

Journalism Area of Emphasis: MA Thesis Program Planning Form

Student: _____

Advisor/Major Professor: _____

Minimum of 31 credit hours to graduate (eleven 3-credit hour courses + 1-credit hour GradFIRST)

PREREQUISITES

If you do not have a journalism degree or professional journalism experience, you must take this course:

- JRMC 7340: Graduate Newsroom _____

If you have not completed a course in media law, you must take this course:

- JRLC 7040: Law of Mass Communication _____
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If you have not received AP Stats credit or completed a statistics course as an undergraduate, you must take a graduate-level or cross-listed statistics course from any department. (We recommend ERSB 6300 or STATS 6210. You can take an undergraduate statistics course, but you will not receive graduate credit hours.) _____

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA REQUIREMENT: GradFIRST (1 CREDIT)

You must complete a 1-credit GradFIRST seminar during the Fall or Spring semester of your FIRST year, unless you are enrolled in an exempt program. The only exempt Grady program is the online MA in Emerging Media.

- GRSC 7001 _____
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CORE COURSES (9 Credit hours)

You must take these two courses:

- JRMC 8000: Proseminar in Mass Communication _____
- JRMC 8010 or JRMC 8010e: Research Methodology in Mass Communication _____

You must take one of these courses:

- JRMC 9020: Quantitative Research in Mass Communication _____
- JRMC 9030: Critical, Cultural, and Naturalistic Approaches to Mass Communication _____

CONCENTRATION COURSES – AREA #1 (6 credit hours)

You must take, at minimum, any two of these graduate-level courses:

- JRMC 8020: Public Opinion _____
- JRMC 8030: Mass Communication and Society _____
- JRMC 8050: Research and Directed Readings in Mass Communication _____
- JRMC 8225: Media Images _____
- JRMC 8350: Special Topics in Journalism _____
 - *Examples:* Media Psychology; Historical Research Methods; Controversies in Covering Race, Women, Diversity, and Power in Media _____
- Other JRMC 8000-level courses _____
 - *Examples:* JRMC 8160 (Special Topics in Public Relations), JRMC 8170 (Risk Communication), JRMC 8240 (Special Topics in Entertainment Media), JRMC 8130 (Introduction to Data Mining and Analytics) _____
- With permission of instructor, 9000-level courses _____

CONCENTRATION COURSES – AREA #2 (6-9 credit hours)

You must take, at minimum, any two of these split-level JOUR courses:

- JOUR 7090: Newsource _____
- JOUR 7091: Reporting IV: In Depth Projects _____
- JOUR 7160: Advanced Photojournalism _____
- JOUR 7190: Feature Writing _____
- JOUR 7280: Advanced Video Journalism _____
- JOUR 7290: Financial Reporting _____
- JOUR 7320: Journalism Ethics and Diversity _____
- JOUR 7370: Documentary Photojournalism _____
- JOUR 7380: Data Gathering and Visualization _____
- JOUR 7390: Investigative Reporting _____
- JOUR 7420: Credibility, the News Media, and Public Trust _____
- JOUR 7490: Intro to Podcasting _____
- JOUR 7520: Visual News Literacy _____
- JOUR 7590: Critical Writing _____
- JOUR 7640: Business of News _____
- JOUR 7570: Travel Journalism Study Abroad _____

M.A. THESIS COURSE HOURS (3-6 credit hours)

- **Recommended:** JRMC 7000: MA Thesis Hours (fall semester of thesis year) _____
- **Required:** JRMC 7300: MA Final Thesis Hours (final semester of program) _____

OTHER GRADY COLLEGE or COGNATE ELECTIVE COURSES (3-6 Credit hours)

Other Grady College graduate courses include JRMC 7000s or 8000s level courses, ADPR 7000s level courses, or EMST 6000s or 7000s level courses. Cognate courses are any **graduate-level courses** outside of Grady College. This is your chance to take graduate courses in other programs, such as the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, the Terry College of Business, the School of Public and International Affairs, the School of Law, the College of Public Health, the Odum School of Ecology, and the College of Family and Consumer Sciences. Courses must be at the 6000-level or higher to count toward your program.

You must take, at minimum, Grady College or Cognate elective two graduate-level courses (3 credit hours each).

Course one _____
Course two _____

Additional Things to Know

- All Grady College graduate courses are 3 credit hours, while GRSC (GradFIRST) is 1 credit hour.
- It is permissible to take multiple sections of special topics courses, such as “JRMC 8350: Special Topics in Journalism,” if the sections have different titles and cover different topics.
- On occasion, some Grady College graduate courses may be offered online. This is particularly true for Maymester and summer courses. Online courses have an “e” at the end of the course number (e.g., JOUR 7320e). For credit purposes, an online course is considered the same as its in-person version.
- You may not count the *undergraduate* version of a split-level or cross-listed class for graduate credit (e.g., if you were enrolled in JOUR 5190 in the split-level course JOUR 5190/7190, you would receive undergraduate credit). At the same time, you may count the *graduate* version of a split-level or cross-listed class for graduate credit (e.g., if you were enrolled in JOUR 7190 in the split-level course JOUR 5190/7190, you would receive graduate credit). Also, to be clear, if you completed a particular split-level class for undergraduate credit (e.g., JOUR 5190), you may not complete the graduate version (e.g., JOUR 7190) for graduate credit.
- All 9000-level courses require permission of your advisor for enrollment.