Journalism (JRN)

Major and Minor in Journalism

School of Journalism

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Journalism (JRN)

As innovative, digital technology accelerates the dissemination of news, information, and disinformation around the clock and around the world, the need for well-trained and independent-minded journalists has never been greater.

The journalism major program at Stony Brook is designed to prepare the next generation of journalists for careers in broadcast journalism, print journalism, and online journalism—and a combination of all three.

The course of study will emphasize both traditional journalistic values and skills, and the ability to succeed in a rapidly evolving multi-media landscape. Students will study news reporting, writing, editing, and producing. They will develop an appreciation for the mission of the press in a democratic society, standards of ethical and responsible journalism, and will be expected to leave the program with a passion for the public interest and the courage to do the right thing in the face of unprecedented competition.

To prepare for the future, all students will be required to take courses in broadcast, print, and online journalism, learning to work and think across multiple media platforms, before concentrating in an area during their final year of study. Students will have the opportunity to do reporting assignments both on Long Island and in New York City.

In addition, students will be required to either declare a second major or complete six courses in one of four multi-disciplinary concentrations outside the journalism major. This requirement is designed to help prepare students to report insightfully in the future. The four multi-disciplinary concentrations include Public Affairs/Public Policy, Diversity and American Society, Science and the Environment, and Global Issues and Perspectives.

The journalism minor is designed for students who seek an appreciation for the mission of the press, an understanding of journalistic principles, and a desire to improve critical thinking and writing skills.

All students should consult with the director of undergraduate studies or journalism advisor to design and approve an acceptable course of study.

Requirements for the Major and Minor in Journalism (JRN)

Transfer students

Transfer students may transfer up to 9 credits of equivalent journalism courses in which they have earned a C or better. Transfer courses will be evaluated individually for equivalency by the undergraduate director.

Requirements for the Major

The major in journalism leads to the Bachelor of Arts degree. Students must complete each course with a letter grade of C or higher in all JRN courses and Satisfactory in JRN labs for a course or lab to count toward the JRN major. Students must also satisfy the upper-division writing requirement. Completion of the major requires 49 credits in journalism and either six courses in a multi-disciplinary concentration, of which at least three are upper-division courses, or a minor, or a second major. (The option to choose either a multi-disciplinary concentration or a minor is retroactive and open to all majors.) To satisfy all requirements, a student must earn a minimum of 124 credits to graduate with a degree in journalism, including a minimum of 72 credits outside of JRN-labeled courses.

Students must complete three developmental phases, with core requirements in each phase. In Phase I, The Fundamentals of Journalism, students will study basic skills and ethics, including news reporting and writing for print and broadcast. In Phase II, The Business of News, students will explore the changes sweeping the journalistic landscape and choose from a menu of upper-division reporting and writing courses. In Phase III, Entry Point into the Profession, students will take advanced courses in either a Visual/Web Track or a Text/Web Track. In addition, students will complete a senior project in their area of specialty and then adapt it for other media.

Note: Parts of this curriculum take effect in Fall 2013. Students who took JRN 110 before Fall 2013 will continue in that sequence.

Core Course Requirement

To maximize students’ knowledge in core areas of great importance to journalists, Journalism majors who matriculated Fall 2015 or later are required to complete the following courses. Higher-level courses in these disciplines may be substituted. (Students can substitute equivalent AP and Transfer courses.)
• POL 102 Introduction to American Government
• BUS 111 Introduction to Business for Non-Business Majors OR ECO 108 Intro to Economics (Note: Prerequisite for ECO 108 is MAT 122 or MAT 123 or higher-level calculus)
• MAT 118 or higher level MAT course or AMS 102 or higher level AMS course

Grammar and Editing Lab

To progress in the major and minor program, students must pass a grammar proficiency test as part of JRN 111, a grammar course that is co-requisite with JRN 115. The grammar course includes an eight-week immersion lab in grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure. In the ninth week, all students take a proficiency test. Those who pass are excused from the lab for the rest of the semester. All other students must continue attending the lab and will be required to take a second test on the last day of class. Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only.

Note: WRT 200 may be used as a substitute for JRN 111 in satisfying the major or minor requirements.

Note: Not all courses are offered every semester.

A. Phase I: The Fundamentals of Journalism
All journalism students should see a departmental advisor. Unless approved by a JRN advisor, students must complete the following courses in this order:

• JRN 101 News Literacy
• JRN 105 The Mind of a Reporter
• JRN 108 The History and Future of the American Press
• JRN 111/JRN 115 Grammar and Editing Lab/News Reporting and Writing I
• JRN 205 News Reporting and Writing II
• JRN 215 Intro to Multimedia Skills
• JRN 220 Media Law

B. Phase II: Journalism 24/7

1. Students must complete the following courses, not necessarily in this order:

• JRN 301 The Business of News
• JRN 310 Multimedia Newsroom I/Visual
• JRN 320 Multimedia Newsroom II/Web
• JRN 340 Beat Reporting
• JRN 350 Journalistic Judgment and Ethics

2. Electives for Phase II. Students must choose one course from the following:

• JRN 333 Business Reporting
• JRN 334 Science and Health Reporting
• JRN 335 Reporting in New York City / Print
• JRN 336 Sports Reporting
• JRN 337 Intro to Narrative Journalism
• JRN 355 Reporting in New York City / Broadcast

C. Phase III: Entry Point into the Profession

Students complete one of the following two tracks:

Visual/Web Track:

• JRN 370 Advanced Visual Reporting and Storytelling
• JRN 371 Weekly Broadcast
• JRN 385 Digital Academy
• JRN 490 Senior Project
• Advanced electives available to this group: JRN 364 or JRN 380 or JRN 381

OR

Text/Web Track:

• JRN 364 Advanced Reporting
• JRN 381 Web Presentation
• JRN 385 Digital Academy
• JRN 490 Senior Project
• Advanced electives available to this group: JRN 370 or 380

D. Experiential Requirement:

Stony Brook University: www.stonybrook.edu/ugbulletin
Students are required to successfully complete at least one experiential course. Choices include JRN 335, JRN 415, JRN 435, JRN 487, JRN 488, and others.

E. Required JRN Electives

Students are required to complete the major with elective journalism credits. Students may take any course for which they have the pre- and co-requisites.

F. Multi-Disciplinary Concentration or Minor

Majors must complete either six courses in a Multi-Disciplinary Concentration, of which at least three are upper-division courses, or a Minor. The option to choose either a Multi-Disciplinary Concentration or a Minor is retroactive and open to all majors. A concentration or minor is not required of dual majors.

A Minor is of the major’s choosing. The Minor must be completed.

For the Multi-Disciplinary Concentration, majors must complete six courses, including three upper-division courses, in one of the following four multi-disciplinary concentrations. Students may substitute a course within a concentration or propose a new concentration with the permission of the undergraduate director. Specific multi-disciplinary concentrations and suggested courses are listed below. A concentration is not required of students who complete a second major.

The purpose of the Multi-Disciplinary Concentration is to complement the journalistic knowledge and skills that students are developing. These courses, offered by departments around the university, are intended to help students expand their perspective in major areas of importance to journalists.

Students select one of four concentrations, each of which is designed to add breadth, depth and understanding to their reporting. Students may also may propose their own concentration.

The four concentrations are:

- Diversity and American Society
- Global Issues and Perspectives
- Public Affairs / Public Policy
- Science and the Environment

Majors must take six courses, including at least three upper-division courses, in one of these four concentrations. Students are not restricted to the listed courses, which are the types of survey courses recommended by the School of Journalism.

Majors may substitute courses that fit the theme of their concentration or propose a different concentration tailored to their interests. Either option requires permission in advance from the Undergraduate Director.

A concentration is not required for dual majors.

Please note:

- Many of these courses also count toward D.E.C. or SBC categories, and students may choose and apply D.E.C. or SBC courses towards the concentration. Courses carry only the assigned number of credits for the course.
- Not all courses are offered every semester. Check prerequisites.
- Concentration courses taken prior to Spring 2013 remain valid. Starting in Spring 2013, concentration courses must come from these revised lists or be approved by the Undergraduate Director.

The multidisciplinary concentrations are as follows (complete 6 courses in any one area):

Science and the Environment

Students study trends, acquire foundation knowledge, and get multiple perspectives on science and environmental issues that will help them report insightfully in the future. See Bulletin course descriptions for details and prerequisites. At least three of the courses must be 300 or above.

Note: Not all courses are offered every semester. Some have prerequisites.

- ATM 102 Weather and Climate (also as EST 102)
- ATM 237 Topics in World Climate/Atmosphere (Individual Topics need approval) (also as PHY 237-H)
- BIO 103 Intro to Biotech
- BIO 113 General Ecology
- BIO 115 E Evolution and Society
- BIO 201 Fundamentals of Biology Organisms to Ecosystems
- BIO 353 Marine Ecology
- BIO 358 Biology and Human Social and Sexual Behavior
- BIO 386 Ecosystem Ecology and the Global Environment (also as ENS 311)
- CHE 115 Chemistry, Life and Environment (also as ENV 115)
- ECO 373 Economics of Environment and Natural Resources
• ENS 101 Prospects for Earth
• ENS 301 Contemporary Environmental Issues and Policies
• ENS 311 Ecosystem Ecology and the Global Environment (also as BIO 386)
• ENS 312 Population, Technology and the Environment
• ENS 333 Environmental Law (also as POL 333)
• ENV 115 Chemistry, Life and Environment (also as CHE 115)
• EST 102 Weather and Climate (also as ATM 102)
• EST 201 Technological Trends in Society
• EST 291 Energy, Environment, and People
• EST 330 Natural Disasters Societal Impacts
• GEO 101 Environmental Geology
• GEO 102 The Earth
• GEO 103 The Earth Through Time
• GEO 107 Natural Hazards
• GEO 109 Life Through Time
• GEO 304 Energy, Mineral Resources & Environment
• GEO 305 Field Geology
• GEO 311 Geoscience and Global Concerns
• GEO 313 Understanding Water Resources for the 21st Century
• HIS 365 Environmental History of North America
• HIS 399 Topics in U.S. History (Individual Topics need approval)
• MAR 101 Long Island Sound Science and Use
• MAR 104 Oceanography
• MAR 340 Environmental Problems and Solutions
• PHI 366 Philosophy of the Environment
• PHY 113 Physics of Sports
• PHY 237 Topics in World Climate/Atmosphere (Individual Topics need approval) (also as ATM 237)
• POL 333 Environmental Law (also as ENS 333)
• SBC 111 Introduction to Sustainability Studies
• SOC 315 Sociology of Technology
• SOC 340 Sociology of Human Reproduction (also as WST 340)
• SOC 344 Environmental Sociology
• WST 340 Sociology of Human Reproduction (also as SOC 340)

Diversity and American Society

Students study trends and acquire knowledge, insights, historical context, and multiple perspectives on important societal issues that will help them report insightfully in the future. See Bulletin course descriptions for details and prerequisites. At least three of the courses must be 300 or above. Note: Not all courses are offered every semester. Some have prerequisites.

• AAS 102 Eastern Religions (also as RLS 102)
• AAS 250 Language and Culture of Asian Americans (also as LIN 250)
• AAS 280 Islam (also as RLS 280)
• AAS 334 English in Asia
• AAS 338 Contemporary India History, Politics & Diplomacy (also as POL 338)
• AFH 382 Black Women's Literature of the African Diaspora (also as EGL 382 and WST 382)
• AFS 277 The Modern Color Line (also as HIS 277)
• AFS 310 American Attitudes Toward Race
• AFS 319 The Politics of Race
• AFS 325 The Civil Rights Movement (also as HIS 325)
• AFS 350 Black Women and Social Change A Cross-Cultural Perspective (also as WST 350)
• AFS 363 Blacks and Mass Media
• AFS 394 Black Nationalism in America
• AMR 102 Making American Identities
• AMR 301 Ethnicity and Race in American History
• ANT 203 Native Peoples of North America
• CLT 235 American Pluralism in Film and Literature
• ECO 316 U.S. Class Structure and Its Implications
• EGL 382 Black Women's Literature of the African Diaspora (also as AFH 382 and WST 382)
• EST 330 Natural Disasters Societal Impacts and Technological Solutions
• HIS 277 The Modern Color Line (also as AFS 277)
• HIS 325 Civil Rights Movement (also as AFS 325)
• HIS 362 Making Peace with the 60s
• HIS 368 Wealth and Inequality in the Modern Corporate Age
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<tr>
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<td>HIS 373</td>
<td>History of Crime &amp; Criminal Justice in U.S.</td>
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<td>HIS 396</td>
<td>Topics in U.S. History (Individual Topics need approval)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Italian Americans and Ethnic Relations</td>
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<td>LIN 101</td>
<td>Intro to Linguistics</td>
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<td>LIN 200</td>
<td>Language in the United States</td>
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<td>LIN 250</td>
<td>Language and Culture of Asian Americans (also as AAS 250)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHI 105</td>
<td>Politics and Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHI 383</td>
<td>Philosophical Issues of Race and Gender (III) (also as WST 383)</td>
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<td>POL 101</td>
<td>World Politics</td>
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<td>POL 102</td>
<td>Introduction to American Government</td>
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<td>POL 320</td>
<td>Constitutional Law and Politics United States</td>
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<td>POL 330</td>
<td>Gender Issues in the Law (also as WST 330)</td>
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<td>Western Religions</td>
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<td>Islam (also as AAS 280)</td>
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<td>SOC 105</td>
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<td>SOC 204</td>
<td>Intimate Relationships</td>
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<td>SOC 243</td>
<td>Sociology of Youth</td>
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<td>SOC 247</td>
<td>Sociology of Gender (also as WST 247)</td>
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<td>SOC 248</td>
<td>Social Problems in Global Perspective</td>
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<td>SOC 302</td>
<td>American Society</td>
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<td>SOC 303</td>
<td>Social Inequality</td>
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<td>SOC 304</td>
<td>Sociology of Family</td>
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<td>SOC 310</td>
<td>Ethnic and Race Relations</td>
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<td>SOC 315</td>
<td>Sociology of Technology</td>
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<td>SOC 330</td>
<td>Media and Society</td>
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<td>SOC 336</td>
<td>Social Change</td>
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<td>SOC 337</td>
<td>Social Deviance</td>
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<td>SOC 338</td>
<td>Sociology of Crime</td>
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<td>SOC 340</td>
<td>Sociology of Human Reproduction</td>
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<td>SOC 348</td>
<td>Global Sociology</td>
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<td>SOC 378</td>
<td>War and the Military</td>
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<td>SOC 380</td>
<td>Social Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 390</td>
<td>Special Topics (Individual Topics need approval)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WST 102</td>
<td>Intro to Women's Studies in the Social Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>WST 103</td>
<td>Women, Culture and Difference</td>
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<tr>
<td>WST 247</td>
<td>Sociology of Gender (also as SOC 247)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WST 310</td>
<td>Contemporary Feminist Issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>WST 330</td>
<td>Gender Issues in the Law (also as POL 330)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WST 335</td>
<td>Women at Work in 20th Century America</td>
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<tr>
<td>WST 347</td>
<td>Women and Politics (also as POL 347)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WST 350</td>
<td>Black Women and Social Change A Cross-Cultural Perspective (also as AFS 350)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WST 382</td>
<td>Black Women's Literature of the African Diaspora (also as AFH 382 and EGL 382)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WST 383</td>
<td>Philosophical Issues of Race and Gender (III) (also as PHI 383)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WST 399</td>
<td>Topics in Gender and Sexuality (Individual Topics need approval)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Public Affairs/Public Policy**

Students study trends, acquire knowledge and historical context, and gain multiple perspectives on public policy issues that will help them report insightfully in the future. At least three of the courses must be 300 or above. Note: Not all courses are offered every semester. Some have prerequisites.

- ATM 102 Weather and Climate (also as EST 102)
- AFS 325 Civil Rights Movement (also as HIS 325)
- AFS 339 Recent African American History (also as HIS 339)
- AMR 102 American Identities
- ATM 102 Weather and Climate (also as EST 102)
- ANT 310 Ethnography
- BUS 111 Intro to Business for Non business Majors
- BUS 348 Principles of Marketing
- ECO 108 Intro to Economics
- ECO 303 Intermediate Microeconomics Theory
- ECO 305 Intermediate Macroeconomics Theory
- ECO 316 U.S. Class Structure
• ECO 360 Money and Banking
• ENS 333 Environmental Law (also as POL 333)
• EST 102 Weather and Climate (also as ATM 102)
• EST 201 Technological Trends in Society
• EST 330 Natural Disasters Societal Impacts
• GEO 105 Energy Resources for the 21st Century
• HIS 104 United States Since 1877
• HIS 325 Civil Rights Movement (also as AFS 325)
• HIS 333 Women in U.S. History (also as WST 333)
• HIS 339 Recent African American History (also as AFS 339)
• HIS 373 Crime and Criminal Justice
• HIS 378 War and the Military (also as SOC 378)
• HIS 396 Topics in U.S. History (Individual Topics need approval)
• HUI 236 Italian American Scene
• HUR 249 Russia Today
• LIN 200 Language in the United States
• MAR 340 Environmental Problems and Solutions
• PHI 105 Politics and Society
• PHY 113 Physics of Sports
• POL 101 World Politics
• POL 102 Intro to American Government
• POL 103 Intro to Comparative Politics
• POL 309 Politics in the European Union
• POL 317 American Election Campaigns
• POL 318 Voters and Elections
• POL 319 Business Law
• POL 320 Constitutional Law and Politics United States
• POL 322 The Presidency
• POL 323 U.S. Congress
• POL 324 American Political Parties & Pressure Groups
• POL 325 Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
• POL 327 Urban Politics
• POL 332 Politics of Criminal Due Process
• POL 333 Environmental Law (also as ENS 333)
• POL 336 U.S. Foreign Policy
• POL 346 Political Psychology
• POL 359 Public Policy Analysis
• POL 367 Mass Media in American Politics
• SOC 105 Introduction to Sociology
• SOC 200 Medicine and Society
• SOC 247 Sociology of Gender (also as WST 247)
• SOC 302 American Society
• SOC 336 Social Change
• SOC 337 Social Deviance
• SOC 338 Sociology of Crime
• SOC 340 Sociology of Human Reproduction (also as WST 340)
• SOC 378 War and the Military (also as HIS 378)
• SOC 386 State and Society in the Middle East
• WST 333 Women in U.S. History (also as HIS 333)
• WST 340 Sociology of Human Reproduction (also as SOC 340)
• WST 247 Sociology of Gender (also as SOC 247)

Global Issues and Perspectives

Students study trends, acquire knowledge and historical context, and gain multiple perspectives on global issues that will help them report insightfully in the future. See Bulletin course descriptions for details and prerequisites. At least three of the courses must be 300 or above. Note: Not all courses are offered every semester. Some have prerequisites.

• AAS 201 Intro to Civilization of the Indian Subcontinent
• AAS 216 Introduction of Japanese Studies
• AAS 250 Language and Culture of Asian Americans (also as LIN 250)
• AAS 280 Islam (also as RLS 280)
• AAS 372 Family, Marriage, Kinship – China (also as ANT 372)
• AFH 339 Arts of the African Diaspora (also as ARH 329)
• AFH 390 Issues in Africana Studies (Individual Topics need approval)
• AFS 221 Modern African History (also as HIS 221)
• AFS 240 Issues in Caribbean Society
• AFS 319 The Politics of Race
• AFS 337 Politics of Africa (also as POL 337)
• AFS 346 Political and Social History of Africa (also as HIS 346)
• AFS 350 Black Women and Social Change A Cross-Cultural Perspective (also as WST 350)
• AFS 365 Introduction to African Society (also as SOC 365)
• AFS 375 Slavery
• AMR 101 Local and Global National Boundaries, World Systems
• ANT 250 African Peoples and Cultures
• ANT 372 Family, Marriage, Kinship – China (also as AAS 372)
• ARH 329 Arts of the African Diaspora (also as AFH 339)
• ATM 237 World Climate and Atmosphere (also as PHY 237)
• EST 330 Natural Disasters Societal Impacts
• EUR 101 Foundations of European Culture
• GEO 101 Environmental Geology
• GEO 311 Geoscience & Global Concerns
• HIS 102 Modern European History 1789-1945
• HIS 214 Modern Latin America (also as POL 214)
• HIS 221 Modern African History (also as AFS 221)
• HIS 227 Islamic Civilization
• HIS 281 Global History & Geography
• HIS 341 20th Century China
• HIS 346 Political and Social History of Africa (also as AFS 346)
• HIS 353 Postwar Japan
• HIS 378 War and the Military (also as SOC 378)
• HIS 393 Topics in Modern European History (Individual Topics need approval)
• HIS 397 U.S. Immigration & Ethnicity
• HU 219 Modern France
• HUI 239 Modern Italy
• HUI 336 Italian Americans and Ethnic Relations
• HUI 338 Images of Italian Americans in Film
• HUR 249 Russia Today
• HUS 254 Latin America Today
• HUS 255 Modern Spain
• LIN 250 Language and Culture of Asian Americans (also as AAS 250)
• PHY 237 World Climate and Atmosphere (also as ATM 237)
• POL 101 World Politics
• POL 103 Intro to Comparative Politics
• POL 214 Modern Latin America (also as HIS 214)
• POL 309 Politics in the European Union
• POL 310 Immigration and Refugee Politics
• POL 311 Introduction to International Law
• POL 313 Problems / International Relations
• POL 336 U.S. Foreign Policy
• POL 337 Politics of Africa (also as AFS 337)
• POL 338 Contemporary India History, Politics, Diplomacy (also as AAS 338)
• POL 350 Contemporary European Political Theory
• POL 374 Global Issues in the United Nations (also as SOC 374)
• RLS 280 Islam (also as AAS 280)
• SOC 105 Intro to Sociology
• SOC 248 Social Problems in Global Perspectives
• SOC 348 Global Sociology
• SOC 364 Sociology of Latin America
• SOC 365 Intro to African Society (also as AFS 365)
• SOC 374 Global Issues in the UN (also as POL 374)
• SOC 378 War and the Military (also as HIS 378)
• SOC 386 State and Society in the Middle East
• WST 301 Histories of Feminism
• WST 350 Black Women and Social Change A Cross-Cultural Perspective (also as AFS 350)

G. Upper-Division Writing Requirement
All students majoring in Journalism must submit two samples of their journalism course work (longer articles, term papers, case studies, or independent research projects) along with the instructor's written confirmation that the work demonstrates suitably advanced writing proficiency, in JRN 490 Senior Project. If this evaluation is satisfactory, the student will have fulfilled the upper-division writing requirement. If it is not, the student must fulfill the requirement before graduation.

Students should consult with the department advisor to ensure that their plan for completing the Upper Division Writing Requirement is consistent with university graduation requirements for General Education. Students completing the Stony Brook Curriculum (SBC) must complete a course that satisfies the "Write Effectively within One's Discipline" (WRTD) learning objective to graduate. The Upper Division Writing Requirement is consistent in most cases with the SBC learning outcomes for WRTD.

Requirements for the Minor

The journalism minor emphasizes knowledge and exposure to basic skills for students who seek an understanding of broadcast, online, and print media but who are not necessarily planning careers in journalism or intending to major in journalism. Courses in the minor provide students with a broad introduction to journalistic principles and practices as well as an understanding of the role of journalism in society. This program will be useful to students who are interested in sharpening their information-gathering and analytical skills, improving the speed and clarity of their writing, and improving their ability to communicate in whatever career they pursue.

Eighteen credits are required for the Minor in Journalism. Courses must be passed with a C or higher in all JRN courses and Satisfactory in JRN labs for a course or lab to count toward the JRN minor. Students are required to complete at least six credits of elective journalism courses at 200 or above to complete the minor in Journalism.

See a journalism advisor. Prerequisites will be enforced.

Note: Parts of this curriculum take effect in Fall 2013. Students who took JRN 110 before Fall 2013 will continue in that sequence.

Grammar and Editing Lab

To progress in the minor program, students must pass a grammar proficiency test as part of JRN 111, a grammar course that is co-requisite with JRN 115. The grammar course includes an eight-week immersion lab in grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure. In about the ninth week, all students take a proficiency test. Those who pass are excused from the lab for the rest of the semester. All other students must continue attending the lab and will be required to take a second test on the last day of class. Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only.

Note: WRT 200 may be used as a substitute for JRN 111 in satisfying the major or minor requirements.

A. Courses required of all minors:

• JRN 101 or JRN 103 News Literacy
• JRN 108 The History and Future of the American Press
• JRN 105 News Reporting and Writing I
• JRN 115/111 News Reporting and Writing II/Grammar and Editing Lab

Elective choice A:

• JRN 390 Special Topics
  or:
  • SOC 330 Media and Society
  or:
  • POL 367 Mass Media in American Politics
And either Choice B or Choice C below:

Elective choice B:

• JRN 301 The Business of News
• JRN 215 Intro to Multimedia Skills

Elective choice C:

• JRN 215 Intro to Multimedia Skills
• JRN 220 Media Law

Minors are welcome to take additional courses beyond these, but should consult with the Undergraduate Director.

Sample Course Sequence for the Major in Journalism

Stony Brook University: www.stonybrook.edu/ugbulletin
A course planning guide for this major may be found here. The major course planning guides are not part of the official Undergraduate Bulletin, and are only updated periodically for use as an advising tool. The Undergraduate Bulletin supersedes any errors or omissions in the major course planning guides.

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<td>WRT 102</td>
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<td>JRN 105</td>
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<td>JRN 350</td>
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<td>JRN 333, JRN 334, JRN 336, or JRN 337</td>
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## Multidisciplinary concentration (*** or courses that count toward a minor or second major)

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## Spring Credits

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## Senior Spring Credits

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**NOTE:** The sample course sequence is meant to be used as an example. Please consult a Journalism advisor to help plan a course schedule.

Parts of this curriculum take effect in Fall 2013. Students who took JRN 110 before Fall 2013 will continue in that sequence.

*Students are required to pass 111 to progress in JRN skills courses.

**These courses follow a sequence (e.g. JRN 370 and JRN 371). See Bulletin course descriptions for specifics.

***Or courses that count toward a minor or second major.

****Choose from among the following: AMS 102, MAT 118 or any higher AMS or MAT course.
JRN

JOURNALISM (JRN) - COURSES

JRN 101: News Literacy
How do you know if you're getting the truth from the news media? This course is designed to prepare students to become more discriminating news consumers. It will examine standards of reliability and accuracy in news gathering and presentation, and seek to establish the differences between news and propaganda, assertion and verification, bias and fairness, and incitement and journalism. Students will be encouraged to critically examine news broadcasts, newspaper articles and Web sites. Visiting journalists will be questioned about the journalistic process and decision-making. JRN 101 and JRN 103 are mutually exclusive; JRN 101 cannot be taken for credit in addition to JRN 103 or vice versa.
Pre- or corequisite: WRT 101 or higher or equivalent, or permission of department
DEC: F
SBC: CER, SBS
3 credits

JRN 105: The Mind of a Reporter
The first of three courses in the School of Journalism's Fundamentals of Reporting and Writing sequence. It is designed, through the introduction of critical exercises, applied assignments and exposure to outstanding models and examples, to introduce journalism students to key values and skills of great reporters: keen observational skills; the tools and techniques of research; the ability to ask probing questions; an unflagging devotion to accuracy and fairness, and a passion for the public interest. Students are expected to demonstrate an ongoing engagement with current events and to refine their "nose for news." Not for credit in addition to JRN 110.
Pre- or Corequisite: WRT 101 or higher or equivalent; JRN 101 or JRN 103
SBC: ESI
3 credits

JRN 108: The History and Future of the American Press
This course traces the history of the American press from pre-American Revolution to post-internet revolution. It examines the political, economic and technological forces that shaped the news media and how the press, in turn, influenced American government, politics and society. Topics will include freedom of the press, the rise of the popular press, war and the press, the press and presidents, the impact of investigative journalism, the evolution of radio and TV news, and the advent of 24/7 online news.
Pre- or corequisite: WRT 101 or higher or equivalent, or permission of department
DEC: F
SBC: SBS, USA
3 credits

JRN 111: Grammar and Editing Lab
To progress in the major and minor program, students must pass a grammar proficiency test as part of JRN 111, a grammar course that is co-requisite with JRN 110. The grammar course includes an eight-week immersion lab in grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure. In the ninth week, all students take a proficiency test. Those who pass are excused from the lab for the rest of the semester. All other students must continue attending the lab and will be required to take a second test on the last day of class. Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. Students must receive a Satisfactory grade in JRN 111 in order to continue in journalism skills courses.
Prerequisite: Prerequisite: WRT 102; JRN 101 or JRN 103; JRN 105 Corequisite: JRN 115
1 credit, S/U grading

JRN 115: News Reporting & Writing I
The second of a three semester sequence in the School of Journalism's Fundamentals of Reporting and Writing sequence. Students sharpen their ability to find and frame a well-focused story idea, apply advanced interviewing skills, learn the effective use of attribution and quotations, craft effective leads and "nut graphs," and become disciplined in writing to length and meeting deadlines. In this course, students write basic professional-level news ledes, news updates and live blogs on deadline and by the conclusion of the semester complete several news stories that are well-reported, well-written and stylistically acceptable, with an emphasis on accuracy and verification. Students are expected to maintain an ongoing engagement with current events.
Prerequisite: WRT 102; JRN 101 or JRN 103; JRN 105 Corequisite: JRN 111
3 credits

JRN 205: News Reporting & Writing II
The final course in the School of Journalism's Fundamentals of Reporting and Writing sequence. Telling an effective story often means going beyond the basics and adding additional layers of reporting, including "color" and compelling anecdotal material, additional sources, independent verification of competing accounts, background and context, as well as providing a narrative organizational structure and the deployment of a variety of story approaches. In this course, students report and write more complex news stories, news feature stories, profiles and news trend stories, several of which are based on their own story ideas. In addition, students add multi-media elements to at least one story, employing the tools they have learned in the corequisite Introduction to Multimedia Skills lab.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 115 and grade of Satisfactory in JRN 111 Corequisite: JRN 215
3 credits

JRN 215: Introduction to Multimedia Skills Lab
Images and sound are critically important to journalists. In this lab, students will explore and apply basic skills in audio, video and photography. This lab will be divided into three sections: Four weeks of audio, five weeks of photography and five weeks of video. Students demonstrate proficiency with digital audio recorders, video and still cameras as well as proficiency in basic editing in all mediums.
Prerequisite: JRN 111 and JRN 115 Corequisite: JRN 205
1 credit

JRN 220: Media Law
Examines the legal issues that are encountered by journalists and other media professionals, including the First Amendment, libel, invasion of privacy, copyright law, and trademarks. Students also will examine ethical codes that guide journalists, including independence, truth-telling, accountability and protecting sources.
Pre- or corequisite: JRN 115; JRN 111 or WRT 200
2 credits

JRN 301: The Changing News Business
This course examines the rapidly evolving media landscape and the implications for journalism and journalists. Students examine the revolutionary changes in digital technology, dramatically shifting patterns of media consumption, rise of non-traditional competition, challenges of serving a more diverse audience, and accelerating media consolidation, and explore alternative visions for the impact on content, standards, business models, and jobs in the next decade.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 108 Pre- or corequisite: JRN 115; JRN 111 or WRT 200
2 credits
JRN 310: Multimedia Newsroom I / Visual
Students are introduced to the skills needed to report and write news stories for television and radio. Students will become familiar with the proper use of pictures and sound in broadcast journalism, and become comfortable writing news reports in a variety of broadcast formats. Students also are expected to become familiar with a variety of broadcast production tools, including the basics of Final Cut Pro and video photography. Course includes a lecture and a weekly three-hour lab. This course has an associated fee. Please see www.stonybrook.edu/coursefees for more information.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 210 or JRN 205 and a grade of satisfactory in JRN 211 or JRN 215
SBC: SPK
3 credits

JRN 320: Multimedia Newsroom II / Web
Examines the challenges presented by the explosion of journalism on the Internet and assesses the role of the journalist in an online society. Students are exposed to both practical skills and a broader understanding of issues. Topics include how journalists add value to information online, writing and editing for the Web, the use of interactive tools, blogs and podcasts, and an elementary understanding of Web design. At the same time, students explore issues of privacy, the Internet's potential threat to traditional journalistic standards, and how online publishing is creating new audiences. Students will critique news Web sites, participate in a blog and podcast, create a news Web page, and produce an online story package. Course includes a lecture and a weekly three-hour lab.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 210 or JRN 205 and a grade of satisfactory in JRN 211 or JRN 215
3 credits

JRN 330: Business Reporting
This course provides practical training for journalism students interested in a possible career in business reporting. It seeks to provide the basic understanding and skills to report on business and consumer news and economic trends. Goals include learning how to read and understand financial statements, how to identify and access relevant public documents, and how to interpret basic economic data and statistics. Students profile a public company on Long Island or in New York City, and learn how to write a business story that conforms to standards of accuracy and context. They will be encouraged to visit major financial institutions, public markets, and regulatory agencies in New York City. Students will also examine business stories and controversies in the news from the perspective of the business community and journalists.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 310
Advisory Prerequisites: ECO 108 and BUS 110
3 credits

JRN 334: Science and Health Reporting
Students will examine methods of evaluating and reporting science and health news with accuracy and context. Among the topics to be covered: how to read a medical journal article; how to understand simple statistical data; how to develop and interview expert sources; how to deal with conflicting claims. Drawing on the resources of the Health Sciences Center, the course also will provide information on how research and health care are organized and funded. Students will report and write several stories for print, broadcast or the Web. They also will spend a day shadowing a health care professional.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 210 or JRN 205 and a grade of satisfactory in JRN 211 or JRN 215; 1 D.E.C. E or SNW; 1 D.E.C. F or SBS
3 credits

JRN 335: Reporting in New York City
This course, which is offered mainly in winter and summer sessions, provides students with an overview of how reporters cover major institutions in New York City. The semester focus varies, ranging from city hall, United Nations, police, courts, Wall Street, arts and culture, television, music, movies, theater, fashion and other city-centric themes. The course offers a blend of classroom instruction, talks with officials and journalists and hands-on reporting. On reporting days, the class will be run as a newsroom. It is offered at the university's Manhattan extension. May be repeated as the focus changes.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 210 or JRN 205 and a grade of satisfactory in JRN 211 or JRN 215; permission of the department
SBC: EXP+
3 credits

JRN 336: Sports Reporting
This course is designed to prepare students to report, write and produce sports stories in print, broadcast and online, from sports news to behind-the-scenes issues that resonate in the world of sports. Upon completion of this course, students should be as comfortable covering a government hearing on steroids in professional sports as covering a basketball game.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 310
3 credits

JRN 337: Introduction to Narrative Journalism
Building on students' experiences in newswriting, this course examines the reporting and writing of longer stories and more textured feature stories. There will be an emphasis on focus, structure, and storytelling, including the rudiments of developing style and a narrative voice. Students will be expected to write several original enterprise stories. They will also explore the similarities and differences in telling stories in print, online, and in broadcast formats.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 205 or JRN 210 and grade of satisfactory in JRN 211 or JRN 215
3 credits

JRN 340: Beat Reporting
This course is designed to develop the ability of students to cover a specific area of news coverage, a beat. Emphasis is placed on developing sources, finding stories, organizing a beat and covering a variety of beat stories from breaking news to profiles and in-depth, enterprise stories. Students will select a beat to follow throughout the semester.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 310
3 credits

JRN 350: Journalistic Judgment and Ethics
Journalistic judgment—how and why decisions are made in the newsroom—examines the fundamentals of the editor or news director's role in print, broadcast and online news with emphasis on their impact on critical thinking, decision-making, maximizing accuracy, removing bias and providing diversity and context. Students will discuss journalistic judgment in print, broadcast and online news. The semester case studies and project will address fundamental judgment issues.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 310
Pre- or corequisite: JRN 320
SBC: CER, ESI
3 credits

JRN 355: Reporting in New York City - Broadcast
Offered mainly in winter and summer sessions, the course provides students with an overview of how broadcast journalists cover the major institutions in New York City: City Hall, the United Nations, the police department,
the courts, Wall Street, etc. The course offers a blend of classroom instruction, talks with officials and journalists, and hands-on reporting. On reporting days, the class will be run as a newsroom. It is offered at the university’s Manhattan extension.

Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 310 and permission of the department
3 credits

JRN 361: News Editing and Presentation/Print
Editors are the last line of defense. Their job is to catch and correct mistakes, make stories readable if they are not, write engaging headlines and captions, design pages that invite the reader, protect the publication’s credibility, avoid libel, and otherwise exercise good news judgment. This course focuses on developing students’ copyediting and page design skills. Mastery of grammar and of The Associated Press Stylebook are goals. The course will cover the art of photo selection, placement and cropping, and the use of graphics and other elements to enhance storytelling. Students will use Adobe InDesign to create attractive pages.

Prerequisites: C or higher in JRN 350 or permission of the department
Pre- or corequisite: JRN 364
3 credits

JRN 363: Magazine Writing
This course builds on JRN 337, advancing the exploration of long-form magazine stories. Students will learn how to develop ideas and craft them into sophisticated pieces with protagonists and strong narrative drive. They will learn to bring their stories to life using novelistic techniques such as character development, voice, mood and theme, conflict and resolution, scene-setting, foreshadowing and dialogue. Required reading assignments, group discussions of works-in-progress and roundtable meetings with professional narrative journalists will inspire students to develop their own writer’s eye and voice. The culminating goal of the course is for each student to produce a 2,500-to-3,000-word story for publication. Students will also learn how to select a market for their stories and write a query letter.

Prerequisites: B or higher in JRN 337 and permission of department
3 credits

JRN 364: Advanced Reporting
Designed to prepare student journalists to get to the bottom of complex stories through probing reporting that will seek rich detail and context. All stories will be part of an overall subject that students will choose as a group for publication as a special report. Students must choose a subject they consider underreported. This will be done by class vote after discussion. Students will work independently under the supervision of a ‘City Editor’ to produce one in-depth story of approximately 1,500 words during the semester. These stories will delve deeply into the subject matter. Students will meet regularly with the “City Editor” in a seminar setting to discuss procedures, ideas, progress, to brainstorm and to share their experiences. They also will work independently on all aspects of developing their stories. Students will be graded on a number of benchmarks such as story proposal, revised proposal, reporting outlines, quality of research and reporting, drafts of the story, adding value and the final story. It is the goal that the stories be published. This is an interactive class with regular class discussions and group critiques. Participation in the weekly discussions is vital for each student journalist. Students should be prepared to contribute voluntarily or when called upon.

Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 310
Pre- or corequisite: JRN 350 or permission of the department
3 credits

JRN 365: Talking Science
Designed to help science majors learn to speak effectively and responsively with multiple audiences, from peers and professors to potential employers, policymakers and the lay public. Students will focus on communicating about science clearly and vividly, as well as develop skills that are central to oral communication on any subject. The techniques used include improvisational theater exercises that help speakers connect with an audience, pay close and dynamic attention to others, reading nonverbal cues, and responding freely without self-consciousness. Students will practice delivering their message effectively for different audiences, including defining goals, identifying main points, speaking without jargon, explaining meaning and context, responding to questions, using storytelling techniques, and using multimedia elements. Students will be videotaped at least once during the semester as part of the learning process. As a culminating activity, students develop and deliver an engaging short oral presentation on a scientific topic. This course requires active participation not only as speakers, but also as active listeners and constructive critics in a rigorous but supportive environment.

Prerequisite: upper-division major in science, engineering, mathematics or health
3 credits
**JRN 371: Weekly Broadcast**
Designed to introduce students to planning, assembling, producing and performing the elements of a newscast. Students will be exposed to the roles of key members of a newscast team, including producers, assistant producers, reporters, writers, anchors and video photographers and editors. There will be emphasis on developing decision-making and on-air skills, as students complete mini-newscasts and segments for broadcast. Students will be expected to meet strict deadlines and manage critical air time. Newscast segments will be showcased on JRN Web sites.

**Prerequisite:** C or higher in JRN 370

**3 credits**

**JRN 380: Multimedia Photojournalism**
This course, designed for students interested in specializing in online news, will focus on content management and the presentation of news on the Web. Students will have the opportunity to manage a news Web site in real time, with emphasis on around-the-clock news judgment and presentation. Students will learn how to enhance online news through multi-media integration and reader/viewer interactivity. Students also will study information architecture, eye-tracking studies and different ways of making the Web more accessible for readers, including layering information. The course builds on the skills learned in JRN 320. After completion of course overview material, students will move through three phases designed to simulate a key role in current online newsrooms. The phases include real-time content management, multi-media integration and harvesting original video. There will be emphasis on building critical thinking skills and developing team work. By the end of this course, students are to produce a complete multimedia project and integrate its production into a real-time online news site.

**Prerequisite:** C or higher in JRN 320
**Pre- or corequisite:** JRN 350 or permission of the department

**3 credits**

**JRN 381: Web Presentation**
Students will combine their advanced journalistic skills in reporting, writing and producing with advanced multimedia techniques to create an online “microsite” devoted to one major story, combining text with video, photos, blogs and interactive features. This course builds on skills acquired in JRN 380. Significant computer use will be required outside of class time.

**Prerequisite:** C or higher in JRN 380

**3 credits**

**JRN 385: Digital Academy**
This 1-credit workshop is intended to help you find stories, develop sources and cover breaking news using social media tools and applications, including Instagram, Twitter, Facebook and others. Completion of JRN 320 is recommended. May be repeated as the topic changes.

**Prerequisite:** C or better in JRN 105

**1 credit**

**JRN 390: Special Topics: Issues in Contemporary Journalism**
This special topics course will deal with timely and contemporary issues that affect journalists and journalism. The issues could range from the press in wartime, an examination of the role of the press covering war from World War II to the current war in Iraq, and how the press covers presidential campaigns. May be repeated as the topic changes.

**Prerequisite:** C or higher in JRN 101 or JRN 103; may vary by topic

**3 credits**

**JRN 391: Journalism Workshops**
These workshops are designed to assist students in developing skills that will be useful in various journalism courses. Topics will rotate. Anticipated topics include On-Air Presentation, Audio Journalism, Digital Photography, Databases, FOIL and Sunshine Laws, On-Air Performance, Editing Software. May be repeated as the topic changes.

**Prerequisite:** Varies by topic, permission of the department

**1-2 credits**

**JRN 392: Special Topics: Issues in Contemporary Journalism- Journalism Without Walls Prep**
This 1-credit workshop is designed to assist students in preparing in advance if they are interested in taking JRN 435 Journalism Without Walls, a course in which students travel with journalism faculty to a location and spend several weeks reporting, writing and broadcasting from and about it. Before going to China to report on "Modern China and Its Media," for example, students would examine the complex world of China’s media market, the world’s largest, over which the Chinese government exercises strict control of news and entertainment at the same time as journalists and bloggers are using digital technology to get out their message. Each Journalism Without Walls Prep would be tailored to the specific locale and coverage issues.

**Prerequisite:** To be taken before JRN 435

**1 credit**

**JRN 393: Audio Journalism Lab**
This 1-credit lab is designed to assist students in developing skills that will be useful in various broadcast courses and to prepare them for radio and podcasting internship opportunities. Digital recorders will be provided for use in and out of class. An emphasis will be on the skills needed to produce long-form radio reports and podcasts in the tradition of National Public Radio. The lab meets once a week for three hours. Some assignments will require students to go off campus.

**Prerequisite:** JRN 215

**SBC:** EXP+ 1-2 credits

**JRN 411: Television Practicum**
This is a capstone course for students specializing in video. This day-long workshop class meets on Fridays from 9 am to 6 pm, with an hour break for lunch. Each week, students will produce and broadcast a half-hour, live newscast that will be broadcast on the Web and on a campus news channel. The class will experience the working conditions of a professional TV newsroom. Over the course of the semester, students will have the opportunity to work in each of their key jobs necessary for a successful newscast: broadcast producer, news director, anchor, field producer, reporter, video editor and member of the studio crew. Following each newscast, the news team will gather for a "post-mortem" meeting. At this meeting, work will be critiqued and plans will be made for follow-up stories and the next week's newscast. The post mortem will serve as a weekly assessment for the students.

**Prerequisite:** JRN 370 and permission of the instructor

**Pre- or co-requisite:** JRN 371

**3 credits**

**JRN 435: Journalism Without Walls**
Offered only during winter or summer sessions, this course is designed for experienced and energetic journalism students. Students will be assigned as part of a team to travel to a location and using only mobile technology, transmits stories and video from the field. Their work product is published via a special Web site. Students will have one week to research a topic or location.
before leaving for their destination. (Teams of students, for example, have gone to China, Russia, Cuba and the U.S. Gulf Coast.) While on assignment, students file blogs, gather multimedia and video, write and edit stories, produce a Web site and establish a "mobile news-room." One or several instructors accompany the students. This course combines students' journalistic skills, judgment and enterprise with knowledge of emerging technology. May be repeated as the topic changes.

Prerequisites: permission of the department, additional prerequisites announced by topic. Passport may be required.

SBC: EXP+

3 credits

JRN 444: Experiential Learning

This course is designed for students who engage in a substantial, structured experiential learning activity in conjunction with another class. Experiential learning occurs when knowledge acquired through formal learning and past experience are applied to a "real-world" setting or problem to create new knowledge through a process of reflection, critical analysis, feedback and synthesis. Beyond-the-classroom experiences that support experiential learning may include: service learning, mentored research, field work, or an internship.

Prerequisite: WRT 102 or equivalent; permission of the instructor and approval of the EXP+ contract (http://sb.cc.stonybrook.edu/bulletin/current/policiesandregulations/degree_requirements/EXPplus.php)

SBC: EXP+

0 credit, S/U grading

JRN 475: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum I

Work with a faculty member as an assistant in one of the faculty member's regularly scheduled courses. Students assume greater responsibility in such areas as leading discussions and analyzing results of tests that already have been graded. The course in which the student is permitted to work as a teaching assistant must be different from the course in which he or she previously participated. Not for major or minor credit.

Prerequisites: grade of satisfactory in JRN 475; permission of instructor and undergraduate program director

SBC: EXP+

3 credits, S/U grading

JRN 476: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum II

Work with a faculty member as an assistant in one of the faculty member's regularly scheduled courses. Students assume greater responsibility in such areas as leading discussions and analyzing results of tests that already have been graded. The course in which the student is permitted to work as a teaching assistant must be different from the course in which he or she previously participated. Not for major or minor credit.

Prerequisites: grade of satisfactory in JRN 475; permission of instructor and undergraduate program director

SBC: EXP+

3 credits, S/U grading

JRN 487: Independent Study

Intensive study of a special topic undertaken with close faculty supervision. May be repeated with a different topic.

Prerequisite: Permission of director of undergraduate studies

0-6 credits, S/U grading

JRN 488: Internship

Students work at local, state, and national news organizations. The work must involve journalistic skills related to the educational goals of the department.

Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 210 or 205 and a grade of 'S' in JRN 211 or 215; campus news media experience or a grade of 'S' in JRN 288; 12 JRN credits; permission of internship coordinator. Recommended GPA: 2.5 overall and 3.0 in JRN

SBC: EXP+

0-6 credits, S/U grading

JRN 489: Specialized Internship

This is an advanced internship. Students will spend 2 days a week at the internship site. In addition, this specialized internship includes a weekly lecture designed to prepare students to report, write and produce stories that benefit from a greater knowledge of a subject. Examples of Specialized Internships include Hyperlocal Reporting, Police and Court Reporting, Governmental Reporting, Culture and the Arts. The work must involve journalistic skills related to the educational goals of the department.

Prerequisite: C or better in JRN 340 and permission of instructor

SBC: EXP+

4 credits, S/U grading

JRN 490: Senior Project

This is a capstone course and a requirement for all majors. In a culminating activity, students produce a major story of professional quality, first in their area of journalistic concentration, and then adapt the story for two additional media platforms. Students attend a weekly seminar and work independently under the supervision of a faculty member. Remaining in 490 is contingent on submission of a well-developed story proposal at least a week prior to the start of the semester.

Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 364 or JRN 370 or JRN 380

Pre or corequisites: One of the following: JRN 361, JRN 371, or JRN 381

SBC: WRTD

3 credits