Journalism, M.J.

LEW KLEIN COLLEGE OF MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION (https://klein.temple.edu)

About the Program

The Master of Journalism program provides both introductory and advanced study for students who wish to begin or advance their careers in news and information, including broadcast and print reporters, magazine editors and writers, media managers, and those working in online news and information. Students receive instruction from award-winning media practitioners from the Philadelphia region and have the opportunity to study under a well-regarded faculty at a Research I institution. Students may find many freelance and internship opportunities in the nation's fourth largest media market.

As of Fall 2018, the M.J. degree program has been restructured to allow students to develop a broader range of skills and deeper knowledge required to work across media platforms. It does so within a curriculum and through reporting projects that focus more directly on the problems and opportunities of urban life. The M.J. requires 30 credits to be completed over the course of one year in a cohort experience. The program begins with an intensive three-week "boot camp" preparatory course offered during the Early Term in August; continues with two 12-credit terms of coursework in the Fall and Spring; and culminates in a capstone project during the Summer I academic term. In addition to the "boot camp" class and the capstone project, coursework is required on journalistic principles, editing, and law and ethics, plus two terms of intensive reporting work in an Urban Reporting Lab. The Reporting Lab allows students to work both individually and collaboratively in order to do in-depth reporting on specific urban issues.

Time Limit for Degree Completion: 4 years

Campus Location: Main, Center City

Full-Time/Part-Time Status: The degree program is expected to be completed on a full-time basis.

Study Abroad: M.J. students may participate in the London program offered by the Lew Klein College of Media and Communication in the Summer and Fall terms.

Ranking: Temple University's Master of Journalism program is the only one of its kind in the state and one of just a handful of programs in the United States. The program is proud that it provides professional training within a University liberal arts context appropriate for individuals who seek to be leaders in their field.

Areas of Specialization: Coursework is offered in communication history; law and ethics; magazine writing; news and magazine management; and news reporting for print, broadcast, and online distribution. Specialized classes are also offered in computer-assisted reporting, documentary photography, electronic information gathering, sports writing, Web design, and other areas.

Job Prospects: The program is dedicated to training professional practitioners in mass media, newspaper and broadcast reporters, magazine writers, and professionals in emerging fields such as Web design and the Internet. The program also emphasizes critical thinking, development of specialized knowledge bases, ethical concerns, and historical context.

Non-Matriculated Student Policy: Non-matriculated students may apply up to 4 credits to the program requirements with the permission of the Master of Journalism Program Director and/or the Master of Journalism Committee.

Financing Opportunities: The program offers limited Teaching and Research Assistantships, which are competitively awarded based on GRE scores, among other things. Applications for assistantships should be made at the time of application for admission and should include a statement of experience, areas of interest, and future goals; transcripts; and a curriculum vitae. Assistantships carry a stipend and full tuition remission for up to 9 credits each academic term.

Admission Requirements and Deadlines

Application Deadline:

Fall: March 1
Spring: November 1

All application materials must be received by the appropriate deadline to be eligible for assistantships and scholarships. Any application completed after a deadline may be considered for the next term of admission.

APPLY ONLINE to this graduate program.

Letters of Reference:
Number Required: 2

From Whom: Letters of recommendation should be obtained from college/university faculty members familiar with the applicant's academic competence.
**Coursework Required for Admission Consideration:** No specific courses are required for admission, but a professional background is highly recommended.

**Bachelor's Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline:** All applicants must present credentials that are the equivalent of the appropriate baccalaureate degree at Temple University.

**Statement of Goals:** Approximately 500 to 1,000 words include your interest in Temple's program; your research goals; your focus in the program; and your talents and achievements.

**Standardized Test Scores:**
GRE: Required. Scores in the 65-75% range on the verbal and quantitative sections are expected.
TOEFL: 105 iBT or 620 PBT minimum

**Resume:** Current resume required.

**Writing Sample:** Professional, published articles or papers are preferred as a writing sample.

**Transfer Credit:** Graduate credits from an accredited institution may be transferred into the M.J. program but must be a "B" or better in order to transfer. The maximum number of credits a student may transfer is 7.

**Program Requirements**

**General Program Requirements:**

*Number of Credits Required Beyond the Baccalaureate: 30*

**Required Courses:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
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<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summer II</strong></td>
<td>JRN 5301  Introduction to Urban Journalism</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Term Credit Hours</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
<td>JRN 5302  Urban Reporting Lab 1</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>JRN 5303  Journalism Concepts</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>JRN 5304  Editing the News</td>
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<td>Term Credit Hours</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
<td>JRN 5305  Urban Reporting Lab 2</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>JRN 5306  Journalism and the Public Interest</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>JRN Elective</td>
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<td>Term Credit Hours</td>
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<th>Year 2</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Summer I</strong></td>
<td>JRN 5307  Capstone Reporting Experience</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Term Credit Hours</td>
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**Total Credit Hours:** 30

**Culminating Events:**

**Capstone Project:**
JRN 5307 Capstone Reporting Experience constitutes the culminating event.

**Contacts**

**Program Web Address:**
https://klein.temple.edu/academics/graduate-programs/master-journalism

**Department Information:**
Master of Journalism Program
Journalism, M.J.

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2020 N. 13th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19122-6080
nmckenna@temple.edu
215-204-1497

Submission Address for Application Materials:
https://apply.temple.edu/Klein/

Department Contacts:
Admissions:
Nicole McKenna
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215-204-1497

Program Director:
Edward Trayes, Ph.D.
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215-204-8344

Chairperson:
Carolyn Kitch, Ph.D.
ckitch@temple.edu
215-204-5077

Courses
JRN 5001. Crit Perspectives Journ. 3 Credit Hours.
This course examines the concepts and functions of journalism in American society. Students explore underlying values associated with journalism, relationships among journalism and other social institutions, and current issues facing journalists. Students will also examine the nature of journalistic content.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

JRN 5002. Reporting and Writing I. 4 Credit Hours.
Accelerated, in-depth instruction in various forms of writing, nature of news, structuring news stories, style, information gathering, copy editing fundamentals, with emphasis on multimedia reporting.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

JRN 5004. Computer-Assisted Reporting and Research. 4 Credit Hours.
Computer-based exploration of the Internet, World Wide Web, databases and on-line libraries to develop information gathering and presentation skills. Research approaches and data analysis emphasized.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

JRN 5005. Communication Law. 3 Credit Hours.
Legal and philosophical study of government regulation of information transmission from 15th century to the present. Emphasis on legal descriptive research methods.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
JRN 5012. Reporting and Writing II. 3 Credit Hours.
Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
Pre-requisites: JRN 5002|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently.

JRN 5013. Editing the News II. 3 Credit Hours.
Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
Pre-requisites: JRN 5003|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently.

JRN 5102. International Reporting. 3 Credit Hours.
Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
Pre-requisites: JRN 5002|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently.

JRN 5121. Magazine Writing. 3 Credit Hours.
Intended for graduate students who want to write non-fiction for a variety of publications and outlets. It will examine the styles of various writers and publications; development of ideas into saleable magazine articles for major periodical publications.
Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
Pre-requisites: JRN 5002|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently.

JRN 5151. Literary Writing in Journalism. 3 Credit Hours.
This graduate-level course will examine the 50-year trend, begun by the New Journalism of the 1960s, which uses the storytelling techniques of fiction and the documentation of journalism to create works of powerfully-told emotional truth.
Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
Pre-requisites: JRN 5002|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently.

JRN 5201. The American Magazine. 4 Credit Hours.
Analysis of content, editorial policy and trends in American magazine journalism; discussion of publishing procedures; marketing, circulation, and advertising problems; reader research. Class project: create prototype issue of magazine, with prospectus, advertising, and promotional materials.
Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
Pre-requisites: JRN 5001|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently.

JRN 5211. Media Management. 4 Credit Hours.
Comparison of the organizational structures of news media; editorial content, advertising, circulation, and business aspects.
Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
Pre-requisites: JRN 5001|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently.
JRN 5212. The Entrepreneurial Journalist. 3 Credit Hours.
New opportunities exist for aggressive journalists. In this course, we'll discuss the various ways to be a content generator - from freelancing to blogging, from starting magazines and newspapers to creating multimedia web sites.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

**Pre-requisites:**
JRN 5001|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently.

JRN 5213. Solutions Journalism. 3 Credit Hours.
This course introduces students to the practice of solutions-oriented reporting, an outcome-focused form of journalism, and assesses its impact on communities and issues. Students will develop reporting projects on specific solutions-based themes.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

JRN 5221. Journalism and Mass Communication History. 3 Credit Hours.
Study of the technological and social development of communication systems from ancient to present times with emphasis on historical/descriptive research methods.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

**Pre-requisites:**
JRN 5001|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently.

JRN 5251. Mass Communication Research Methods. 4 Credit Hours.
This course offers a study of the methods for researching journalism and mass communication, including quantitative and qualitative approaches.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

JRN 5252. Models of Journalism Around the World. 3 Credit Hours.
This course introduces students to current issues, debates, and practices relating to the dissemination of news in a global context. We will first examine and discuss the key theoretical concepts associated with the creation, distribution, and reception of news in an increasingly global environment, as well as the broader debates surrounding issues of transnational influence. In the second half of the semester, we will take a closer look at the current nature and organization of media systems in various parts of the world through a number of case studies. By the end of the semester students will be familiar with the global context in which news is produced and distributed, and demonstrate a critical understanding of the challenges and concerns facing both American journalists covering international issues and foreign journalists operating in different media environments.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

**Pre-requisites:**
JRN 5001|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently.

JRN 5301. Introduction to Urban Journalism. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is a bootcamp designed to ensure all incoming students have the skills necessary to dive into the Urban Reporting Lab in the fall semester. It covers (1) News literacy: how consume news, and why. What is a news story? How does it get produced? What should it accomplish? (2) Storytelling tools: an overview of the mediums and technologies involved in multimedia storytelling.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
JRN 5302. Urban Reporting Lab 1. 6 Credit Hours.
This is a coached, multimedia news production class in which students cover urban issues, publishing their work on the lab's news site and developing areas of individual expertise. This work is continued in JRN 5305, Urban Reporting Lab 2.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

JRN 5303. Journalism Concepts. 3 Credit Hours.
This weekly seminar gives students an overview of the norms and philosophies that guide journalistic practice, with a particular emphasis on journalism's role in the social, cultural, political and historical fabric of the city. Students will learn about the professional concepts that will guide their work as journalists while also understanding how those concepts have developed over time and contribute to journalism's role in society.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

JRN 5304. Editing the News. 3 Credit Hours.
Accelerated, in-depth instruction in AP style, copy editing, legal problems of the editor, editorial judgment, accuracy, fairness, clarity, balance in copy, headline writing, fundamentals of page makeup and design, use of photography, tables, graphs, charts and maps.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

JRN 5305. Urban Reporting Lab 2. 6 Credit Hours.
This course is a continuation of Urban Reporting Lab 1. Students work together to tackle a single, urban problem, issue, or topic that the class chooses together, producing a regular stream of news to be published on a collectively owned, multimedia, data-centric class website. Students may hone a chosen specialization through this course by having a particular role in the class project.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
JRN 5302|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently.

JRN 5306. Journalism and the Public Interest. 3 Credit Hours.
This course prepares students to work in an ethical way as responsible members of their profession and their communities. It covers the ethical aspects of technological and economic change, the main legal issues that journalists face, the challenges of reporting on powerful institutions, and journalists' obligations to their subjects and audiences.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

JRN 5307. Capstone Reporting Experience. 3 Credit Hours.
In this class, students do their own independent reporting projects, within an area of specialization if appropriate. The goal is to produce a journalistic masterwork (analogous to a thesis) that will lead to professional publication.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

JRN 5601. Temple Journalism Review. 3 Credit Hours.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
(JRN 5012|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently
AND JRN 5013|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)
JRN 5602. Documentary Journalism. 3 Credit Hours.
Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: (JRN 5012|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently AND JRN 5013|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)

JRN 5603. Urban Reporting Lab. 3 Credit Hours.
Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: (JRN 5012|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently AND JRN 5013|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)

JRN 5700. Seminars in Communication. 4 Credit Hours.
Special-topic courses in a broad range of communication areas including print and broadcast news, magazines, and new technologies.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

JRN 5710. Seminars in Communication. 4 Credit Hours.
Special-topic courses in a broad range of communication areas including print and broadcast news, magazines, and new technologies.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

JRN 5720. Seminars in Communication. 4 Credit Hours.
Special-topic courses in a broad range of communication areas including print and broadcast news, magazines, and new technologies.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

JRN 5730. Seminars in Communication. 3 Credit Hours.
Special-topic courses in a broad range of communication areas including print and broadcast news, magazines, and new technologies.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

JRN 5740. Seminars in Communication. 4 Credit Hours.
Special-topic courses in a broad range of communication areas including print and broadcast news, magazines, and new technologies.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

JRN 5750. Seminars in Communication. 4 Credit Hours.
Special-topic courses in a broad range of communication areas including print and broadcast news, magazines, and new technologies.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

JRN 5760. Seminars in Communication. 4 Credit Hours.
Special-topic courses in a broad range of communication areas including print and broadcast news, magazines, and new technologies.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.
JRN 5770. Seminars in Communication. 3 Credit Hours.
Special-topic courses in a broad range of communication areas including print and broadcast news, magazines, and new technologies.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

JRN 5780. Seminars in Communication. 4 Credit Hours.
Special-topic courses in a broad range of communication areas including print and broadcast news, magazines, and new technologies.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

JRN 5790. Seminars in Communication. 3 Credit Hours.
Special-topic courses in a broad range of communication areas including print and broadcast news, magazines, and new technologies.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

JRN 5800. Seminars in Communication. 3 Credit Hours.
Special-topic courses in a broad range of communication areas including print and broadcast news, magazines, and new technologies.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

JRN 5810. Seminars in Communication. 2 Credit Hours.
Special-topic courses in a broad range of communication areas including print and broadcast news, magazines, and new technologies.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

JRN 5820. Seminars in Communication. 2 Credit Hours.
Special-topic courses in a broad range of communication areas including print and broadcast news, magazines, and new technologies.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

JRN 5890. Seminars in Communication Abroad. 6 Credit Hours.
Subject matter and location vary each semester. Please consult the Course Schedule for further information.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

JRN 5982. Directed Projects. 1 to 8 Credit Hour.
Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

JRN 5983. Directed Readings Comm. 1 to 4 Credit Hour.
Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

JRN 5986. Internship. 1 to 4 Credit Hour.
Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.