

MEDIA AND JOURNALISM - M.A.

College of Communication and Information
School of Media and Journalism
www.kent.edu/mdj

Examples of Possible Careers* Communications teachers, postsecondary

- 3.2% about as fast as the average
- 35,600 number of jobs
- \$71,030 potential earnings

Additional Careers

- Editors
- News analysts, reporters, and journalists
- Proofreaders and copy markers
- Writers and authors

Contact Information

- School Director: **Emily Metzgar** | mdj@kent.edu | 330-672-2572
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

Fully Offered

- Online (Journalism Education concentration only)
- Kent Campus

*Note

Source of occupation titles and labor data is from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics'

Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

Description

The Master of Arts degree in Media and Journalism 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 Media and Journalism 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, with a professional project as the culminating requirement.

Students not selecting the concentration work with their advisor to plan a course of study that meets their professional needs, with the culminating requirement of either a thesis or professional project.

The School of Media and Journalism 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 career in media and journalism 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.

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)
- Résumé or vitae
- Goal statement
- Writing sample¹
- Two letters of recommendation²
- 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
 - Minimum 110 Duolingo English Test 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 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.
- ² 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.

MDJ 60399	MASTER'S PROFESSIONAL PROJECT	3
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		18

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements		
CCI 61000	QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS IN COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION ¹	3
or CCI 62000	QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS IN COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION	
MDJ 60011	THEORY AND SOCIETAL ROLE OF MASS MEDIA	3
MDJ 60012	MASS COMMUNICATION LAW AND ETHICS	3
MDJ 61001	PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES OF DIGITAL MEDIA	3
MDJ 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

¹ Students in the Journalism Education concentration may take MDJ 60007, which is offered in the summer term, in place of CCI 61000 or CCI 62000.

Additional Requirements for Students Not Declaring a Concentration

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements		
Major Approved Electives, choose from the following:		15
Communication Studies (COMM) Courses		
Emerging Media and Technology (EMAT) Courses		
Health Informatics (HI) Courses		
Knowledge Management (KM) Courses		
Library and Information Science (LIS) Courses		
Media and Journalism (MDJ) Courses		
User Experience Design (UXD) Courses		
Visual Communication Design (VCD) Courses		
Advisor-Approved Courses		
Culminating Requirement		
Choose from the following:		3-6
MDJ 60199	THESIS I	
MDJ 60399	MASTER'S PROFESSIONAL PROJECT	
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		18

Journalism Education Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements		
MDJ 60003	TEACHING JOURNALISM ETHICS	3
MDJ 60701	ADVISING STUDENT MEDIA	3
Media and Journalism (MDJ) Advisor-Approved Electives		9
Culminating Requirement		

Graduation Requirements

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