

JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION - M.A.

College of Communication and Information
 School of Journalism and Mass Communication
 201 Franklin Hall
 Kent Campus
 330-672-2572
 jmc@kent.edu
 www.kent.edu/jmc

Description

The Master of Arts degree in Journalism and Mass Communication is designed to give students a solid background in preparation for a professional career. Students are able to take a mix of online and face-to-face courses that allow them to craft a graduate degree that reflects their career interest. Courses are dynamic, challenging and professionally relevant. With small class sizes, students are able to learn from their professors and from the experiences of their fellow classmates, many of whom are working media professionals or nationally recognized journalism educators.

The Journalism and Mass Communication major offers the following optional concentration:

- The **Journalism Education** concentration is intended for those seeking to teach or advise student journalists. The program is affiliated with Kent State's Center for Scholastic Journalism, and faculty include some of the most-recognized high school journalism educators in the country. The coursework focuses on concepts and lessons that can be used in a teacher's classroom right away

The School of Journalism and Mass Communication provides its students with a strong foundation to achieve their goals in the rapidly changing media industry. All students take a series of core courses that provide the foundation for a journalism and mass communication career and develop a specialization through the selection of elective courses that can be within or outside of the school. One student may choose to hone skills as a multimedia journalist focusing on public affairs, while another may seek to develop expertise as a public relations professional for not-for-profit organizations. All students will work with an advisor to plan a course of study that meets their professional needs.

Fully Offered At:

- Online (Journalism Education concentration only)
- Kent Campus

Admission Requirements

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university for unconditional admission
- Minimum 3.000 undergraduate GPA on a 4.000 point scale for unconditional admission
- Official transcript(s)
- GRE scores¹
- Résumé or vitae
- Goal statement

- Writing sample (effective for spring 2019 admission and later)²
- Three letters of recommendation³
- English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning one of the following:
 - Minimum 587 TOEFL PBT score (paper-based version)
 - Minimum 94 TOEFL IBT score (Internet-based version)
 - Minimum 82 MELAB score
 - Minimum 7.0 IELTS score
 - Minimum 65 PTE score

For more information about graduate admissions, please visit the Graduate Studies admission website. For more information on international admission, visit the Office of Global Education's admission website.

- ¹ The GRE score may be waived for applicants with significant related professional experience (five or more years), as determined by the graduate studies committee. Effective for spring 2019 admission, applicants are recommended to have a minimum 152 GRE score in verbal reasoning and minimum 3.5 GRE score in analytical writing.
- ² Effective for spring 2019 admission, a minimum of one writing sample will be required. The writing sample may be a news article, script from a news story, paper submitted for a college course, personal essay about a topics of interest or some other original non-fictional written work.
- ³ Effective for spring 2019 admission, at least one letter must be from a college professor who is familiar with the applicant's work. If the applicant has significant work experience (five or more years), the letter from a college professor may be replaced with a letter from an employer who is familiar with the applicant's work.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Communicate effectively across multiple platforms.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of relevant ethical and legal frameworks in their disciplines.
3. Ground their professional work in relevant theories.
4. Represent high levels of professionalism.

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements		
JMC 60007	RESEARCH METHODS IN MASS COMMUNICATION	3
JMC 60011	THEORY AND SOCIETAL ROLE OF MASS MEDIA	3
JMC 60012	MASS COMMUNICATION LAW AND ETHICS	3
JMC 61001	PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES OF SOCIAL MEDIA	3
JMC 66011	REPORTING, WRITING AND EDITING FOR MEDIA	3

Additional Requirements or Concentration

Choose from the following:	18
Additional Requirements for Students Not Declaring a Concentration	

Journalism Education Concentration

Minimum Total Credit Hours:	33
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Additional Requirements for Students Not Declaring a Concentration

[MA-JMC]

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements		
JMC 60199	THESIS I	3-6
or JMC 60396	MASTER'S PROFESSIONAL PROJECT	
Major Approved Electives, choose from the following:		15
Communication Studies (COMM) Courses		
Digital Sciences (DSCI) Courses		
Health Informatics (HI) Courses		
Journalism and Mass Communication (JMC) Courses		
Knowledge Management (KM) Courses		
User Experience Design (UXD) Courses		
Visual Communication Design (VCD) Courses		
Advisor-Approved Courses		
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		18

Journalism Education Concentration Requirements

[MA-JMC-JNED]

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements		
JMC 60003	ETHICS OF MASS COMMUNICATION	3
JMC 60396	MASTER'S PROFESSIONAL PROJECT	3
JMC 60701	ADVISING STUDENT MEDIA	3
Journalism and Mass Communication-Approved Electives		9
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		18

Graduation Requirements

- Minimum 50 percent of coursework must be at the 60000 level and must have JMC course subject.
- Maximum 4 credit hours of workshop courses (xxx93) may count toward the degree.