Northeastern University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action Title IX education institution and employer.

Tuition rates, all fees, rules and regulations, courses, and course content are subject to revision by the President and the Board of Trustees at any time.

Northeastern University is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc.

July 2013

Material subject to revision.

The general regulations that follow are the minimal requirements of the Northeastern University Graduate Programs in the College of Arts, Media and Design. The student is advised to consult the appropriate department for a statement of additional requirements in specific program.
College of Arts, Media and Design

Journalism

Our Vision
The College of Arts, Media and Design explores the spaces between our disciplines. Building on existing knowledge, we frame, research, and answer transformative questions. Our work together challenges, engages, and shapes global cultures and marketplaces.

Our Mission
We create a distinctive experiential education by leveraging emergent practices and scholarship in the arts, media, and design. Our unique combination of disciplines empowers innovative thinking and making. Our students become informed citizens and creative leaders with an enlightened entrepreneurial spirit.

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Professional Concentration 5
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Faculty

Director

Stephen Burgard
MS, Boston University
Fields: The press, democracy and religion, reporting religion, journalism ethics

Graduate Coordinator

Belle Adler
MA, Northwestern University
Fields: Television news, investigative reporting, medical and health news

Professors

Nicholas Daniloff
MA, Oxford University
Fields: Freedom of the press and democracy in Russia; journalism ethics

Charles Fountain
MS, Columbia University
Fields: Journalism history; sports writing

Jeffrey Howe
MFA, Boston University
Field: New media

Daniel Kennedy
MLA, Boston University
Fields: Online journalism; press criticism; journalism history

William Kirtz
MS, Columbia University
Fields: News writing; media ethics; history

Laurel Leff
MA, University of Miami
MSL, Yale Law School
Fields: Legal reporting; objectivity in journalism; press coverage of the Holocaust

Walter V. Robinson
Distinguished Professor
BA, Northeastern University
Fields: Investigative reporting; news writing

James Ross
MA, American University
Fields: Jewish studies; press law and ethics; literature of journalism

Alan Schroeder
MPA, Harvard University
Fields: Television news; presidential debates
The Graduate Program

The School of Journalism’s Master of Arts program provides its students with the practical and analytical skills needed for success in a challenging profession. In the professional concentration, hands-on training and supervised job placements prepare graduates for careers as reporters, editors, and producers at newspapers, magazines, online publications, and broadcast outlets. Internships at Boston news organizations are an integral part of the program. Students also have the option of working for six months at a news or public relations job as part of Northeastern’s nationally renowned cooperative education program. In addition, our students write and edit the New England Newspaper and Press Association, a trade publication for 500 community newspapers.

The research concentration provides working journalists with an opportunity for further study in journalism and related fields and gives them the skills to teach journalism or work in a specialized area. Research students write a thesis examining the role of the news media or a related topic, take advanced courses in journalism ethics and research methods, and study related fields such as sociology, history, and political science. The public policy concentration gives graduate students a thorough understanding of public policy processes. This program draws upon experts from The School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs along with journalists who specialize in public policy reporting.
Faculty Research

Faculty members have at least ten years of professional experience in print, broadcast, and online journalism. They have worked for The Boston Globe, U.S. News & World Report, CNN, ABC Sports, the Los Angeles Times, the Hartford Courant, the Wall Street Journal, and the Boston Phoenix. Faculty members write regularly for newspapers, magazines, and scholarly publications. Their work includes a television documentary on poaching endangered animals in Kenya and the books Of Spies and Spokesmen, My Life as a War Correspondent, Presidential Debates: Forty Years of High-Risk TV, Fragile Branches: Travels Through the Jewish Diaspora, and Buried by The Times: The Holocaust and America’s Most Important Newspaper.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Satisfactory progress means satisfying requirements in the General Regulations and in the regulations specified in the departmental booklet. CAMD Graduate Studies sets minimum standards for all students to fulfill. Departments and programs may have additional requirements that exceed those of CAMD Graduate Studies.

Receipt of financial support administered by the College is contingent on satisfactory academic progress toward the degree and on meeting department-specific guidelines. See the CAMD Graduate Studies General Regulations for further details.

Program Strengths

The faculty works closely with students to edit and revise their written work. Class sizes are small, averaging ten to fifteen students.

The graduate program in journalism is designed for both full-time and part-time students. All required journalism classes meet from 5:30 - 8:40 p.m.
Professional Concentration

Professional concentration students are a diverse group. Many have little or no media experience and begin the program with an intensive three-week skills course. Some of our students majored in journalism and wrote for college publications as undergraduates; others have worked in the media for several years and join the program to prepare for more challenging and higher-paying jobs.

The professional concentration curriculum balances skills courses and work opportunities with theory courses--such as First Amendment law, journalism ethics, literary journalism and journalism history -- that offer students a broad perspective on the news media. The Graduate Seminar provides an opportunity to critically examine the role of the media in society.

Program Features

Completion Time
Full-time students can finish the program in as short a time as a year. Students electing to participate in the co-op program who take a position beyond commuting distance to Boston will not be able to complete the required coursework in one year. Part-time students, most of whom work in the Boston area, take one or two courses each semester and complete the program in two or three years.

Cooperative Education
As a national leader in cooperative education, Northeastern offers a unique option for its master’s degree students. Full-time students may alternate their academic study with six-month job assignments at area media organizations. Students who choose the co-op option generally take an additional six months or more to graduate.

Curriculum

The professional concentration curriculum consists of nine courses. In addition, incoming students without professional journalism experience are encouraged to take the Reporting and Writing Fundamentals Seminar in the summer before the beginning of the fall semester.

The required courses include Enterprise Reporting in the fall semester, Research Methods and New Technology in the spring semester, and Perspectives on Journalism and Professional Ethics in the summer semester. Students are required to take one graduate-level course outside of the School of Journalism (usually in English, History, Political Science, or Sociology), and at least one practicum course and four journalism electives.
Typical Full-time Schedule for the Professional Concentration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Electives</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reporting and Writing Fundamentals (one-credit intensive course for students without professional experience)</td>
<td>Topics (Interactive Media)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise Reporting</td>
<td>Investigative Reporting*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Practicum or Journalism elective</td>
<td>Graduate Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journalism elective or graduate elective outside the School of Journalism</td>
<td>Journalism and Public Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Historical Perspectives on the U.S. and Foreign Media</td>
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<td></td>
<td>First Amendment in the Digital Age</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Literature of Journalism</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nonfiction Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The following electives are offered jointly to graduate and undergraduate students:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Design and Graphics</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Documentary Production</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photojournalism</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Video Newswriting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Topics (including Beat Reporting)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Video News Production 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Note: Not every course is offered every semester.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Methods &amp; New Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Practicum or Journalism Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>Journalism elective or graduate elective outside the School of Journalism</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Summer I Semester</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Perspectives on Journalism and Professional Ethics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Practicum or Journalism elective</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Journalism elective</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Selected graduate students can take the Seminar in Investigative Reporting with Walter Robinson, former Boston Globe Spotlight Team editor as one of their electives. Interested students should contact Professor Robinson for an interview.

Professional concentration students also complete one practicum course. Offerings include:

- News Internship
- Online Newsroom Experience (writing and editing the NENPA Bulletin)
- Nonfiction Writing
- Documentary Production (prerequisite is Video News Production)

Students may take a second practicum as one of their electives.
Research Concentration

This program is designed for those with significant professional journalism experience who want to prepare for careers as journalism educators or who want to write and research in a specialized field.

Program Features

All research concentration students complete an original thesis that must be submitted to the College and www.proquest.com upon completion and acceptance. The thesis examines a critical issue in the news media, often combining qualitative and quantitative research. Because of the time required to plan and complete a thesis, students in this concentration generally take 16 months to finish their degree.

Curriculum

The research concentration curriculum consists of nine courses, including the Graduate Seminar and Perspectives on Journalism and Professional Ethics. Students must also enroll in a thesis course and take Research Methods and New Technology or a pre-approved graduate level research course, usually in sociology or political science. Three other graduate-level courses in an academic field outside of journalism are also required to enhance students’ knowledge of a specialty area. Finally, students must take two journalism electives plus the thesis course.

A minimum of 32 semester hours and nine courses with a grade-point average of 3.000 is required for graduation.
Typical Full-time Schedule for the Research Concentration

**Fall Semester**
- Outside research course (approved by Graduate Coordinator), usually in Sociology or Political Science*
- Literature of Journalism
- Outside elective*

**Spring Semester**
- Graduate Seminar
- Outside elective* or Research Methods/New Technologies
- Journalism or outside elective*

**Summer Semester**
- Perspectives on Journalism and Professional Ethics
- Thesis
- Journalism or outside elective*

**Electives**
- First Amendment in the Digital Age
- Historical Perspectives on the U.S. and Foreign Media
- Nonfiction Writing
- Literature of Journalism
- Video News Production 1
- Design and Graphics
- Photojournalism
- Topics (including Beat Reporting)
- Documentary Production
- Video Newswriting

Note: Selected graduate students can take the Seminar in Investigative Reporting with Walter Robinson, former Boston Globe Spotlight Team editor as one of their electives. Interested students should contact Professor Robinson for an interview.

*Outside electives sometimes carry only three credits. Therefore, it may be necessary to enroll in a one-credit Directed Study to reach the 32 minimum credit requirements for the degree.
Public Policy Concentration

The public policy concentration is primarily designed for those with journalism experience who want to more fully understand the public policy process and the substance of selected policy areas.

It is strongly suggested that students without journalism experience successfully complete Reporting and Writing Fundamentals.

Graduate students selecting the public policy concentration will take Introduction to Policy Reporting along with other journalism requirements. They will also select among electives offered by The School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs.

Program Features

Completion Time
Full-time students can finish the program in as short a time as a year. Part-time students, most of whom work in the Boston area, take one or two courses each semester and complete the program in two or three years.

Cooperative Education
As a national leader in cooperative education, Northeastern offers a unique option for its master’s degree students. Full-time students may alternate their academic study with six-month job assignments at area media organizations. Students who choose the co-op option generally take an additional six months or more to graduate.

Curriculum

The public policy concentration curriculum consists of nine courses. Graduate students without news writing experience are strongly encouraged to take Reporting and Writing Fundamentals, a three-week skills course. Students are required to take Introduction to Public Policy Reporting and Enterprise Reporting with an Urban Reporting Focus, which are typically offered in the fall semester; First Amendment in the Digital Age which is typically offered in the spring semester; and Perspectives on Journalism and Professional Ethics which is typically offered in the summer semester. Students must also take Research Methods. Students without journalism experience must take Journalism’s Research Methods. Students with journalism experience, with approval from the graduate coordinator or journalism director, can select a research methods course from the Public Policy Research Course offerings. Students in the public policy concentration must also take four electives from a wide array of courses offered by The School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs.

A minimum of 32 semester hours and nine courses with a grade-point average of 3.000 is required for graduation.
Typical First-year, Full-time Schedule for the Research Concentration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Courses</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall Semester</strong></td>
<td>Reporting and Writing Fundamentals</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction to Public Policy Reporting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Enterprise Reporting with an Urban Reporting Focus</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring Semester</strong></td>
<td>First Amendment in the Digital Age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Research Methods</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summer Semester</strong></td>
<td>Perspectives on Journalism and Professional Ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring and Fall Semesters</strong></td>
<td>Investigative Reporting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Research Methods offered by The School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs are offered at the discretion of the department offering the course.

**Electives**
Graduate Students in the public policy concentration must select four electives from a vast array of courses offered by the History Department, the Political Science Department, and the Sociology and Anthropology Department.

Note: Selected graduate students can take the Seminar in Investigative Reporting with Walter Robinson, former Boston Globe Spotlight Team editor as one of their electives. Interested students should contact Professor Robinson for an interview.
“A good newspaper, I suppose, is a nation talking to itself.”

Arthur Miller
American playwright, 1961

“A free press plays an essential part in the delicate balance that exists in this country between individual liberties and the power of government. For unchecked government power…can compromise or even crush individual liberties.”

Jack Nelson
Los Angeles Times, 1984
For more information, contact:

Graduate Coordinator
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gradjourn@neu.edu (e-mail)
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