

Faculty

Chair

DAVID SECKO, PhD *University of British Columbia*; Associate Professor

Distinguished Professor Emeritus

ENN RAUDSEPP, PhD *McGill University*

Professor

LINDA KAY, MA *Concordia University*

Associate Professors

BRIAN GABRIAL, PhD *University of Minnesota*

JAMES McLEAN, PhD *Concordia University*

Assistant Professor

ANDREA HUNTER, PhD *Queen's University*

Lecturers

CONRAD DUROSEAU, BA *McGill University*

LEONARD GERVAIS, BA *Concordia University*

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

Location

Loyola Campus

Communication Studies and Journalism Building, Room: CJ 3.230

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Department Objectives

The Journalism program is designed to produce intelligent, thoughtful, and versatile journalists and writers who engage citizens in a democratic society, helping them make informed decisions about their communities. Above all, journalism is a rigorous intellectual activity with professional standards for gathering, processing, and disseminating information. The Department of Journalism offers a professional education that combines writing and production workshops, requiring students to complete real-world assignments according to professional and ethical standards, with lectures and seminars that critically examine the social and political contexts in which journalism is produced.

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 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.

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 205³, 206³, 207³, 208³, 209³, 216³

Stage II

6 JOUR 302³, 321³

6 Chosen from JOUR 303³, 309³, 310³, 325³, 330³, 335³, 398³

Stage III

6 JOUR 443³, 444³

9 Chosen from JOUR 402³, 404³, 421³, 432³, 437³, 442³, 445³, 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 major 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.

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 206 Introduction to Reporting (3 credits)

Prerequisite: Enrolment in the Journalism program. This workshop 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 digital outlets. Students learn Canadian Press style.

NOTE: Students who have received credit for JOUR 201 may not take this course for credit.

JOUR 207 Introduction to Multimedia (3 credits)

Prerequisite: Enrolment in the Journalism program. This workshop course introduces students to the use of technology across all digital news platforms, including audio and visual equipment and software. It focuses on the development of the necessary professional, technical and aesthetic skills to produce editorially sound audio and visual stories. Students are expected to master the use of cameras, recording equipment, and editing software as well as basic digital tools for journalists.

NOTE: Students who have received credit for JOUR 200, 203 or 221 may not take this course for credit.

JOUR 208 Intermediate Reporting (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 206 and 207. This workshop course builds on reporting, writing and research fundamentals with increased emphasis on reporting stories in the community. Practical out-of-class assignments focus on the city of Montreal. Students are expected to report on public events, conduct interviews, and write news and feature stories for print and digital outlets.

NOTE: Students who have received credit for JOUR 201 may not take this course for credit.

JOUR 209 Intermediate Multimedia (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 206 and 207. This workshop course expands on technical and editorial fundamentals with increased emphasis on the use of digital news technology in journalistic storytelling. Students also learn the basics of web layout and design, CMS, and writing formats for these news platforms. Students strengthen their skills by producing multimedia stories using the city of Montreal as their focus.

NOTE: Students who have received credit for JOUR 221 may not take this course for credit.

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 216 Law and Ethics in Journalism (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 206 and 207. 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 316, 317 or COMS 453 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, are stated in the Undergraduate Class Schedule.

JOUR 302 Reporting and Research Methods for Journalism (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 206, 207, 208 and 209. 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 206, 207, 208 and 209. This workshop course is designed to help students develop and enhance their writing abilities, preparing for the broadest range of long-form journalism, from brief colour stories and profiles to in-depth and long-form articles. It consolidates interview techniques and introduces a variety of writing approaches, including long-form journalism.

JOUR 309 Editing and Page Design (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 206, 207, 208 and 209. This workshop 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 journalism, the techniques employed are applicable to all media forms.

JOUR 310 Gender, Diversity and Journalism (3 credits)

Prerequisite: 30 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 and diversity affect journalism as both a practice and an institution.

NOTE: Students who have received credit for JOUR 320, 420 or for this topic under a JOUR 398 number may not take this course for credit.

JOUR 321 Visual Journalism (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 206, 207, 208 and 209. This workshop course advances video and photography skills already introduced, including those involved in all forms of digital newsgathering. Students refine reporting, writing, recording and editing skills in a visual production context to produce editorially sound and aesthetically acceptable stories.

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

JOUR 325 Social Media and Mobile Reporting (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 206, 207, 208 and 209. This workshop course emphasizes the professional and ethical use of social media and mobile technology to report on current affairs topics. Students are expected to use all forms of social media to report on the community.

JOUR 330 Radio Newsroom (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 207 and 209. This workshop course replicates 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 335 Alternative Journalism (3 credits)

Prerequisite: 30 credits or permission of the Department. This course considers the alternative news organizations in a variety of media forms. It examines both historical and contemporary examples in the context of an expanding and diversifying media landscape.

NOTE: Students who have received credit for JOUR 435 or for this topic under a JOUR 298 number 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, are 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 and introduces students to the particular "beat" reporting and analytical demands of the topic and the institutions that form the basis of this reporting specialty.

JOUR 404 Magazine Writing (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 303 or permission of the Department. 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 421 *Advanced Video Journalism* (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 321. This workshop course focuses on studio and field production of public affairs programming. Students produce long- and short-form video journalism, contributing to the Department's Digital Magazine and to their professional portfolio. Students learn basic studio production techniques.

JOUR 432 *Documentary Video and Radio* (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 321. This workshop course is for students who wish to explore long-form journalism in sound and pictures, in particular, the television or radio current affairs documentary. Through assignments, class discussions, and exposure to notable examples of the form, students learn the fundamentals of long-form documentary news production.

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: 60 credits or permission of the Department. By concentrating on seminal moments reflected in a range of news media forms, this course examines technological, socio-cultural, 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 reporting in a multicultural setting. The course asks students to apply basic theoretical concepts to case studies of the news.

JOUR 443 *The Digital Magazine* (3 credits)

Prerequisite: 6 credits from JOUR 404, 421, 432 or 445. This capstone course requires students to produce the Department's Digital Magazine. The course replicates the working conditions and journalistic expectations of a digital newsroom. Students are expected to work in editorial teams to create current and updated multimedia content throughout the term.

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 445 *Advanced Photojournalism* (3 credits)

Prerequisite: JOUR 321. This workshop course expands on the photojournalism fundamentals, where students apply their knowledge of theory and aesthetics of long- and short-form news photography. Students use digital cameras and other technologies to complete coursework and to master the professional techniques of news photography.

NOTE: Students who have received credit for JOUR 366 or 466 may not take this course for credit.

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, are stated in the Undergraduate Class Schedule.