Bachelor of Arts in Journalism

COURSE SELECTION

- To enter Journalism you must make a B or better in JRNL 1100, a rigorous introduction to Associated Press style and a refresher on writing skills.
- Once completed, make an appointment with an advisor in the School of Communications and Journalism.
- The journalism program is tightly structured and most courses have strict prerequisites, so it is imperative for you to plan ahead.

FRESHMAN
- Take the 2000 level courses that are prerequisites for the required skills courses you will be taking your junior year.
- Complete 3000 level courses, in which you will learn to produce news and features.
- Much of this work is done outside the classroom and you should take classes across all platforms - print, multimedia, and broadcast.

SOPHOMORE
- Take either Advanced Reporting in the fall or Advanced Magazine and Feature Writing in the spring.
- You should take another 4000 level course to polish and improve on the skills you’ve acquired.

JUNIOR
- Take the 2000 level courses that are prerequisites for the required skills courses you will be taking your junior year.

SENIOR
- Complete 3000 level courses, in which you will learn to produce news and features.
- Much of this work is done outside the classroom and you should take classes across all platforms - print, multimedia, and broadcast.

ASK FOR Assistance
- Be sure that you start your time at Auburn well by regularly meeting with your academic advisor.
- Academic Support provides several free resources to improve performance including Study Partners, Supplemental Instruction and academic coaching. (auburn.edu/academicsupport)

GAIN EXPERIENCE
- Use LinkedIn (linkedin.com/alumni) to identify past graduates in your major and contact them to set up informational interviews and shadowing opportunities.
- Use Handshake to explore employers actively hiring in your field and search part-time jobs that can add experience to your resume.
- Internships are required for graduation and have numerous prerequisites and strict requirements.
- It is important to start thinking about internships early in your academic career so that you can properly plan ahead.
- Meet with someone in the University Career Center (UCC) to explore career options and receive individualized assistance.
- Update your resume with help from the UCC to use in graduate school and job applications.
- By the time you enter your final semester at Auburn, you should have a portfolio of published, posted or broadcast examples of your work.

GET INVOLVED
- Utilize AUInvolve (auburn.edu/auinvolve) to identify organizations of interest to attend meetings and enhance your resume.
- If pursuing graduate education, get involved with undergraduate research opportunities.
- Consider joining the student chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists.
- Journalism majors are encouraged to join any of the professional organizations in the fields they would like to cover, including environment, health, crime, investigative reporting, etc.
- Attend conferences related to your career interests to build your professional network.

Career Planning

University Career Center
303 Mary Martin Hall | career.auburn.edu

Journalism is a rapidly evolving field, therefore be open to new areas of journalistic expression. You will need to be able to demonstrate a strong portfolio of work. Seek and gain a variety of experiences as you are able.

Reporter
Minimum Education: B.A.
Entry Level Salary Range: $20.7K-$35.6K

Newspaper Editor
Minimum Education: B.A.
Entry Level Salary Range: $29.3K-$54.2K

Broadcast News Analyst
Minimum Education: B.A.
Entry Level Salary Range: $28.0K-$60.5K

These are just three options out of many that Journalism majors pursue. For more career options be sure to check out “What Can I Do With a Major In...” on auburn.edu/career.

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