

Journalism MJ

LEW KLEIN COLLEGE OF MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION

Learn more about the Master of Journalism in Journalism.

About the Program

Temple's one-year Master of Journalism program directly engages with the rich and diverse communities of Philadelphia. Coursework and reporting projects focus on the problems and opportunities of urban life. Hands-on multimedia work is combined with the study of journalism's evolving roles and practices. Students learn by experiencing what it is like to work in today's ever-changing media environment. In recognition of the exciting evolution underway in the news industry, the program is designed to help current and aspiring journalists develop into engaged and innovative professionals.

The program benefits greatly from its location at Temple University in the fourth-largest media market in the United States, one ripe with innovation. Philadelphia is full of journalistic initiatives, including startups and nonprofits that are rethinking metropolitan, niche and ethnic media. Students interact with journalists and innovators from these organizations. Students take advantage of rich reporting opportunities in the Philadelphia area, a city with a vibrant culture, a highly diverse population, and significant challenges common to other cities, including crime, housing, development controversies, economic inequity, educational equity and race relations. The Urban Reporting Lab and the master's research project provide opportunities for MJ students to tackle such problems in innovative ways as they pursue their graduate education and seek to make a difference.

The one-year, 30-credit program is designed to provide rigorous training as a cohort experience, encouraging students to work together and learn from one another as well as Master of Journalism faculty, local journalists and other innovators. This process begins with an immersive experience in Philadelphia communities before the first academic term and ends with a master's research project in the summer term in which students design and complete a journalistic masterwork. The program requires three elective courses to be taken from among graduate and upper-level undergraduate offerings in journalism and across Klein College. Students may choose to develop a specialization through these electives, including specializations in data and investigative journalism, multimedia journalism and sports journalism.

Time Limit for Degree Completion: 4 years

Campus Location: Main

Full-Time/Part-Time Status: While the degree program can be completed on a full- or part-time basis, full-time enrollment is strongly encouraged.

Areas of Specialization: Coursework is demanding and prepares students to work as professional journalists in the media of their choice. Specialized training is available in broadcast journalism, community journalism, entrepreneurial journalism, investigative reporting, podcasting and various forms of digital journalism. Students develop a specialization through their elective courses and a self-guided master's research project.

Job Prospects: The program is dedicated to training professional practitioners in journalism and media careers. Former students have also found success as freelancers and entrepreneurs.

Non-Matriculated Student Policy: Non-matriculated students are encouraged to begin with introductory and required courses. If accepted to the program, those courses may be applied toward the degree program, provided grade requirements have been met. Consistent with Graduate School policy, students are permitted to take up to 9 credits before deciding whether to apply formally to the program.

Financing Opportunities: Merit scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis by the admissions committee.

Admission Requirements and Deadlines

Application Deadline:

Fall: February 15

Admission is open for the Fall term only. Applications are accepted after the deadline, but late applications cannot be guaranteed merit scholarship consideration.

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, professional supervisors or others familiar with the applicant's academic and professional competence. At least one letter should be from an academic reference.

Bachelor's Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline: A baccalaureate degree is required for admission. Applicants with undergraduate degrees in fields other than journalism and communication are welcome provided they can demonstrate sufficient interest in and proficiency with journalistic communication and practice.

Statement of Goals: In approximately 1,000 words, present your strongest statement, which integrates your answers to the prompts below into a coherent essay, to allow us to assess your institutional fit. Toward this end, please review the descriptions of our program, curriculum and faculty, also incorporating this content into your statement. The prompts include:

- Your interest in journalism and your view of its place in society;
- Your career goals in journalism; and
- Your interests, experiences, and academic or professional achievements that you bring to the program.

Standardized Test Scores:

GRE: Optional. Scores submitted are preferred to be at least 65% on the verbal section with a writing score of at least 3.5. If you elect to not submit GRE scores, a writing sample is required.

Applicants who earned their baccalaureate degree from an institution where the language of instruction was other than English, with the exception of those who subsequently earned a master's degree at a U.S. institution, must report scores for a standardized test of English that meet these minimums:

- TOEFL iBT: 105
- IELTS Academic: 7.0
- Duolingo: 110

Resume: Current resume or curriculum vitae is required.

Writing Sample: If you elect to not submit GRE scores, you are required to submit a writing sample, which is otherwise strongly encouraged. Published journalistic works (e.g., in professional outlets or college media) are preferred. You may also submit a formal academic paper from your undergraduate studies that represents your best writing. In this case, please indicate on a cover sheet when, for what course, and at which institution the paper was produced.

Transfer Credit: Graduate credits from an accredited institution may be transferred into the MJ program, subject to approval of the Master of Journalism Committee. Requests to transfer credits must be submitted during the first term of matriculation so that the student's future curriculum can be planned. The maximum number of credits a student may transfer is 6.

Program Requirements

General Program Requirements:

Number of Credits Required Beyond the Baccalaureate: 30

Required Courses:

Year 1		
Summer II		Credit Hours
JRN 5301	Introduction to Urban Journalism	3
Credit Hours		3
Fall		
JRN 5302	Urban Reporting Lab 1	3
JRN 5303	Journalism Concepts	3
JRN 5308	Multiplatform Journalism	3
JRN Elective		3
Credit Hours		12
Spring		
JRN 5305	Urban Reporting Lab 2	3
JRN 5306	Journalism and the Public Interest	3
Two JRN Electives		6
Credit Hours		12

Year 2		
Summer I		
JRN 9995	Master's Research Project	3
Credit Hours		3
Total Credit Hours		30

Culminating Event:*Capstone Project:*

JRN 9995 Master's Research Project constitutes the culminating event. Students complete an independent reporting project that results in a journalistic masterwork analogous to a thesis that will be pitched to a professional news organization, creating the foundation for a portfolio of published work.

Contacts**Program Web Address:**

<https://www.temple.edu/academics/degree-programs/journalism-mj-co-jrn-mj>

Department Information:

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Submission Address for Application Materials:

<https://apply.temple.edu/Klein/>

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