

# JOURNALISM-BA PUBLIC AFFAIRS JOURNALISM (PAJ)

2020-2021 Academic Year

Revised 5/2020



This program leads to a tagged Bachelor of Arts in Journalism degree. Requirements for students admitted to the major SU12 and later. **Nine (9) COMM courses totaling at least 32 credits** are required. A grade of C- or better is required in all courses in the major. Maintaining a 2.0 GPA in the major is required after admission to the program.

## Program Area Description

Public Affairs Journalism teaches you how to investigate and disseminate news. Our multimedia focus prepares you to integrate this training with the skills necessary for packaging news stories with word, still photo, audio, and video. As a journalism student, you also are taught to consider the context in which you will practice in the field, including an understanding of the social, legal, and ethical implications that all journalists encounter.

To emphasize applied learning, students are provided extensive skills training, further reinforced through experience at *The Lantern*, completion of a minor, and a required news-related internship.

**Required Pre-Major courses: 6 credit hours (these courses do not count in the major).** All students must complete two pre-major courses. **A grade of C- or better is required in both courses** for a Major & Specialization Application to be considered. Admission is competitive and an online application is required. Please see [comm.osu.edu](http://comm.osu.edu) for application deadlines. \*Journalism DirectAdmit students should contact their advisor for information about the program review process.

COMM 1100      Communication in Society  
COMM 1101      History of Communication

Credits	Grade	Term
3		
3		

## 1. Core Requirements (19 credit hours). All five courses are required.

COMM 2221      Media Writing and Editing  
COMM 2223      Lantern Practicum  
COMM 3226      Multimedia Journalism  
COMM 3404      Media Law and Ethics  
COMM 4221<sup>^</sup>      Data Journalism in Enterprise Reporting  
<sup>^</sup>Prereq of Comm 3160/3163 is **highly recommended**

Credits	Grade	Term
4		
4		
4		
3		
4		

## 2. Research Method Requirement (4 credit hours). Choose one of the following:

COMM 3160<sup>^</sup>      Communication Research Methods  
COMM 3163<sup>^</sup>      Communication Industry Research Methods

Credits	Grade	Term
4		
4		

<sup>^</sup>Prereq: Stats 1350, 1450, or equivalent

Contact Information: School of Communication Advising Office, 3033 Derby Hall, 154 N. Oval Mall, Columbus, OH 43210  
614-292-8444 [comm.osu.edu](http://comm.osu.edu)

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### 3. Critical Thinking Skills (6 credit hours). Choose at least 2 from this list.

COMM 3402	Crime and News Media
COMM 3440	Mass Communication & Society
COMM 3597.01	International Perspectives on Communication
COMM 3597.02	Media & Terrorism
COMM 4240	Science Communication
COMM 4814	Political Communication
COMM 4820	Public Opinion and Communication

Credits	Grade	Term
3		
3		
3		
3		
3		
3		
3		

### 4. Required Internship (3 credit hours).

COMM 4191*	Internship (1-3 credits, repeatable)
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Credits	Grade	Term
3		

**TOTAL HOURS** (minimum 32 credit hours) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Add credits from sections 1, 2, 3, and 4)

### 5. Required Minor (required credit hours vary by program: minimum 12 credit hours).

Students should declare the minor by the end of their first semester in the major. Students will select an approved minor from this list in order to develop knowledge in a content area: **Business, Business Analytics, Campaigns and Elections, Capital Program, Criminology & Criminal Justice Studies, Economics, Geographic Information Science, Geography, International Studies, Media Production & Analysis, Political Science, Public Policy and World Politics.**

Students who feel that a different Arts & Sciences minor will better relate to their journalism career goals must receive approval from the School of Communication before the minor is declared. A written petition detailing the way in which the unapproved minor provides domain-specific expertise that aligns with career goals must be submitted. Not all petitions are approved.

### Recommended Electives (Optional, not required).

COMM 2210	News Design
COMM 2511	Visual Communication Design
COMM 3189**	Freelance Journalism Experience
COMM 3225	Photojournalism
COMM 3403	Sports Media
COMM 3405	Lantern TV
COMM 3425	Media Management
COMM 4202	Feature Writing
COMM 4406	Development of Mass Media in America

Credits	Grade	Term
3		
3		
1-3		
3		
3		
3		
3		
3		
3		

\*Repeatable up to 9 credits. Only 3 credits count towards major.  
 \*\*Repeatable up to 9 credits