

# JOURNALISM EDUCATION - M.A.

College of Communication and Information  
 School of Media and Journalism  
[www.kent.edu/mdj](http://www.kent.edu/mdj)

## About This Program

The M.A. in Journalism Education is designed for high school teachers and transitioning media professionals. Course content focuses on what teachers and media advisers need to know to be effective journalism educators in the digital age: from the latest technology for multimedia storytelling to strategies to protect students' First Amendment rights. Read more...

## Contact Information

- **Emily Metzgar** | [mdj@kent.edu](mailto:mdj@kent.edu) | 330-672-2572
- Connect with an Admissions Counselor: U.S. Student | International Student

## Program Delivery

- **Delivery**
  - Fully Online

## Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries\*

### Communications teachers, postsecondary

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

\* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes 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.

For more information about graduate admissions, visit the graduate admission website. For more information on international admissions, visit the international admission website.

## Admission Requirements

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Minimum 2.750 undergraduate GPA on a 4.000-point scale
- Official transcript(s)
- Résumé or vitae
- Goal statement
- Two letters of recommendation
- English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions to waive) by earning one of the following:<sup>1</sup>
  - Minimum 71 TOEFL iBT score
  - Minimum 6.0 IELTS score

- Minimum 50 PTE score
- Minimum 100 DET score

<sup>1</sup> International applicants who do not meet the above test scores may be considered for conditional admission.

## Application Deadlines

- **Fall Semester**
  - Application deadline: March 15
- **Spring Semester**
  - Application deadline: November 15
- **Summer Term**
  - Application deadline: March 15

*Applications submitted after these deadlines will be considered on a space-available basis.*

## Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
MDJ 60011	THEORY AND SOCIETAL ROLE OF MEDIA AND JOURNALISM	3
MDJ 60012	MEDIA LAW AND ETHICS	3
MDJ 60701	ADVISING STUDENT MEDIA	3
MDJ 61001	PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES OF DIGITAL MEDIA	3
MDJ 66011	REPORTING, WRITING AND EDITING FOR MEDIA	3
MDJ 67067	TEACHING MEDIA LITERACY	3
Major Electives, choose from the following: <sup>1</sup>		12
MDJ 67075	MEDIA CONTENT CREATION	
MDJ 67087	ADVISING YEARBOOK	
LIS 60030	PEOPLE IN THE INFORMATION ECOLOGY	
LIS 60510	DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES I: DATA FUNDAMENTALS	
LIS 60511	DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES II: INTERNET FUNDAMENTALS	
LIS 60512	DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES III: INFORMATION SYSTEMS FUNDAMENTALS	
LIS 60617	INFORMATION LITERACY FOR YOUTH	
LIS 60630	REFERENCE SOURCES AND SERVICES FOR YOUTH	
LIS 60652	FOUNDATIONS OF RECORDKEEPING IN SOCIETY	
LIS 61095	SPECIAL TOPICS IN INFORMATION STUDIES	
UX 60504	ACCESSIBILITY AND UNIVERSAL DESIGN	

**Minimum Total Credit Hours: 30**

<sup>1</sup> This is not an exhaustive list of courses. Students may choose other courses with consultation from their faculty advisor to identify the electives most relevant to their professional goals.

## Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
-	3.000

- Evidence of the creation of a digital portfolio to showcase students' deliverables and to capture their reflections as they complete the program as approved by graduate coordinator.
- No more than one-half of a graduate student's coursework may be taken in 50000-level courses.
- Grades below C are not counted toward completion of requirements for the degree.

## Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Recognize and advocate for the importance of journalism education to the future of journalism.
2. Employ best practices in journalism education.
3. Articulate the role of media in a democratic society.
4. Demonstrate fundamental journalism skills through the production of media content.
5. Analyze and engage with the dynamics of the changing contemporary media environment.
6. Discuss the fundamentals of media literacy and relate them to the context of journalism education.

## Full Description

The Master of Arts degree in Journalism Education 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 program provides continuing education opportunities to high school teachers who are responsible for teaching and advising an array of student media content, including school social media channels, yearbook, school newspaper, video and photography. The program also serves practicing journalists who are transitioning to teaching in the higher education arena.

The curriculum focuses on foundational knowledge in media and journalism, as well as pedagogical practices that students can apply to secondary and post-secondary teaching environments. The program highlights the core concepts of First Amendment press freedom, media literacy and the role of media in society — scaffolding that knowledge with content creation skills across an array of media platforms. Interwoven with those knowledge areas and skillsets are best practices in the teaching of scholastic media to high school and college students.

Students complete a culminating integrated learning experience through designated course assignments from each of the six core courses. Each of the six assignments give the student the opportunity to create a deliverable suitable for use in a classroom setting such as a lesson plan, class activity, handbook or instruction manual or other asset.