

JOURNALISM - B.S.

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

About This Program

At Kent State, journalism students learn how to cover real stories that make a difference. Whether using a camera, a microphone, a smartphone or a laptop, you'll develop critical skills to tell stories in all forms. Students graduate prepared to continue as journalists or apply these skills to other professions that value critical thinking, information gathering and the ability to make sense of it for others. Read more...

Contact Information

- **Emily Metzgar** | mdj@kent.edu | 330-672-2572
- Speak with an Advisor
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
 - In person
- **Location:**
 - Kent Campus

Examples of Possible Careers

- Editor, copy editor or fact-checker
- Magazine writer/reporter
- Photojournalist or multimedia journalist
- Podcaster or radio host
- Reporter/journalist for web, television, audio, and newspaper
- Sports broadcaster or sportswriter
- Television anchor
- Television news producer

Accreditation

Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC)

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students who graduated from high school three or more years ago.

First-Year Students on the Kent Campus: First-year admission policy on the Kent Campus is selective. Admission decisions are based upon cumulative grade point average, strength of high school college preparatory curriculum and grade trends. Students not admissible to the Kent Campus may be administratively referred to one of the seven regional campuses to begin their college coursework. For more information, visit the admissions website for first-year students.

First-Year Students on the Regional Campuses: First-year admission to Kent State's campuses at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas, as well as the Twinsburg Academic Center, is open to anyone with a high school diploma or its equivalent. For more information on admissions, contact the Regional Campuses admissions offices.

International Students: All international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning a minimum 525 TOEFL score (71 on the Internet-based version), minimum 75 MELAB score, minimum 6.0 IELTS score or minimum 48 PTE Academic score, or by completing the ELS level 112 Intensive Program. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

Transfer Students: Students who have attended any other educational institution after graduating from high school must apply as undergraduate transfer students. For more information, visit the admissions website for transfer students.

Former Students: Former Kent State students or graduates who have not attended another college or university since Kent State may complete the reenrollment or reinstatement form on the University Registrar's website.

Admission policies for undergraduate students may be found in the University Catalog's Academic Policies.

Some programs may require that students meet certain requirements before progressing through the program. For programs with progression requirements, the information is shown on the program's Coursework tab.

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA) (min C- grade required in all courses)		
EMAT 10310 or MDJ 20011	MY STORY ON THE WEB PRODUCTION FUNDAMENTALS	3
MDJ 20001	MEDIA, POWER AND CULTURE (DIVD) (KSS)	3
MDJ 26001	WRITING FOR MEDIA	3
MDJ 26005	MULTIMEDIA JOURNALISM	3
MDJ 26007 or MDJ 26008	REPORTING BROADCAST REPORTING	3
MDJ 40006	LAW OF MEDIA AND JOURNALISM	3
MDJ 40010	ETHICS AND ISSUES IN MEDIA AND JOURNALISM (WIC) ¹	3
MDJ 40027	RACE, GENDER, CLASS AND DIS/ABILITY IN MEDIA INDUSTRIES (DIVD)	3
MDJ 40092	INTERNSHIP (ELR)	1
Major Electives, choose from the following: ²		18
CCI 12001	PHOTOGRAPHY	
CCI 45091	SEMINAR IN MEDIA AND MOVEMENTS (ELR)	
MDJ 22004	VISUAL STORYTELLING	
MDJ 26007	REPORTING	
MDJ 26008	BROADCAST REPORTING	
MDJ 32001	PHOTOJOURNALISM I	
MDJ 33024	BROADCAST PERFORMANCE	
MDJ 33042	STUDIO TELEVISION	
MDJ 36005	EDITING	

MDJ 36008	FREELANCE JOURNALISM	
MDJ 36010	INTERVIEWING AND DATA FOR JOURNALISTS	
MDJ 36018	FEATURE WRITING	
MDJ 36020	AUDIO STORYTELLING AND PODCASTING I	
MDJ 40017	MEDIA ENTERPRISE	
MDJ 40295	SELECTED TOPICS IN MEDIA AND JOURNALISM	
MDJ 41111	FASHION PUBLISHING	
MDJ 43035	ADVANCED MULTIMEDIA NEWS	
MDJ 46003	PRODUCING TELEVISION NEWS	
MDJ 46009	REPORTING PUBLIC POLICY	
MDJ 46020	MAGAZINE DESIGN	
MDJ 46021	ADVANCED MAGAZINE WRITING	
MDJ 46395	SELECTED TOPICS IN JOURNALISM	
Advanced Major Electives, choose from the following: ³		6
MDJ 32002	PHOTOJOURNALISM II	
MDJ 40017	MEDIA ENTERPRISE	
MDJ 40295	SELECTED TOPICS IN MEDIA AND JOURNALISM	
MDJ 43035	ADVANCED MULTIMEDIA NEWS	
MDJ 46009	REPORTING PUBLIC POLICY	
MDJ 46021	ADVANCED MAGAZINE WRITING	
MDJ 46030	AUDIO STORYTELLING AND PODCASTING II	
MDJ 46395	SELECTED TOPICS IN JOURNALISM	
Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)		
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
College of Communication and Information Core Electives, choose from the following:		9
CCI 10095	SPECIAL TOPICS IN COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION	
CCI 40089	BRANDING AND SOCIAL MEDIA STRATEGIES FOR ITALIAN LIFESTYLE (DIVG) (ELR)	
CCI 40095	SPECIAL TOPICS IN COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION	
CCI 40189	ITALIAN POP CULTURE (DIVG) (ELR)	
CCI 40289	ITALIAN CINEMA (DIVG) (ELR)	
CCI 40389	DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKING (DIVG) (ELR)	
CCI 40489	MULTIMEDIA EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING (DIVG) (ELR)	
CCI 45089	INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE IN THE COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION (DIVG) (ELR)	
CCI 46089	INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE IN THE COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION (DIVG) (ELR)	
COMM 15000	INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN COMMUNICATION (KADL)	
COMM 35852	INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION (DIVG)	
EMAT 25310	CREATIVE CODING	
EMAT 33310	HUMAN-COMPUTER INTERACTION	
LIS 30010	INFORMATION FLUENCY IN THE WORKPLACE AND BEYOND	
UXD 20001	INTRODUCTION TO USER EXPERIENCE DESIGN	
VCD 13000	VISUAL DESIGN THINKING	
Kent Core Composition		6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning		3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (minimum one course from each)		9
Kent Core Social Sciences (must be from two disciplines)		3
Kent Core Basic Sciences (must include one laboratory)		6-7

Kent Core Additional	6
General Electives (total credit hours depends on earning 120 credit hours, including 39 upper-division credit hours) ⁴	28
Minimum Total Credit Hours:	120

- ¹ A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement. If the course is not being used to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement, a minimum C- grade must be earned.
- ² Courses taken as a Major Requirement may not also count toward Major Electives.
- ³ Courses taken as Advanced Major Electives may not also count toward Major Electives.
- ⁴ A maximum of 4 credit hours of Physical Activity, Wellness and Sport (PWS) courses may be applied toward the degree program.

Progression Requirements

- No grade lower than a C- in a MDJ course will be counted toward graduation or as a prerequisite for a subsequent class.

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
2.000	2.000

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this major. However, courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

Semester One	Credits
EMAT 10310 MY STORY ON THE WEB or MDJ 20011 or PRODUCTION FUNDAMENTALS	3
MDJ 20001 MEDIA, POWER AND CULTURE (DIVD) (KSS)	3
MDJ 26001 WRITING FOR MEDIA	3
UC 10001 FLASHES 101	1
Kent Core Requirement	3
Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours	16
Semester Two	Credits
MDJ 26005 MULTIMEDIA JOURNALISM	3
College of Communication and Information Core Elective	3
Kent Core Requirement	3
Kent Core Requirement	3
Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours	15
Semester Three	Credits
MDJ 26007 REPORTING or MDJ 26008 or BROADCAST REPORTING	3
College of Communication and Information Core Elective	3
Kent Core Requirement	3
Kent Core Requirement	3
General Elective	3
Credit Hours	15
Semester Four	Credits
Major Electives	6
MDJ 40027 RACE, GENDER, CLASS AND DIS/ABILITY IN MEDIA INDUSTRIES (DIVD)	3

Kent Core Requirement	3
Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours	15
Semester Five	
Major Electives	6
Kent Core Requirement	3
General Elective	6
Credit Hours	15
Semester Six	
Major Electives	6
College of Communication and Information Core Elective	3
Kent Core Requirement	3
General Electives	3
Credit Hours	15
Third Summer Term	
MDJ 40092 INTERNSHIP (ELR)	1
Credit Hours	1
Semester Seven	
MDJ 40006 LAW OF MEDIA AND JOURNALISM	3
Advanced Major Electives	3
General Electives	9
Credit Hours	15
Semester Eight	
MDJ 40010 ETHICS AND ISSUES IN MEDIA AND JOURNALISM (WIC)	3
Advanced Major Elective	3
General Electives	7
Credit Hours	13
Minimum Total Credit Hours:	120

University Requirements

All students in a bachelor's degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements. Please see Program Requirements for details.

Flashes 101 (UC 10001)	1 credit hour
Course is not required for students with 30+ transfer credits (excluding College Credit Plus) or age 21+ at time of admission.	
Diversity Domestic/Global (DIVD/DIVG)	2 courses
Students must successfully complete one domestic and one global course, of which one must be from the Kent Core.	
Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)	varies
Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience.	
Kent Core (see table below)	36-37 credit hours
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course
Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.	
Upper-Division Requirement	39 credit hours
Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate.	
Total Credit Hour Requirement	120 credit hours

Kent Core Requirements

Kent Core Composition (KCMP)	6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR)	3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) (min one course each)	9
Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) (must be from two disciplines)	6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) (must include one laboratory)	6-7
Kent Core Additional (KADL)	6
Total Credit Hours:	36-37

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduate of this program will be able to:

1. Create news and information content that effectively covers the diversity of groups in a global society and reflects appreciation for individual differences.
2. Utilize appropriate legal and ethical frameworks to guide creation of news and information content.
3. Effectively plan, research, gather, write and produce audience-focused news and information content that has impact.
4. Critically evaluate news and information sources and demonstrate an understanding of the impact media messages have on audiences and society.
5. Use appropriate and relevant technology to create and enhance news and information content and promote it to a variety of audiences.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the business of media and apply skills in a practical setting.

Full Description

Journalists are reporters, watchdogs, storytellers. The Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism teaches students how to cover real stories that make a difference. Whether using a camera, a microphone, a smartphone or a laptop, students become journalists by doing journalism inside and outside the classroom.

Gaining critical skills that equip them for storytelling in all its forms, journalism students practice their craft in Kent State's award-winning student media. Working with these outlets, students learn how to engage audiences where they "live," on TV, radio, online, social media and in print.

Journalism students produce news and feature content on visual, digital and emerging platforms, and they apply what they've learned as part of the required professional internship.

With a grounding in ethics and an understanding of media's role in democratic society, students graduate prepared to continue as journalists or apply their skills to other professions that value critical thinking, information gathering and the ability to make sense of it for others.

Students may apply early to the following master's degree programs and double count 9 credit hours of graduate courses toward both degree programs. See the Combined Bachelor's/Master's Degree Program Policy in the University Catalog for more information.

- Master of Arts degree in Communication Studies
- Master of Arts degree in Media and Journalism
- Master of Arts degree in Visual Communication Design

- Master of Library Information Science degree in Library and Information Science
- Master of Science degree in Emerging Media and Technology
- Master of Science degree in Health Informatics
- Master of Science degree in Knowledge Management
- Master of Science degree in User Experience