JOURNALISM Section 31.180

Faculty

Chair

BRIAN GABRIAL, PhD University of Minnesota; Associate Professor

Distinguished Professor Emeritus ENN RAUDSEPP, PhD McGill University

Professors MIKE GASHER, PhD Concordia University LINDA KAY, MA Concordia University

Associate Professors LISA LYNCH, PhD Rutgers University JAMES McLEAN, PhD Concordia University DAVID SECKO, PhD University of British Columbia

Assistant Professors ANDREA HUNTER, PhD Queen's University STANTON PADDOCK, MA Ohio University

Senior Lecturer
PETER DOWNIE, MA Concordia University

For the complete list of faculty members, please consult the Department website.

Location

Loyola Campus
Communication Studies and Journalism Building, Room: CJ 3.230
514-848-2424, ext. 2465
Email: Sandra.Cochrane@concordia.ca

Department Objectives

Journalism studies are designed to help students become the intelligent and versatile reporters and writers upon which society depends for the exercise of its democratic functions. Above all, journalism is an intellectual activity with rigorous standards for gathering, processing, and disseminating information. To help students become knowledgeable and versatile reporters and writers, the Department of Journalism offers a professional education that combines theory and practice.

Writing and production workshops emphasize the practical, simulating the assignments of working journalists. Newsroom standards are universally applied. Complementing these courses are lectures and seminars which analyze the social and political contexts in which journalism is practised.

Admission and Graduation Requirements

Enrolment in the workshops in the Department of Journalism is limited and depends on the applicants' successful completion of the admission procedures outlined in the following paragraphs. All applicants should apply through the Concordia University Admissions Application Centre. Applicants must also submit a separate application to the Department by March 1 to make an appointment for a test of English proficiency. More information can be found at journalism.concordia.ca/undergraduateprograms. A student must achieve a final mark of "C" or better in the reporting workshops in order to proceed to the next level. To graduate with a Major or Specialization in Journalism, a student must demonstrate a working knowledge of French. Tests of oral proficiency in French are administered by the Département d'études françaises on behalf of the Department of Journalism, which is responsible for the final evaluation of each student's competence.

Programs

Students are responsible for satisfying their particular degree requirements.

The superscript indicates credit value.

These programs are designed to prepare graduates for the English-language media.

A limited number of students who have been admitted to the Major in Journalism program may be allowed to register in the Science College, with a view to combining a basic understanding of science with a training in journalism.

BA Specialization in Journalism/Textual

Stage I

18 JOUR 2016, 2023, 2053, 2216

Stages II & III

- JOUR 3023, 3033, 3093, 3163, 3663 15
- JOUR 4043, 4283, 4443
- 6 Chosen from JOUR 402³, 420³, 435³, 436³, 437³, 442³, 450³, 451³, 463³, 498³
- 12 General-Knowledge Credits

Category 1: Politics and History

3 Chosen from HIST 2053; POLI 2043, 3513, 3563

Category 2: Society and Culture

3 Chosen from ENGL 2333; PHIL 2013, 2103; RELI 2143; SOCI 2033

Category 3: Economics

3 Chosen from ECON 2013, 2033, 2523

Category 4: Science

3 Chosen from BIOL 2003; CHEM 2083, 2093; INTE 2963

BA Specialization in Journalism/Audiovisual 60

Stage I

JOUR 2016, 2023, 2053, 2216 18

Stages II & III

- 15 JOUR 3023, 3163, 3213, 3303, 3663
- JOUR 4213, 4283, 4443
- Chosen from JOUR 4023, 4203, 4323, 4353, 4363, 4373, 4423, 4503, 4513, 4633, 4983
- General-Knowledge Credits

Category 1: Politics and History

3 Chosen from HIST 205³; POLI 204³, 351³, 356³

Category 2: Society and Culture

3 Chosen from ENGL 2333; PHIL 2013, 2103; RELI 2143; SOCI 2033

Category 3: Economics

3 Chosen from ECON 2013, 2033, 2523

Category 4: Science

3 Chosen from BIOL 2003; CHEM 2083, 2093; INTE 2963

72 BA Specialization in Journalism/Multi-Platform

Stage I

JOUR 2016, 2023, 2053, 2216

Stage II

21 JOUR 302³, 303³, 309³, 316³, 321³, 330³, 366³

Stage III

- JOUR 4043, 4213, 4283, 4443 12
- 9 Chosen from JOUR 402³, 420³, 432³, 435³, 436³, 437³, 442³, 450³, 451³, 463³, 498³
- 12 General-Knowledge Credits

Category 1: Politics and History

3 Chosen from HIST 205³; POLI 204³, 351³, 356³

Category 2: Society and Culture

3 Chosen from ENGL 2333; PHIL 2013, 2103; RELI 2143; SOCI 2033

Category 3: Economics

3 Chosen from ECON 2013, 2033, 2523

Category 4: Science

3 Chosen from BIOL 2003; CHEM 2083, 2093; INTE 2963

45 BA Major in Journalism

NOTE: To graduate with a Major in Journalism students are required to complete a minor or a major in another subject. Stage I

18 JOUR 2016, 2023, 2053, 2216

Textual Option

Stage II

15 JOUR 3023, 3033, 3093, 3163, 3663

Stage III

- 9 JOUR 404³, 428³, 444³
- 3 Chosen from JOUR 402³, 420³, 435³, 436³, 437³, 442³, 450³, 451³, 463³, 498³

Audiovisual Option

Stage II

15 JOUR 302³, 316³, 321³, 330³, 366³

Stage III

- 9 JOUR 421³, 428³, 444³
- 3 Chosen from JOUR 402³, 420³, 432³, 435³, 436³, 437³, 442³, 450³, 451³, 463³, 498³

Journalism Co-operative Program

Director

ANDREA HUNTER, Assistant Professor

The Journalism co-operative program is offered to full-time students who are enrolled in the BA specialization program in the Department of Journalism. Students who meet the academic requirements for co-op are eligible to apply. The academic content is very similar to that of the regular programs, with some specific recommendations for courses to improve the students' job skills. Work terms provide co-op students with the opportunity to gain practical journalism experience with a variety of employers. While most of the positions will be in the Montreal area, students must be prepared to work in other parts of Canada. Please refer to §24 for the schedule of study and work terms and the full description of admission requirements.

Courses

Written work in writing and reporting workshop courses is in English; please consult the Department.

Because of the renumbering of courses in the Department, students should see §200.1 for a list of equivalent courses.

JOUR 201 Introduction to Journalism: Text (6 credits)

Prerequisite: Enrolment in a Journalism program. This course lays the foundation for all subsequent reporting and writing courses. Students learn how to do library and online research, structure and conduct interviews, and write news and feature stories for print and online outlets. Emphasis is placed on reporting stories in the community. Practical out-of-class assignments use the city of Montreal as a laboratory.

JOUR 202 Digital Tools for Journalists (3 credits)

Prerequisite: Enrolment in a Journalism program. Students are introduced to a range of basic tools and concepts in multimedia journalism, from basic HTML and web design to the use of web 2.0 tools to author and publish video, audio, and still photography online.

JOUR 205 Principles of Journalistic Thought and Practice (3 credits)

This course provides a survey of the foundational ideas about journalism and its role in society, from the time of an emergent press to the present. It addresses received ideas about journalism's place in democratic society as well as current critical thought.

JOUR 210 The Media in Quebec (3 credits)

This course considers the current reality of the Quebec news media as they have been informed by the history of journalism in Quebec. The course situates the media in Quebec within broader philosophical and sociological currents informing the understanding of journalism as an institution. Some of the reading material for this course is in French.

NOTE: Students who have received credit for JOUR 305 may not take this course for credit.

JOUR 215 Contemporary News Media (3 credits)

This course introduces students to the increasingly complex structures of modern media, and considers them in the context of journalism ideals. It examines the organizations, practices and problems of news media, focusing on key functions in day-to-day activities. In any given year, it may explore in detail a particular development or problem in the news media.

JOUR 221 Introduction to Journalism: Audiovisual (6 credits)

Prerequisite: Enrolment in a Journalism program. This course introduces students to the fundamentals of news across audio and visual platforms (radio, television, and online journalism); focusing on research, story development, writing, recording and editing. It also introduces students to the historical development of radio and television in Canada.

NOTE: Students who have received credit for JOUR 200 or 203 may not take this course for credit.

JOUR 298 Special Topics in Journalism (3 credits)

Specific topics for this course, and prerequisites relevant in each case, will be stated in the Undergraduate Class Schedule.

JOUR 302 Research Methods for Journalism (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 201 and 221. This course introduces students to research methods with a particular focus on primary sources, such as official documents, legal and financial records, access-to-information requests, electronic databases, as well as in-depth interviews. These methods are treated as both sources of story ideas and as essential elements of good reporting.

JOUR 303 Feature Writing (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 302. This course is designed to help students develop and enhance their writing abilities, preparing for the broadest range of journalistic feature writing, from brief colour stories and profiles to in-depth articles. It consolidates interview techniques and introduces a variety of writing approaches.

JOUR 309 Copy-Editing and Layout (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 201 and 221. This course develops students' copy-editing skills and introduces them to the fundamentals of page layout. While the editing component of the course is designed primarily for students in textual journalism, the techniques employed are applicable to all media forms.

JOUR 316 Law and Ethics in Journalism (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 201 and 221. This course looks at issues and practices in journalism within the contexts of law and ethics. It aims to provide students with an understanding of professional standards and legal norms, together with a strong foundation in ethical reasoning.

NOTE: Students who have received credit for JOUR 317 or COMS 453 may not take this course for credit.

JOUR 321 Video Journalism (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 201 and 221. This workshop course advances videography skills introduced in JOUR 221. Students refine reporting, writing, recording and editing skills in a production context.

NOTE: Students who have received credit for JOUR 336 or 339 may not take this course for credit.

JOUR 330 Radio Newsroom (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 221. This course seeks to replicate the working conditions and journalistic expectations of a radio newsroom. Students assume various journalistic positions including assignment editor, reporter, and newsreader, working to deadline to produce a live radio newscast.

JOUR 366 Photojournalism (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 201 and 221. This is a workshop in the fundamentals of photojournalism, where students learn how to apply the theory and aesthetics of news photography to telling stories through pictures. Using digital cameras and technology, students perform a variety of exercises and assignments to help them master the techniques used in planning, taking, and laying out news photographs.

NOTE: Students who have received credit for JOUR 466 may not take this course for credit.

JOUR 398 Special Topics in Journalism (3 credits)

Specific topics for this course, and prerequisites relevant in each case, will be stated in the Undergraduate Class Schedule.

JOUR 402 Specialist Reporting (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 302 or permission of the Department. This workshop course focuses on a specified topic area each term (identified in the Undergraduate Class Schedule). It introduces students to the "beat," the particular research, reporting, and analytical demands of the specialty topic and the institutions which form the basis of this reporting specialty.

JOUR 404 Magazine Writing (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 303. This workshop is designed for those students who want to further develop a set of research and writing skills geared specifically to the magazine market. Students produce magazine articles of publishable quality and shape the stories to fit the needs of a particular magazine by studying the overall market in depth.

JOUR 420 Gender, Diversity and Journalism (3 credits)

Prerequisite: 60 credits or permission of the Department. This course focuses on gender and diversity issues in journalism, ranging from the historical context to more contemporary material. It addresses the ways in which gender affects journalism as both a practice and an institution.

NOTE: Students who have received credit for JOUR 320 or for this topic under a JOUR 398 number may not take this course for credit.

JOUR 421 Advanced Television Journalism (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 321. This workshop focuses on how to produce a television news and current affairs program. Students produce a weekly television program and learn to work as part of a news team by performing all the functions behind and in front of the camera.

JOUR 428 Multi-Platform Journalism (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 202 and 302. This course further explores the theory and practice of the authoring and online publication of text, audio, video and informational graphics. Working in groups, students create multimedia "packages" and work collectively to publish an online presentation of class work at the end of the term.

NOTE: Students who have received credit for this topic under a JOUR 498 number may not take this course for credit.

JOUR 432 Documentary Journalism (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 321. This course is for students who wish to explore long-form journalism in sound and pictures, in particular, the television current-affairs documentary. Through assignments, class discussions, and exposure to notable examples of the form, students learn the fundamentals of documentary production including story development and treatment, cinematographic style, interviewing, editing, and presentation.

JOUR 435 Alternative News Media (3 credits)

Prerequisite: 60 credits or permission of the Department. This course considers the alternative news organizations in a variety of media forms. It examines both historical and present-day examples in the context of an expanding and diversifying mediascape. NOTE: Students who have received credit for this topic under a JOUR 298 number may not take this course for credit.

JOUR 436 Citizen Journalism (3 credits)

Prerequisite: 60 credits or permission of the Department. This course considers the challenges to mainstream journalism and addresses the particularities of citizen journalism, including its sourcing and presentation strategies, and organizational structures. Students learn how to apply basic technologies involved in citizen journalism.

NOTE: Students who have received credit for this topic under a JOUR 398 number may not take this course for credit.

JOUR 437 Turning Points in Journalism History (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 205. By concentrating on seminal moments reflected in a range of news media forms, this course examines technological, sociocultural, political, and historical trends that have contributed to journalism's development as a set of complex practices. Special attention is given to innovative journalists who have advanced the field.

NOTE: Students who have received credit for JOUR 332 may not take this course for credit.

JOUR 442 International Journalism (3 credits)

Prerequisite: 60 credits or permission of the Department. This course examines cross-cultural journalism practices as they pertain to both international news coverage and local reportage in a multicultural setting. The course asks students to apply basic theoretical concepts to concrete case studies of the news.

JOUR 444 Critical Approaches to Journalism (3 credits)

Prerequisite: 60 credits or permission of the Department. This course introduces students to a scholarly critique of journalism, both as a practice and as an institution. By interrogating specific readings, students are encouraged to consider the journalist as a cultural producer operating within overlapping social, political, and economic contexts.

JOUR 450 Journalism Practicum (3 credits)

Prerequisite: 60 credits and enrolment in a Journalism program. Students who have demonstrated ability, near the end of their program, undertake a practicum at a recognized media outlet, under the supervision of a senior journalist and with permission of the Department's undergraduate program director.

JOUR 451 *Independent Study* (3 credits)

Prerequisite: 60 credits and enrolment in a Journalism program. Students who have demonstrated ability may, near the end of their program, undertake an independent study on a topic not otherwise covered by the program, under the direction of one or more faculty members.

JOUR 463 Literary Journalism (3 credits)

Prerequisite: 60 credits or permission of the Department. This course explores the literary value of selected, seminal journalistic writings by examining the work of journalists, both past and present, as well as other non-fiction writers, including those in Canada, U.S., U.K., and elsewhere. Students will appreciate how literary styles and conventions can enhance journalistic practices.

JOUR 498 Advanced Special Topics in Journalism (3 credits)

Specific topics for this course, and prerequisites relevant in each case, will be stated in the Undergraduate Class Schedule.