# Journalism, MA

**36 Credits**  
*2015/2016*

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<th>A-Term – Summer (6 Credits)</th>
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53-6650 Foundations of Journalism
Concentrates on the basics of news writing, reporting, copy editing, interviewing, ethics and the culture of journalism. You will develop the skill of crisp, objective writing as you engage in live reporting. The course will be a combination of out-of-class stories and in-class assignments done on deadline, including covering government meetings and other events. This intensive three-week class will define the professional standards expected and give you the tools to help you succeed in graduate school.

53-6665 Journalism Culture: Trends & Traditions
Surveys the growth and development of journalism around the world and especially the evolution of U. S. forms, practices and institutions of news and information gathering, writing and editing along with dissemination to various audiences. Journalistic freedoms and ethical responsibilities will be examined along with economic and technological changes.

53-6610 Chicago News Bureau
Students cover local events alongside working professionals. They report, on deadline, on meetings of the City Council and Cook County Board of Commissioners, as well as downtown and community news events, including press conferences, political campaigns, elections and rallies. Students also produce non-deadline stories on issues of importance to Chicago neighborhoods. Students will produce assignments compatible with multiple platforms.

53-6615 Local Govt & Politics Seminar
Students research and reflect on the local government and political issues related to their companion practicum class and develop historical and policy-oriented context for stories on critical public issues such as housing, transportation, education and public safety.

53-6675 Digital Journalism
Digital Storytelling course offers intensive hands-on training in multimedia news gathering and production for a range of story forms, including audio stories, video, photo essays, online writing and audio slideshows. Equipment is required for this course. Refer to www.colum.edu/Academics/Journalism/Equipment Guide/for details.

53-6620 Info Search Strategies
Demonstrations and practical experience in advanced reporting techniques including interviewing, using public documents, and analyzing computer data.
53-6655 Legislative & Investigative Reporting
This course provides knowledge and practice in covering state and national affairs by various beats including the elective offices, numerous departments, agencies, authorities, boards and commissions.

53-6635 State/National Govt Seminar
Lectures and sessions outside the newsroom with government officials, legislators, lobbyists, and other experts prepare students for covering state and national government operations, including executive functions, the legislative process, the judiciary, regulatory activities, and the roles of politics and lobbying.

53-6660 Global Multimedia Reporting
This course will examine the importance of international news and how global events shape U.S. domestic and foreign policy. Students will analyze some of the major political, social, economic and cultural issues in the news and blogs in Latin America, Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Europe. Students will write and report about international news events with a local or a national perspective and assess the reality of world news coverage.

53-6645 Graduate Thesis Project
As the final requirement for the master's degree in journalism, each candidate must complete a thesis project on a public affairs topic. The project can be a long-form story or academic article; a collection of short-form stories; a collection of broadcast reports on a related topic; or another multi-media project approved by the graduate instructor of the Thesis Project course. Students will work with one or more graduate faculty.

53-5120 Covering Politics: 2016 Presidential Election
Students will learn the fundamentals of covering a national political campaign by reporting on the first-in-the-nation Iowa caucuses and at least one other election primary in another state. Students will produce content on deadline for multimedia platforms. Course is open to non-majors who are interested in politics.

53-6710 Reporting & Producing for TV News
Students learn the specialized technique of writing for broadcast through intensive practice. Later, the class will simulate a day in the life of a TV newsroom operation, building to an afternoon news update. Students will rotate assignments as reporters, camera operators/editors, producer, and writer.

53-5840 Digital Storytelling II
Digital Storytelling II offers intensive hands-on training in multimedia news-gathering and production, building on skills learned in Digital Storytelling but with an emphasis on audio and video story forms. Students will learn to produce multimedia on deadline and more in-depth feature stories focusing on newsworthy trends and issues. Students also will analyze and critique professional multimedia pieces.

53-5523 Social Media Storytelling
Students will use intermediate to advanced social media tools to create original stories and publish real-time updates. Students also will find sources and follow trends using social media tools. They will develop community engagement, connect with readers and build a following on social media to bring attention to their work.

**53-6115 Interactive Graphics**  
This class combines theory and practice of visual journalism through digital graphics. It focuses on informational graphics reporting and the job of the modern-day visual journalist. Students will gain experience while researching and creating different types of informational graphics, including explanatory charts (bars, pies, tables, etc.) maps and diagrams for both print and online media.

**53-6116 Mobile Journalism**  
This is a hands-on class focusing on the technical, aesthetic and journalistic skills needed to produce photos and news video with a Smartphone. Students also will explore the mobile trends in journalism and understand media ethics related to mobile reporting and distribution.

**53-6117 Media Entrepreneurship**  
The course will explore how digital technologies have contributed to wholesale media disruption and lowered the barriers to entry for media entrepreneurs. Students will examine how traditional media organizations are changing and how new media organizations are being created. Then students, working as media innovators, will develop a plan for a fully articulated idea or project they hope to pursue in their final capstone course.

**53-6131 Basic Coding for Media Industries**  
This is a hands-on course in learning the basics of HTML and CSS that are used to build websites. Students will acquire knowledge and skill to prepare them to work within a news organization’s content management system. We will teach you how the Internet works and then get you started on building your own site.

**53-6132 Advanced Coding for Media Industries**  
Course designed for any student interested in building interactive media to tell a story. This uses the open-sourced Tarbell platform developed by the Chicago Tribune to tell a data story that the student chooses. Students build their own interactive project using programming knowledge that keeps the course accessible across disciplines.

**53-5410 Science & Medicine: Covering the News**  
The ability to write and report clearly about scientific, health, and environmental subjects is an increasingly useful skill in writing for newspapers, magazines, broadcast, book publishers, business, and industry.

**53-5415 Feature Writing in Science & Medicine**
Students learn the art of creating colorful, descriptive feature stories about medical, scientific and environmental topics employing time-honored principles of narrative and expository writing. Special reporting techniques will also be discussed.

53-5540 Advanced Sports Reporting
Emphasizes in-depth coverage of a variety of sports beats. In addition to game coverage, field-reporting assignments will include sports media; sports business and marketing; stadium financing and construction; and women's sports and gender issues.

53-5110 Business Beat
This course teaches students to understand and report on the economy, big and small business, financial markets, technology, and the media, labor, real estate, and more.

53-5670 Covering Religion
This seminar focuses on news coverage of various religious groups and issues of individual spirituality, religious pluralism and politics in the United States and elsewhere. The course covers so-called “world religions” as well as American-born sects, along with ecumenical and inter-religious movements. There will be briefings from journalists and religious leaders, audio-video presentations and field trips.

53-5420 Environmental Reporting
Human stewardship of the planet is at a crossroads. Actions taken now to reduce pollution, halt environmental depredation, and cut fossil fuel consumption will determine the earth's future for generations to come. This course will train journalists to cover this important area as it relates both to public policy and private actions.

53-5590 Latina Voices
Students receive intense hands-on experience in writing and reporting skills as well as the opportunity to be published on the Latina Voices Web site. The online site will feature culture and commentary pieces about Hispanic women, one of the fastest growing populations in the United States.