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July 2014

Material subject to revision.
Journalism

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 entrepreneurial spirit.

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Faculty

Director

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

Graduate Coordinator

Gladys McKie
MS, Northeastern University
Fields: Public relations, internet policy, organizational ethics

Professors

Mike Beaudet
MA, Northeastern University
Fields: Investigative reporting, television news

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

Jeffrey Howe
MFA, Boston University
Field: New media

Dan Kennedy
MLA, Boston University
Fields: Online journalism, press criticism, First Amendment

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

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
Welcome to the graduate program at Northeastern University’s School of Journalism. Our school offers a master of arts in two concentrations – Professional and Media Innovation. Our master’s program offers a chance to study in Boston with a small and dedicated faculty of specialists with years of experience and contacts at the highest levels of American journalism.

You can study the newest developments in digital media with Jeff Howe, the Wired magazine writer who coined the term “crowdsourcing,” and ethics with Stephen Burgard, a former member of the Los Angeles Times editorial board and an expert on the intersection of religion, politics, and the press. Those focusing on broadcast and visual journalism can study with Alan Schroeder, a three-time Emmy Award-winning producer. Students are introduced to digital journalism with Dan Kennedy, a well-respected media critic, author, and creator of the blog Media Nation.

Our concentrations offer students opportunities for hands-on training in all aspects of journalism in preparation for careers as reporters, editors, or multi-media producers. Our program is also suited for anyone who will work in communication fields where information gathering and writing for general audiences is needed.
Faculty Research

Our faculty members have at least ten years of professional experience in print, broadcast, or online journalism. They have worked for media outlets that include ABC Sports, the Los Angeles Times, the Hartford Courant, the Wall Street Journal, Wired, the Guardian, Fox 25 News, WGBH and the Nieman Journalism Lab. Faculty members write regularly for newspapers, magazines, and scholarly publications.

Their work includes:
- Faith, Politics and Press in Our Perilous Times, by Professor Stephen Burgard
- Of Spies and Spokesmen: My Life as a War Correspondent, by Professor Emeritus Nicholas Daniloff
- Crowdsourcing: How the Power of Crowds is Driving the Future of Business, by Professor Jeff Howe
- Presidential Debates: Forty Years of High-Risk TV, by Professor Alan Schroeder,
- The Wired City: Reimagining Journalism and Civic Life in the Post-Newspaper Age, by Professor Dan Kennedy
- Fragile Branches: Travels Through the Jewish Diaspora, by Professor James Ross
- Buried by The Times: The Holocaust and America’s Most Important Newspaper, by Professor Laurel Leff

Program Strengths

The faculty works closely with students to help them edit and revise their work. Class sizes are small, averaging 10 to 15 students.

The graduate program in journalism is designed for both full-time and part-time students. All required journalism classes meet from 5:30 to 8:40 p.m. Some elective courses meet during the day.

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.
Professional Concentration

The Professional Concentration is designed for students with little or no experience in journalism. The Professional Concentration curriculum balances basic news courses tailored for the digital world with preparation to enter the job market. Students are accepted on a part-time or full-time basis. Full-time students can finish the program in one year. Part-time students can complete the program in two or three years. Students in the Professional Concentration can participate in Northeastern University’s nationally known cooperative education (co-op) program. Co-op is not a requirement, but students who choose it generally take an additional six months to graduate.

The Professional Concentration curriculum balances skills, courses, and professional opportunities with classes on theory. These include journalism law, ethics, literary journalism, and journalism history, which offer students a broad perspective on the news media. Fundamentals of Digital Journalism prepares students for journalism in our digital age.

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 1 and Fundamentals of Digital Journalism in the fall semester, Enterprise Reporting 2 in the spring semester, and Perspectives on Journalism and Professional Ethics in the summer semester. Students must take one practicum course. In addition, students are required to take four electives.

A minimum of 36 semester hours and nine courses (not including the Reporting and Writing Fundamentals Seminar), with a grade point average of 3.000 is required for graduation.

Program Features

Completion Time

Full-time students can finish the program in a year. Students electing to participate in the co-op program take longer to finish. Part-time students, most of whom work in the Boston area, take one or two courses each semester and complete the program within two or three years.
## Professional Concentration Sample Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reporting and Writing Fundamentals (one-credit intensive course for students without professional experience)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise Reporting 1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundamentals of Digital Journalism</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise Reporting 2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practicum Course</td>
<td>4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summer 2 Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Perspectives on Journalism and Professional Ethics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credits**: 37

(includes the one-credit fundamentals course.)

*Selected graduate students can take the Seminar in Investigative Reporting as one of their electives. Interested students should contact the professor for an interview.

### Journalism Electives
- Investigative Reporting*
- The Online Newsroom Experience**
- Design and Graphics**
- Local Reporting for the Globe**
- Photojournalism**
- Video Newswriting**
- Video News Production 1

**Directed Study** (Students can take directed studies with approval from the school, college, and professor.)

Note: Not every course is offered every semester. Students can take one elective outside the School of Journalism.

Professional Concentration students also complete one practicum course from the following:

- The Online Newsroom Experience (writing and editing the NENPA Bulletin)
- Investigative Reporting*
- Local Reporting for the Globe
- News Internship
- Documentary Production (prerequisite is Video News Production)

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

The Media Innovation Concentration is designed for students with significant journalism experience or an undergraduate degree in the field. This program will help journalists acquire the skills they need to contribute and lead in the 21st-century newsroom. On entering the program, students will declare a “mini major” that lies outside the School of Journalism, including data, web development, data visualization, game design, or producing video for the web.

The core of the Media Innovation Concentration is a project that students identify on entering the program and pursue throughout their studies. Faculty work closely with individual students identifying those courses that best suit their concentration and meet with students every other week for the Media Innovation Studio, an intensive seminar. During their final semester, faculty work with the student to publish his or her project with a media partner such as the Boston Globe or NPR.

Program Features

Completion Time

Full-time students can finish the program in three semesters (not including summer). 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.

Curriculum

The Media Innovation Concentration curriculum consists of nine courses. The required courses include Fundamentals of Digital Journalism, Media Innovation Studio 1, 2, and 3, and Perspectives on Journalism and Professional Ethics. Students will work with their faculty adviser to choose electives that will best help them complete their Media Innovation project. Depending on their individual project, students can select electives from a broad range of departments including Art + Design, Computer Science, and Game Design.

A minimum of 33 semester hours and nine courses with a grade point average (GPA) of 3.000 is required for graduation.
# Media Innovation Sample Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1, Fall Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fundamentals of Digital Journalism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective 1 (Programming for Digital Media)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Media Innovation Studio 1</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year 1, Spring Semester</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elective 2 (Data Mining in Cyberspace)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Media Innovation Studio 2</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1, Summer Semester</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Perspectives on Journalism and Professional Ethics</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 2, Fall Semester</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elective 3 (Web Development)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective 4 (Collaborative Video &amp; Social Engagement)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media Innovation Studio 3</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| Total Credits | 33 |
“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:

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