Journalism Concentration: MA Thesis Program Planning Form

Student: ____________________________________________________________

Advisor/Major Professor: _____________________________________________

Minimum of 31 credit hours to graduate (nine 3-credit hour courses + 3 thesis hours + 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

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 ERSH 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 in the fall or spring semester of your FIRST year, unless you are enrolled in an exempt program (the only Grady one is the online MA in Emerging Media).

- GRSC 7001

CORE COURSES (6 CREDITS)

You must take these two courses:

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

AREA OF CONCENTRATION COURSES (15 CREDITS)

You must take one of these courses:

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

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

- JRMC 7355: Health and Medical Journalism
- JRMC 8020: Public Opinion
- JRMC 8030: Mass Communication and Society
- JRMC 8050: Research and Directed Readings in Mass Communication
- JRMC 8350: Special Topics in Journalism
  - Examples: Media Psychology; Historical Research Methods; Media Images; Controversies in Covering Race, Women, Diversity, and Power in Media

Last Updated July 9, 2024
You must take, at minimum, any two split-level JOUR courses, such as:

- JOUR 7160: Advanced Photojournalism
- JOUR 7190: Feature Writing
- JOUR 7280: Advanced Video Journalism
- JOUR 7320: Journalism Ethics and Diversity
- JOUR 7370: Documentary Photojournalism
- JOUR 7380: Data Gathering and Visualization
- JOUR 7420: Credibility, the News Media, and Public Trust
- JOUR 7590: Critical Writing
- JOUR 7640: Business of News

THESIS COURSE HOURS (3-6 CREDITS)

Recommended: JRMC 7000: MA Thesis Hours (fall semester of thesis year)
Required: JRMC 7300: MA Final Thesis Hours (spring semester of thesis year)

COGNATE ELECTIVE COURSES (3-6 CREDITS)

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, one graduate-level course (3 credit hours) outside of Grady College.

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 course 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 course 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 course 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.