$450 (or other amount, to be determined) per year scholarship for a woman editor-in-chief of Sidelines. Scholarship in memory of former Sidelines Editor Elizabeth Porter, established by her parents and husband.

Requirements: Female editor-in-chief of Sidelines.

Douglas E. Stults Memorial Scholarships

Two annual scholarships, \$800 each, in memory of Sidelines Editor Doug Stults, who was killed in an accident during his senior year. Requirements: Must be at least a second-year student majoring in Mass Communication with a 2.70+ GPA. Applicants must submit three samples of previous work and write an essay on a subject agreed upon by the scholarship committee.



Program Requirements

After being admitted to candidacy in the News/Magazine sequence, a student must meet the following requirements:

FOUNDATIONS (6 credits)

JOUR 1020 American Media and Social Institutions
JOUR 3650 Free Expression, Mass Media and the American Public

WRITING/DESIGN (12 credits)

JOUR 2710 Media Writing
JOUR 3090 Reporting
Choose one:
JOUR 3530 Feature Writing
JOUR 4440 Advanced Reporting *Choose one:*
JOUR 3450 Editing
GRAF 2950 Media Design Applications

CONCEPTUAL TOPICS (12 credits)

Choose four:
GRAF 2010 Media Design and Visual Language
JOUR 3510 Media History and American Culture
JOUR 4200 Mass Media Law
JOUR 4210 Mass Communication and Society
JOUR 4660 Mass Media Research
JOUR 4780 Media and Markets
JOUR 4790 Global News and World Media Cultures
JOUR 4850 Ethics and Mass Communication

PROFESSIONAL TOPICS (3 credits)

Choose one:
JOUR 3520 Specialized Journalism
JOUR 3590 Magazine Writing and Editing
JOUR 4300 Reviewing and Criticism

SPECIAL/SENIOR TOPICS (3 credits)

JOUR 4800 Seminar in Media Issues

PRACTICUM/INTERNSHIP (1-3 credits)

Choose one:
JOUR 3580 Practicum
JOUR 4000 Internship

Total hours in the College: 37-39

Courses

JOUR 1020 American Media and Social Institutions

Three credits. (Same as EMC/RIM 1020.) The power of the mass media and its effect on social institutions and practices. Develops skills of qualitative and quantitative social science research in the area of mass communication processes; examines media as social, cultural, and economic institutions that shape the values of American society, its political dialogues, its social practices, and institutions.

JOUR 2710 Media Writing

Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 and 1020 or equivalents. Theory and practices of writing for print and electronic media according to the techniques, styles and formats of various media. Lab required.

JOUR 3000 Introduction to Motion Pictures

Three credits. (Same as EMC 3000.) Prerequisite: Junior standing or permission of instructor. The development and role of motion pictures in America, including the history of films and filmmakers, the influence of film on American culture, and film criticism.

JOUR 3090 Reporting

Three credits. Prerequisite: JOUR 2710. Theory and practice of basic journalistic skills, including the gathering, evaluating and processing of news copy for newspapers. Classwork will be submitted to student or local newspapers.

JOUR 3100 Music as Popular Culture

Three credits. (Same as RIM 3100.) Prerequisite: Admission to candidacy. Introduces range of scholarly approaches to the study of popular music. Encourages perspectives other than those of "producer" or "consumer." Requires applications of analytical and critical methods in research paper assignment.

JOUR 3450 Editing

Three credits. Prerequisites: admission to candidacy. Theory and practice in the art of copy editing, including editing, language skills, newspaper style, news judgment, headline writing, photo editing, cutline writing, and page design.

JOUR 3510 Media History and American Culture

Three credits. (Same as EMC 3510.) Development of American journalism and the mass media from Colonial times to the present, including the role and influence of mass media on American culture, technical advances, and contributions of individual personalities.

JOUR 3520 Specialized Journalism

Three credits. Prerequisite: JOUR 3090 and admission to candidacy. The unique facets of print journalism not available in other courses. Topics include investigative, online, environmental, sports, medical, political reporting, or opinion writing. May be repeated up to 6 credits.

JOUR 3530 Feature Writing

Three credits. Prerequisite: admission to candidacy or permission of instructor. Theory and practice of writing feature stories for newspapers and magazines. Assignments in writing for professional publications as well as the student newspaper.