COM Journalism Degree Program

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE JOURNALISM DEGREE PROGRAM IN THE MOODY COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION CHAPTER IN THE UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG 2018-2020

TYPE OF CHANGE:1  ☒ Academic Change
□ Degree Program Change (THECB2 form required)

PROPOSED CLASSIFICATION:3  ☒ Exclusive  □ General  □ Major

1. IF THE ANSWER TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS IS YES, THE COLLEGE MUST CONSULT LINDA DICKENS, DIRECTOR OF ACCREDITATION AND ASSESSMENT, TO DETERMINE IF SACS COC APPROVAL IS REQUIRED.
   • Is this a new degree program?  Yes □ No ☒
   • Is this program being deleted?  Yes □ No ☒
   • Does the program offer courses that will be taught off campus?  Yes □ No ☒
   • Will courses in this program be delivered electronically?  Yes □ No ☒

2. EXPLAIN CHANGE TO DEGREE PROGRAM AND GIVE A DETAILED RATIONALE FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL CHANGE:

Policies that already existed, but have been moved to college-level section (policy may be edited in its new location. Appears struck-through and in red.)

A. Policies regarding minimum amount of upper division coursework, maximum amount of transfer credit counted toward the degree, and maximum amount of hours in a single field of study are Moody College-wide policies and have been moved to Academic Policies and Procedures.

B. The item under Major Requirements regarding taking courses on the pass/fail basis has been moved to Academic Policies and Procedures.

C. The paragraph under Special Requirements of the Major referring to earning a C in coursework has been moved to Academic Policies and Procedures with some minor changes indicated there.

Policies that moved within this section (policy may be edited in the new location. Appears struck through and in red in its old location; underlined and in red in its new location. New text/policy is underlined and in black.)

D. The already-existing policy that students must take six hours of coursework in Moody but outside of their major coursework has been moved from Major Requirements to Prescribed Work.

E. The entire Special Requirements of the Major section has been moved to appear below the Major Requirements section to improve flow and clarity.

F. The description of the coursework levels has been moved to appear under Major Requirements.

Changes to the degree requirements/policies (Appears in the standard way: old policies/text are struck through; new policies/text are underlined)

G. Included creative writing in the first requirement under “Prescribed Work” in order to clarify that students may take courses under the field of study CRW, which are offered by the Department of English.
H. The Moody College is revising its foreign language requirement to give students an option to complete this requirement with a mix of language and culture courses (in addition to the already existing option for intermediate proficiency) in order to broaden the concept of foreign language study to better meet the needs of students in our communication fields of study.

I. Levels III and IV: will be combined into one level, now called Level III. This simplifies the curriculum and allows students to better map the four levels across the four years of their undergraduate experience. This provides more flexibility for students to take courses out of sequence, if they have taken the necessary prerequisites, eliminating past issues with bottlenecks.

J. Levels III and IV: we removed the required specialized categories for courses from the J320s, J330s and J340s. Courses in these ranges, along with courses in the J350s, will now be categorized based on “Skills” or “Concepts” content, which matches language from the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications.

K. Levels III and IV: Students will be required to take 9 hours of Skills, and 6 hours of Concepts, with an additional 3 hours from either category. The department will maintain the list of courses that qualify as Skills or Concepts.

L. There will be more capstone course options available to students beyond the three options in the previous catalog (J360F, J361F and J362F). New courses in Visual Capstone, Sports Capstone, Innovation Capstone, etc., will be added during the inventory period in Fall 2017.

M. Eliminate Level V. Level IV is the new capstone level.

N. The paragraph under Special Requirements of the Major referring to a 2.25/2.0 GPA is no longer a policy in the Moody College and has been struck.

Text edits (Appears in the standard way: old policies/text are struck through; new policies/text are underlined)

O. Made text edits in introductory paragraph to provide more clarity.

P. Made text edits in Core Curriculum paragraph for clarity.

Q. Updated the paragraph regarding the Communication and Culture requirement for clarity and to more accurately reflect our current practices.

R. Advisory information that is not appropriate for the catalog has been removed from Special Requirements of the Major.

S. Order and Choice of Work has been updated for accuracy.

T. In Order and Choice of Work, we have removed the rules stating that first-year students may not take two beginning foreign language courses in the same semester and they may not take more than eight semester hours in one department. These polices are obsolete.

U. The text has been edited for typos, unclear wording, and inaccuracies.
COM Journalism Degree Program

3. **THIS PROPOSAL INVOLVES:** (Please check all that apply)

- [ ] Courses in other colleges
- [ ] Courses in proposer’s college that are frequently taken by students in other colleges
- [ ] Flags
- [ ] Course in the core curriculum
- [ ] Change in course sequencing for an existing program
- [ ] Courses that have to be added to the inventory
- [ ] Requirements not explicit in the catalog language (e.g., lists of acceptable courses maintained by department office)
- [ ] Change in admission requirements (external or internal)

4. **SCOPE OF PROPOSED CHANGE:**
   a. Does this proposal impact other colleges/schools? Yes [ ] No [x]
      If yes, then how would you do so?
   b. Do you anticipate a net change in the number of students in your college? Yes [ ] No [x]
      If yes, how many more (or fewer) students do you expect?
   c. Do you anticipate a net increase (or decrease) in the number of students from outside of your college taking classes in your college? Yes [ ] No [x]
      If yes, please indicate the number of students and/or class seats involved.
   d. Do you anticipate a net increase (or decrease) in the number of students from your college taking courses in other colleges? Yes [ ] No [x]
      If yes, please indicate the number of students and/or class seats involved.

If 4 a, b, c, or d was answered with yes, please answer the following questions:

If the proposal has potential budgetary impacts for another college/school, such as requiring new sections or a non-negligible increase in the number of seats offered, at least one contact must be at the college-level.

   How many students do you expect to be impacted?
   Impact schools must be contacted and their response(s) included:
      Person communicated with:
      Date of communication:
      Response:
   e. Does this proposal involve changes to the core curriculum or other basic education requirements (42-hour core, signature courses, flags)? If yes, explain:
      If yes, Undergraduate Studies must be informed of the proposed changes and their response included:
      Person communicated with:
      Date of communication:
      Response:
   f. Will this proposal change the number of hours required for degree completion?
      Note: THECB Semester Credit Hour Change Form required, download from URL:
      If yes, explain:

5. **COLLEGE/SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS**
   Department approval date: May 1, 2017
   Approved by whom: School of Journalism faculty
   College approval date: September 5, 2017
   Approved by whom: Moody College Administrative Cmtee.
BACHELOR OF JOURNALISM
To be awarded the degree of Bachelor of Journalism, the candidate must complete 120 semester hours of coursework and must fulfill the University's General Requirements for graduation, and the Core Curriculum requirements, the college graduation requirements given in Special Requirements of the College, and the requirements and policies listed given in Academic Policies and Procedures, and the requirements given in Special Requirements of the Major, Prescribed Work, and Major Requirements below, and Special Requirements of the Major, below.

Journalism courses are divided into five levels of coursework and more narrowly within the levels according to their skill set and writing content. Not all courses are offered every semester and additional courses are likely to be offered in the future to reflect trends in journalism.

Level I, Foundations: Journalism 301F, 302F
Level II, Applications: Journalism 310F, 311F
Level III, Specialized Issues and Skills:
- Category 1 - Public Affairs Reporting: Journalism 327D, 320F, 321F, 322F, 323F, 324F, 325F, 326F
Level IV, Professional Principles: Journalism 350F, 351F, 352F, 353F

Courses in Levels II - V have prerequisites appropriate to their skill level. Prerequisites may include testing, an interview, or other procedures. Information about these additional requirements is available from the School of Journalism adviser.

Core Curriculum

All students must complete the University’s Core Curriculum, as well as the prescribed work for the Bachelor of Journalism listed below. In some cases, a course required for the Bachelor of Journalism may also be counted toward the core curriculum; these courses are identified below. Flag descriptions can also be found in Core Curriculum.

Prescribed Work
1. Three semester hours in English or creative writing or rhetoric and writing in addition to the courses required by the core curriculum.
2. Three courses with a writing flag; one course with a quantitative reasoning flag; one course with a global cultures flag; one course with a cultural diversity in the United States flag; one course with an ethics and leadership flag; and one course with an independent inquiry flag. The same course cannot be used to satisfy the global cultures and cultural diversity flags even if the course carries both flags. Courses that fulfill flag requirements are identified in the Course Schedule. They may also be used to fulfill other degree requirements.
3. Three semester hours of coursework in the Moody College of Communication dealing with the study of communication issues concerning at least one minority or non-dominant group within the United States. Courses that fulfill this requirement may also be used to fulfill other degree and flag requirements. A partial list of these communication and culture courses is given in the Communication and Culture Requirement section under the Moody College of Communication’s Degrees and Programs section; a complete list is available on the college’s Student Advising Office website before registration for each semester and summer session. The courses are also identified in the Course Schedule.
4. Students must demonstrate intermediate proficiency in a single foreign language. Students must satisfy a foreign language and culture requirement in one of the following ways: (a) Demonstrating intermediate proficiency in a
single foreign language; (b) Taking two consecutive courses in one language and one approved culture course in a culture that is relevant to the language. A list of approved culture and language courses and combinations will be posted on the Student Advising website before registration for each semester and summer session. Courses taken to meet this requirement may not be taken on a pass/fail basis. Credit may be earned by examination for any part of the foreign language requirement. An extensive foreign language testing program is available at the University. Students with knowledge of a language are encouraged to take appropriate tests both to earn as much credit as possible and to be placed at the proper level for further study. Students should consult with an academic adviser for information on testing.

5. At least six semester hours of coursework must be taken in the Moody College of Communication but outside the School of Journalism.
5. At least 36 semester hours of upper division coursework.
6. Thirty semester hours of journalism coursework, as described in Major Requirements, below.
6. No more than 12 semester hours of transfer credit in journalism may be counted toward the degree.
7. Enough additional coursework to make a total of 120 semester hours. No more than 36 semester hours in one field of study may be counted toward the degree, except as indicated under Major Requirements below.

**Special Requirements of the Major**

All students in the journalism program are strongly encouraged to have a laptop computer meeting certain specifications as they enter Level II courses. Computer parameters will be designated by the School of Journalism on the department website at http://journalism.utexas.edu.

Students will be required to take Journalism 302F, 310F, and 311F in residence. In addition, Journalism 310F and 311F require a grade of at least B-.

Students who are interested in completing advanced photojournalism courses are required to take Communication 316, Photographic Communication, as part of their required six hours of coursework in communication.

To enroll in upper division journalism courses, a student must have a University grade point average of at least 2.25, a grade point average in courses in the Moody College of Communication of at least 2.00, and credit for Journalism 310F and 311F with a grade of at least B-. Students who do not fulfill this requirement will be unable to register for upper division journalism courses. The 2.25 grade point average requirement is waived for the transfer student during the first semester of coursework, while he or she is establishing a University grade point average.

In order to graduate, Journalism majors must complete six hours chosen from Journalism 360F, 362F or 361F. In place of Journalism 361F, a student may substitute either 332J or 333J. Internships can be taken for course credit as soon as a student completes the two Level II courses with a grade of at least B in each. The student must complete at least 84 semester hours outside journalism. At least 65 hours must be in liberal arts and natural sciences.

A student majoring in journalism may not register for more than nine semester hours in journalism in one semester or summer session. The director or associate director may make exceptions to this rule for students who need additional journalism courses in order to graduate on time.

A student with a major in journalism must have a grade of at least C in each course taken in the Moody College that is counted toward the degree; if the course is offered on the pass/fail basis only, the student must have the symbol CR.

Additional information about the preceding requirements is available from the School of Journalism at http://journalism.utexas.edu/ or (512) 471-1845.

**Major Requirements**

1. Journalism students must complete 36 semester hours in journalism, and no more than 36 journalism hours may be counted toward the degree. Students must complete the following coursework:

2. The following courses are required: Journalism 301F, 302F, 310F, 311F, 350F, and six hours to be chosen from 360F, 361F, or 362F. Journalism 332J and 333J may substitute for 361F. Journalism 302F, 310F, and 311F must be taken in residence and a grade of at least B- is required for 310F and 311F.

**Level I, Foundations (6 hours):** Journalism 301F and 302F
Level II, Applications (6 hours): Journalism 310F and 311F

3. At least nine semester hours but not more than 15 semester hours from Level III, Specialized Issues and Skills, as follows:

a. at least three semester hours to be chosen from
   Journalism 327D, 320F, 321F, 322F, 323F, 324F, 325F, 326F

b. at least three semester hours to be chosen from

c. at least three semester hours to be chosen from

Level III, Specialized Skills and Concepts (18 hours):


• Three additional semester hours in Skills or Concepts.


4. At least six semester hours of coursework must be taken in the Moody College of Communication but outside the School of Journalism.

5. No Moody College of Communication course to be counted toward the degree may be taken on the pass/fail basis, unless the course is offered only on that basis.

Special Requirements of the Major

All students in the journalism program are strongly encouraged to have a laptop computer meeting certain specifications as they enter Level II courses. Computer parameters will be designated by the School of Journalism on the department website at http://journalism.utexas.edu.

Students will be required to take Journalism 302F, 310F, and 311F in residence.

In addition, Journalism 310F and 311F require a grade of at least B-; students who do not fulfill this requirement cannot register for upper-division journalism courses.

Students who are interested in completing advanced photojournalism courses are required to take Communication 316, Photographic Communication, as part of their required six hours of coursework in communication.

To enroll in upper-division journalism courses, a student must have a University grade point average of at least 2.25, a grade point average in courses in the Moody College of Communication of at least 2.00, and credit for Journalism 310F and 311F with a grade of at least B-. Students who do not fulfill this requirement will be unable to register for upper-division journalism courses. The 2.25 grade point average requirement is waived for the transfer student during the first semester of coursework, while he or she is establishing a University grade point average.

In order to graduate, Journalism majors must complete six hours chosen from Journalism 360F, 362F or 361F. In place of Journalism 361F, a student may substitute either 332J or 333J. Internships can be taken for course credit as soon as a student completes the two Level II courses with a grade of at least B in each.
COM Journalism Degree Program

Courses in Levels II – IV have prerequisites appropriate to their skill level. Prerequisites may include testing, an interview, or other procedures. Information about these additional requirements is available from the School of Journalism adviser.

The student must complete at least 84 semester hours outside journalism. At least 65 hours must be in liberal arts and natural sciences.

A student majoring in journalism may not register for more than nine semester hours in journalism in one semester or summer session. The director or associate director may make exceptions to this rule for students who need additional journalism courses in order to graduate on time.

A student with a major in journalism must have a grade of at least C in each course taken in the Moody College that is counted toward the degree; if the course is offered on the pass/fail basis only, the student must have the symbol CR.

Additional information about the preceding requirements is available from the School of Journalism at http://journalism.utexas.edu/ or (512) 471-1845.

Order and Choice of Work

First Year
1. The student must take three courses from the following group each semester:
   a. Rhetoric and Writing 306
   b. Courses to be counted toward the American history, American and Texas government, social and behavioral sciences, mathematics, visual and performing arts, and science and technology requirements of the core curriculum. Students who plan to concentrate in photojournalism are encouraged to take courses in chemistry, physics, and mathematics to fulfill the science and technology areas.
   c. Courses in a foreign language.
2. Journalism 301F and 302F.
3. Students who plan to take advanced photojournalism courses are encouraged to take Communication 316 in their first or second semester as part of their required six hours of coursework in communication but outside of journalism.
4. Two courses that meet flag requirements.
5. Enough additional coursework to raise the student’s course load to 15 or 16 hours each semester. Courses should be chosen with the guidance of a college academic adviser.

First year students may not take two beginning foreign language courses in the same semester. First year students may not take more than eight semester hours in one department.

Second Year
1. The student should take three courses from the following group each semester; four are recommended:
   a. English 316L, 316M, 316N, or 316P and any three-semester-hour course in English or creative writing or rhetoric and writing.
   b. Courses to be counted toward the American history, American and Texas government, social and behavioral sciences, mathematics, visual and performing arts, and science and technology requirements of the core curriculum.
   c. Courses in the foreign language, unless the language requirement has been fulfilled.
2. Journalism 310F and 311F and additional coursework to fulfill the major requirements.
3. Two courses that meet flag requirements.
4. Enough additional coursework, if needed, to raise the student’s course load to 15 or 16 hours each semester. Courses should be chosen with the guidance of a college academic adviser.

Third Year
1. Two courses that meet flag requirements.
2. Any remaining courses in the core curriculum and the prescribed work.
3. Journalism Level III and IV coursework to fulfill the major requirements. Courses should be chosen with the guidance of a college academic adviser.
4. Journalism 360F, 361F (or an approved substitute for this course), or 362F if the prerequisites have been met.
5. 4. Upper-division electives chosen to support the major.

Fourth Year
1. Upper-division electives chosen to support the major.
2. Any remaining major requirements from Levels III or IV, and V. Courses should be chosen with the guidance of a college academic adviser.
3. Any remaining flag requirements.
4. Any remaining courses in the core curriculum and the prescribed work.

---

1 See https://facultycouncil.utexas.edu/degree-program-changes for detailed explanations.
2 Submit required Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board forms to the provost’s office (lydia.cornell@austin.utexas.edu); downloadable from URL https://facultycouncil.utexas.edu/thecb-forms
3 EXCLUSIVE: of exclusive application and of primary interest only to a single college or school ("no protest" period is seven calendar days); GENERAL: of general interest to more than one college or school (but not for submission to the General Faculty) ("no protest" period is fourteen calendar days); major legislation must be submitted to the General Faculty for adoption ("no protest" period is fourteen calendar days).
4 The proposed text should be based on the text of the current catalog available at: http://catalog.utexas.edu/undergraduate/

Strike through and replace (with underlines) only the specific language to be changed. Do NOT use track changes, and do not include hyperlinks in the catalog copy. Submit form electronically to the Office of the General Faculty and Faculty Council at fc@austin.utexas.edu. For questions on completing this section, please contact Victoria Cervantes, fc@austin.utexas.edu, 471-5934 or Brenda Schumann, brenda.schumann@austin.utexas.edu, 475-7654.