Journalism Minor

Director: Dr. Peter Norberg
Journalism Advisory Board

Program Overview

The Journalism minor provides students with an introduction to a range of news writing, reporting, editing and multimedia skills and an understanding of journalism ethics, diversity issues, and legal principles. Along with training in news gathering techniques and digital journalism practices, special topics courses are regularly offered in areas such as mobile journalism, global journalism, photojournalism, journalism ethics, sports reporting, and food writing.

The program also prepares students for a journalism profession in transition, in part through a required internship, an optional affiliated semester in Washington D.C., and potential summer research fellowships and study abroad opportunities. Students may also acquire work experience with The Hawk, the university's student newspaper, and College Media Matters, an established news site run by an SJU journalism professor.

These experiences and courses offer students a skill-set and knowledge base that directly complements a variety of other academic concentrations at SJU. It will also prove useful for post-graduate careers in the media industry, legal profession, education sector, politics, publishing, public relations, advertising, and many other areas.

Note: Students majoring or double majoring in English may not minor in Journalism, but have the option of completing an even more in-depth study through the English program’s Journalism track.

Goals and Objectives of the Journalism Minor

- Students will develop information gathering, interviewing, note-taking and journalistic writing and copy editing skills.
- Students will explore the role and function of journalism, its evolution throughout history, its core ethical and legal principles, and its national and global impact.
- Students will have the opportunity to learn and practice new media reporting and storytelling methods in areas such as video journalism, mobile journalism, data journalism, photojournalism, blogging and web writing and social media.

The Minor

All students seeking to minor in Journalism will take the following courses, the first two
of which are required for all SJU students.

1. English 101: Craft of Language
2. English 102: Texts and Contexts
3. English 261: Introduction to Reporting and Writing
4. ENG 490: Journalism Internship

To complete the minor, students also will need to take any two of the following courses. It is recommended that students take English 261: Introduction to Reporting and Writing before moving on to the upper-level journalism courses.

ENG 362 Literary Journalism (3 credits)
ENG 448 Magazine Writing (3 credits)
ENG 451 Food Writing (3 credits)
ENG 462 Narrative Journalism (3 credits)
ENG 464 Sports Journalism (3 credits)

Any section of ENG 465 Special Topics in Journalism