

Department of Journalism and the Writing Professions

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Field Description

The Department of Journalism and the Writing Professions offers students many exciting ways to study journalism in the media capital of the world and to master the ability to do research, conduct interviews, organize material and write clearly no matter what field a student hopes to enter. Its faculty brings a wide variety of professional experience to the classroom.

Students in journalism classes do original reporting, pursuing their ideas throughout the metropolitan area. Opportunities to publish are available in [Dollars & Sense](#), published by the department and winner of numerous national awards; on the [Writing New York](#) blog; and in a variety of professional publications. Journalism students also gain valuable experience through internships at news organizations and publishing houses, major newspapers, magazines, television and radio stations, news and entertainment websites, and book publishers.

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The Majors

- [Journalism](#)
- [Interdisciplinary Major in Business Communication](#)

Journalism

Journalism majors improve their research, writing, interviewing, editing, and storytelling abilities and knowledge of the city, the country, and the world in preparation for careers in journalism, the Internet and new media, book and magazine publishing, television and radio, music and the arts, the film industry, business, education, government, and law. Students work closely with expert faculty and in internships across the writing-related professions. Internships provide on-the-job experience for students interested in such fields as radio, network and cable TV, newspapers, magazines, wire services, business and financial journalism, and book publishing.

The Department of Journalism and the Writing Professions offers two specializations: journalism and creative writing, and business journalism. Each specialization is outlined in detail below.

Interested students should contact the Department of Journalism and the Writing Professions, Room 7-263 in the Newman Vertical Campus, telephone: 646-312-3974.

- [Journalism and Creative Writing Specialization](#)
- [Business Journalism Specialization](#)
- [Business Communication Major: Business Writing Specialization for the BA Student](#)

Each specialization is outlined in detail below. Interested students can contact the Journalism office at (646) 312-3974.

Journalism and Creative Writing Specialization

The journalism and creative writing specialization helps students develop research, interviewing, writing, editing, and multimedia storytelling skills that are crucial to success across a broad spectrum of fields and professions in this information age. A faculty of professional writers and editors teach students to research, report, interview, and write about urban affairs, politics, crime and the courts, arts and culture, law, education, science, sports, and many other topics.

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| Program Prerequisite | | |
| JRN 2500 | The Individual and the News in the Information Age | 3 credits |
| Core Journalism Curriculum (15 credits) | | |
| JRN 3050 | Journalistic Writing | 4 credits |
| JRN 3220 | Media Ethics | 3 credits |
| JRN 3500 | Advanced Reporting and Writing | 4 credits |
| <i>or</i> | | |
| JRN 3510 | Multimedia Reporting | 4 credits |
| JRN 5050 , JRN 5051 , or JRN 5052 | Media Internship | 4 credits |
| <i>or</i> | | |
| JRN 4920 | Narrative Writing (ENG 4920) | 4 credits |
| Specialization Electives (9-11 credits) | | |
| JRN 3060 | Feature Article Writing | 3 credits |
| JRN 3064 | Photojournalism (ART 3064) | 3 credits |
| JRN 3065 | Electronic Research Methods and Resources for Writers (LIB 3065) | 3 credits |
| JRN 3100 | Copy Editing | 3 credits |
| JRN 3200 | Business and Financial Writing | 4 credits |
| JRN 3210 | Television Field Reporting | 3 credits |
| JRN 3280 | Documentary Film (ENG 3280) | 3 credits |
| JRN 3300 | Science Communication | 3 credits |
| JRN 3400 | Journalistic Criticism and Reviewing | 3 credits |
| JRN 3450 | Journalistic Blogging | 3 credits |
| JRN 3520 | Advanced Multimedia Reporting | 3 credits |
| JRN 3600 | Creative Nonfiction | 3 credits |
| JRN 3610 | Workshop: Fiction Writing (ENG 3610) | 3 credits |

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| JRN 3615 | Sudden Fiction -- Crafting Short Short Stories (ENG 3615) | 3 credits |
| JRN 3630 | Workshop: Playwriting (THE 3052) | 3 credits |
| JRN 3650 | Workshop: Film and Television Writing | 3 credits |
| JRN 3800 | Environmental Reporting | 3 credits |
| JRN 3810 | Sportswriting | 3 credits |
| JRN 3900 | Topics in Journalism | 3 credits |
| JRN 4200 | Press Coverage of Politics and Policy | 3 credits |
| JRN 4220 | A Century of Muckraking: Investigating Corporations, Corruption and Governmental Crooks | 3 credits |
| JRN 4730 | Journalism and the Literary Imagination | 3 credits |
| JRN 4750 | Investigative Reporting | 3 credits |
| JRN 4920 | Narrative Writing (ENG 4920) | 4 credits |
| JRN 5000-5002 | Independent Study in Journalism | Variable |
| JRN 5050 , JRN 5051 , or JRN 5052 | Media Internship | 4 credits |
| JRN 6001H-6002H | Journalism Honors I and II | 3 credits |
| <i>Plus</i> | | |
| Two Courses in Literature at the 3000 level or above | | 6 credits |
| back to top Business Journalism Specialization This program will teach students how to function as business and financial journalists, for a news organization or on their own. Students will learn how to report on companies, analyze economic trends and find regional variations in them, understand financial markets and their impact on society, and write journalistic articles for a wide range of outlets, including newspapers and magazines, television and radio and the Internet. The specialization will help students develop research, reporting, and interviewing skills; learn to mine data; develop article ideas, and communicate news to different audiences. | | |
| Program Prerequisite | | |
| JRN 2500 | Perspectives on the News | 3 credits |
| Core Curriculum (15 credits) | | |
| JRN 3050 | Journalistic Writing | 4 credits |
| JRN 3200 | Business and Financial Writing | 4 credits |
| JRN 3220 | Media Ethics | 3 credits |

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| JRN 5050, JRN 5051, or JRN 5052 | Media Internship | 4 credits |
| <i>or</i> | | |
| JRN 4920 | Narrative Writing (ENG 4920) | 4 credits |
| Business Journalism Elective (3 credits) One course chosen from: | | |
| JRN 4001 | Covering the Financial Markets | 3 credits |
| JRN 4002 | Covering Economics Covering Wealth and Poverty (<i>effective spring 2016</i>) | 3 credits |
| Additional Journalism Electives (6 – 8 credits) Two courses chosen from the following: | | |
| JRN 3060 | Feature Article Writing | 3 credits |
| JRN 3065 | Electronic Research Methods and Resources for Writers (LIB 3065) | 3 credits |
| JRN 3100 | Copy Editing | 3 credits |
| JRN 3210 | Television Field Reporting | 3 credits |
| JRN 3450 | Journalistic Blogging | 3 credits |
| JRN 3500 | Advanced Reporting and Writing | 4 credits |
| JRN 3510 | Multimedia Reporting | 4 credits |
| JRN 3520 | Advanced Multimedia Reporting | 3 credits |
| JRN 3600 | Creative Nonfiction | 3 credits |
| JRN 3615 | Sudden Fiction -- Crafting Short Short Stories (ENG 3615) | 3 credits |
| JRN 3800 | Environmental Reporting | 3 credits |
| JRN 3810 | Sportswriting | 3 credits |
| JRN 3900 | Topics in Journalism | 3 credits |
| JRN 4001 | Covering the Financial Markets | 3 credits |
| JRN 4002 | Covering Economics Covering Wealth and Poverty (<i>effective spring 2016</i>) | 3 credits |
| JRN 4200 | Press Coverage of Politics and Policy | 3 credits |
| JRN 4220 | A Century of Muckraking: Investigating Corporations, Corruption and Governmental Crooks | 3 credits |

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| JRN 4750 | Investigative Reporting | 3 credits |
| JRN 4920 | Narrative Writing (ENG 4920) | 4 credits |
| JRN 5000-5002 | Independent Study in Journalism | Variable |
| JRN 5050 , JRN 5051 , or JRN 5052 | Media Internship | 4 credits |
| JRN 6001H-6002H | Journalism Honors I and II | 3 credits |

With permission of the journalism advisor, writing-related Feit seminars ([IDC 4050](#)) and Harman Writer-in-Residence courses may be counted toward the major.

Other Electives (6 credits)

Two additional courses (6 credits) drawn from the offerings of other programs throughout Baruch College, subject to approval by the journalism advisor.

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Business Communication Major:

Business Writing Specialization for the BA Student

For the BA student who is interested in combining business writing with preparation in business administration, the following interdisciplinary specialization within the business communication major is suggested.

Base Curriculum Courses

No credit toward the major

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| ENG 2100 | Writing I (or its equivalent) | 3 credits |
| ENG 2150 | Writing II | 3 credits |
| ENG 2800 | Great Works of Literature I (CMP 2800) | 3 credits |

or

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| ENG 2850 | Great Works of Literature II (CMP 2850) | 3 credits |
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Program Prerequisites 12 credits

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| MKT 3000 | Marketing Foundations | 3 credits |
| MGT 3120 | Fundamentals of Management | 3 credits |
| STA 2000 | Business Statistics I | 3 credits |
| or | | |
| STA 2100 | Statistics for Social Science | 3 credits |

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| <i>or</i> | | |
| ECO 1001 | Micro-Economics (may be applied to the base curriculum - <i>Baruch Common Core</i>) | 3 credits |
| <i>or</i> | | |
| ECO 1002 | Macro-Economics (may be applied to the base curriculum - <i>Baruch Common Core</i>) | 3 credits |
| <i>or</i> | | |
| ECO 1110 | Current Economic Problems | 3 credits |
| CIS 2200 | Introduction to Information Systems and Technologies | 3 credits |
| Major/Specialization: 30–33 credits | | |
| Interdisciplinary Core: 12–13 credits | | |
| Business Communication | | |
| JRN 3050 | Journalistic Writing | 4 credits |
| <i>or</i> | | |
| JRN 3150 | Business Communication | 3 credits |
| <i>and</i> | | |
| JRN 3220 | Media Ethics | 3 credits |
| Marketing/Advertising | | |
| Choose one course: | | |
| MKT 3520 | Advertising and Marketing Communications | 3 credits |
| MKT 3600 | Marketing Research | 3 credits |
| MKT 3605 | Consumer Behavior | 3 credits |
| MKT 4171 | Public Relations | 3 credits |
| Management | | |
| Choose one course: | | |
| MGT 3300 | Management: A Behavioral Approach | 3 credits |
| MGT 3800 | Management and Society | 3 credits |
| Business Writing Specialization Requirements | | |
| Required Courses (10 – 12 credits) | | |

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| JRN 3200 | Business and Financial Writing | 4 credits |
| and two from the following: | | |
| JRN 3100 | Copy Editing | 3 credits |
| JRN 3150 | Business Communication | 3 credits |
| JRN 3500 | Advanced Reporting and Writing | 4 credits |
| JRN 3510 | Multimedia Reporting | 4 credits |
| JRN 5050, JRN 5051, or JRN 5052 | Media Internship | 4 credits |
| Electives (6 – 8 credits) | | |
| JRN 3060 | Feature Article Writing | 3 credits |
| JRN 3100 | Copy Editing | 3 credits |
| JRN 3210 | Television Field Reporting | 3 credits |
| JRN 3220 | Media Ethics | 3 credits |
| JRN 3450 | Journalistic Blogging | 3 credits |
| JRN 3500 | Advanced Reporting and Writing | 4 credits |
| JRN 3510 | Multimedia Reporting | 4 credits |
| JRN 3520 | Advanced Multimedia Reporting | 3 credits |
| JRN 3615 | Sudden Fiction - Crafting Short Short Stories (ENG 3615) | 3 credits |
| JRN 3600 | Creative Nonfiction | 3 credits |
| JRN 3800 | Environmental Reporting | 3 credits |
| JRN 3810 | Sportswriting | 3 credits |
| JRN 3900 | Topics in Journalism† | 3 credits |
| JRN 4200 | Press Coverage of Politics and Policy | 3 credits |
| JRN 4220 | A Century of Muckraking: Investigating Corporations, Corruption and Governmental Crooks | 3 credits |
| JRN 4750 | Investigative Reporting | 3 credits |
| JRN 4920 | Narrative Writing (ENG 4920) | 4 credits |
| JRN 5000-5002 | Independent Study in Journalism | Variable |

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| JRN 5050, JRN 5051, or JRN 5052 | Media Internship | 4 credits |
| JRN 6001H-6002H | Journalism Honors I and II | 3 credits |

†Students may enroll in JRN 3900 more than once if the topic is different.

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The Minors

The department offers two Tier III minors, one in journalism and one in business writing. Each provides students in business, public affairs, and liberal arts a range of courses to strengthen their writing and communication skills. These minors are particularly recommended for students preparing for careers in media, law, and politics and with nonprofit organizations.

Business Writing

The minor in Business Writing provides students in business, public affairs, and liberal arts with a firm foundation in professional writing for business purposes. The program includes options to study business and marketing-related writing, Internet communications, legal writing, journalistic writing, and financial writing. Students will expand their research, analytical, and writing abilities as they study and become proficient in the use of workplace-related writing. This minor is particularly recommended for students preparing for careers in business, government, marketing, management, public relations, media, law, education, politics, and with nonprofit organizations.

To fulfill the College-wide requirement for the Tier III minor with a concentration in business writing, students are required to complete a minimum of nine credits, including one course chosen from among JRN 3050, JRN 3150, and JRN 3200; one additional 3000-level course; and one course at the 4000 level or above, all drawn from the curriculum of the Department of Journalism and the Writing Professions. All department courses at the 4000-level or above, except for the Media Internship (JRN 5050, 5051 or 5052), may serve as the capstone course.

Journalism

The minor in Journalism provides students in business, public affairs, and liberal arts with a range of courses to strengthen their writing and communications skills. This minor is particularly recommended for students preparing for careers in media, law, business, politics, and with nonprofit organizations.

To fulfill the College-wide requirement for the Tier III minor with a concentration in journalism, students are required to complete a minimum of nine credits, including two courses at the 3000 level or above and one course at the 4000- or above, drawn from the curriculum of the Department of Journalism and the Writing Professions. All journalism courses at the 4000-level or above, except for the Media Internship (JRN 5050, 5051 or 5052), may serve as the capstone course.

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Special Program

The Sidney Harman Writer-In-Residence Program

The Sidney Harman Writer-in-Residence Program, an endowed residency in the Weissman School of Arts and Sciences, offers gifted undergraduates the opportunity to enroll in writing workshops taught by distinguished visiting professors. Since its inception in the fall of 1998, Harman Writers-in-Residence have included poets Yehuda Amichai, Agha Shahid Ali, April Bernard, Carol Muske-Dukes, Charles Simic, and Major Jackson; playwrights Edward Albee and Tony Kushner; authors William Finnegan, Philip Gourevitch, Jane Kramer, Mark Kurlansky, and George Packer; fiction writers Paul Auster, Susan Choi, Anita Desai, Francisco Goldman, Colum McCann, Lorrie Moore, Sigrid Nunez, Francine Prose, Joseph O'Connor, and John Edgar Wideman; and graphic novelist, Ben Katchor.

Harman courses vary in numbering and in subject, depending on the choice of the visiting writer. Interested students of all majors are encouraged to submit transcripts and writing portfolios for review to Professor Bridgett Davis, 646-312-3927; e-mail: Bridgett.Davis@baruch.cuny.edu.

Harman classes can be taken for honors credit and students can use the Harman courses to fulfill their honors course requirements. The courses also can be used in the Journalism major and minor and in the English major and minor.

Additional information on the Harman Residency is available at www.baruch.cuny.edu/wsas/harman.

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Journalism Laboratory

The department's facilities include Studio H, a state-of-the-art computer lab and classroom for journalism students. Studio H offers students the latest technology for multimedia journalism, with 25 Apple iMac computers and software for editing photos, audio, and video. An audiovisual system allows for the viewing of multimedia features, television feeds, and other video on a large screen at the front of the room, and large flat-panel monitors on the side walls offer additional screening options. For example, when a news story is developing, students can follow coverage on at least three stations simultaneously. Studio H, funded by the Harnisch Foundation, also offers wireless Internet access and has its own server for easy file transfers.

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Courses

Courses in Journalism

| | | |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------|
| JRN 2500 | The Individual and the News in the Information Age | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3050 | Journalistic Writing | 4 hours; 4 credits |
| JRN 3060 | Feature Article Writing | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3064 | Photojournalism (ART 3064) | 4 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3065 | Electronic Research Methods and Resources for Writers (LIB 3065) | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3100 | Copy Editing | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3150 | Business Communication | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3200 | Business and Financial Writing | 4 hours; 4 credits |
| JRN 3210 | Television Field Reporting | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3220 | Media Ethics | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3280 | Documentary Film (ENG 3280) | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3300 | Science Communication | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3400 | Journalistic Criticism and Reviewing | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3450 | Journalistic Blogging | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3500 | Advanced Reporting and Writing | 4 hours; 4 credits |
| JRN 3510 | Multimedia Reporting | 4 hours; 4 credits |
| JRN 3520 | Advanced Multimedia Reporting | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3600 | Creative Nonfiction | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3610 | Workshop: Fiction Writing (ENG 3610) | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3615 | Sudden Fiction - Crafting Short Short Stories (ENG 3615) | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3630 | Workshop: Playwriting (THE 3052) | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3650 | Workshop: Film and Television Writing | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3800 | Environmental Reporting | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3810 | Sportswriting | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 3900 | Topics in Journalism | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 4001 | Covering the Financial Markets | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 4002 | Covering Economics | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| | Covering Wealth and Poverty (<i>effective spring 2016</i>) | |

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| JRN 4200 | Press Coverage of Politics and Policy | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 4220 | A Century of Muckraking: Investigating Corporations, Corruption, and Governmental Crooks | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 4730 | Journalism and the Literary Imagination | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 4750 | Investigative Reporting | 4 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 4920 | Narrative Writing (ENG 4920) | 4 hours; 4 credits |
| JRN 5000 | Independent Study in Journalism I | Variable hours and credits |
| JRN 5001 | Independent Study in Journalism II | Variable hours and credits |
| JRN 5002 | Independent Study in Journalism III | Variable hours and credits |
| JRN 5050 | Media Internship I | 4 hours; 4 credits |
| JRN 5051 | Media Internship II | 4 hours; 4 credits |
| JRN 5052 | Summer Media Internship | 4 hours; 4 credits |
| JRN 6001H | Honors Journalism I | 3 hours; 3 credits |
| JRN 6002H | Honors Journalism II | 3 hours; 3 credits |

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