JOURNALISM, MS

for the degree Master of Science in Journalism

The M.S. program is designed to meet the goals of three types of students: 1) students who have recently earned a bachelor’s degree in Journalism or a related field and want to explore a specific type of journalism in greater depth, 2) mid-career journalists who want to expand their professional skills, and 3) students who either hold or are pursuing a terminal degree in selected fields (including but not limited to science, technology, engineering and math) seeking to complement their expertise with journalistic skills for communicating it to the public.

Admission

The M.S. program places a strong emphasis on journalism, and candidates who are accepted are most often those with a demonstrated interest in practicing journalism. It is imperative that all applicants supply writing samples.

Applicants to the M.S. program must have a 4-year bachelor’s degree from an accredited U.S. institution or one of recognized standing abroad. A grade point average of 3.0 (A = 4.0) is the minimum requirement for admission to the Graduate College, with exceptions by petition only. Because the master’s program has an enrollment ceiling, some applicants with grade point averages of 3.0 or higher may not be admitted. Ordinarily, students are admitted to begin graduate study in the fall semester.

Letters of recommendation are required, and the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required of all applicants who do not have either an undergraduate journalism degree from the University of Illinois or an approved post-secondary degree. An interview with the head of the department or director of graduate studies is helpful but not required. Students whose native language is not English must present their official scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) examination as part of their applications. The department follows the official scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) examination as part of their applications. The department follows the Graduate College’s recommendations for English proficiency. Detailed information about admissions and financial aid can be found on the department’s website (https://media.illinois.edu/journalism/degrees-programs/masters/).

Financial Aid

Fellowships are available only for select M.S. students. Fellowships are awarded on a quarter-time basis and carry a waiver of tuition and most fees. A limited number of merit-based scholarships are available for M.S. students.

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The Director of Graduate Studies must approve any non-Journalism courses chosen as electives to meet the requirements below. For additional details and requirements, refer to the department and the Graduate College Handbook (https://grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook/).

Master of Science in Journalism

First Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other requirements may overlap</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum 500-level Hours Required</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum GPA:</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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Information listed in this catalog is current as of 12/2023
5. An understanding of various qualitative and quantitative methods in data journalism.

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**Programs in Journalism**

**Undergraduate Programs:**

- majors: Journalism, BS (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/media/journalism-bs/)
- minors: Journalism (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/media/minors/journalism/) | Media (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/media/minors/media/) | Public Relations (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/media/minors/public-relations/)

**Graduate Programs:**

- degrees: Journalism, MS (p. 1)

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**Department of Journalism**

Head of Department: Mira Sotirovic  
Director of Graduate Studies: Brant Houston  
Department of journalism website (https://media.illinois.edu/journalism/)  
Department of Journalism faculty (https://media.illinois.edu/journalism/faculty/)  
119 Gregory Hall, 810 S. Wright Street, Urbana, IL 61801  
(217) 333-0709  
Journalism email (journ@illinois.edu)

**College of Media**  
College of Media website (https://media.illinois.edu/)

**Admissions**

Graduate College Admissions & Requirements (https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/)

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