General Education

Requirements for the B.A. in Journalism – NEWS OPTION
Department of Journalism & Public Relations, California State University, Chico | www.csuchico.edu/jour

Use this planning guide in careful consultation with your J&PR adviser, academic advising, the Chico State Catalog and your Degree Progress Report.

General Education

54 units

JOUR Degree Core

15 units

News Option

12 units

J&PR electives

21 units

Formal minor (in addition to GE Pathway)

18-26 units

Major unit total: 48 units

Minimum total required: 120 units

Preferred degree GE foundations: A2 – JOUR 130W; A4 – MATH 105

Degree Core – 15 units required

Subject | Units | Course title at Chico State | Preferred degree GE foundations: A2 – JOUR 130W; A4 – MATH 105
---|---|---|---
JOUR 255 or 255W | 3 | Digital Media Literacy & Civic Engagement – GE Learning for Life (255 is preferred for J&PR majors) | When taken | In progress | To be taken
JOUR 260W | 3 | Writing for Mass Media, WI – C or better required to proceed in major | | | |
JOUR 265 | 3 | Survey of PR & Media Relations | | | |
JOUR 320 | 3 | Mass Communication Law | | | |
JOUR 460W | 3 | Ethical Problems in Mass Media – GE capstone; UD Arts & Humanities sub |

Preferred degree GE foundations: A2 – JOUR 130W; A4 – MATH 105

Option Core – 12 units required

Subject | Units | Course title at Chico State | Preferred degree GE foundations: A2 – JOUR 130W; A4 – MATH 105
---|---|---|---
JOUR 321W | 3 | Public Affairs Reporting – GE WP, WI; C- or better required for graduation (Mandatory prereq: JOUR 260) | | | |
JOUR 322 | 3 | History of American Journalism (Prereq: JOUR 260) | | | |
JOUR 327 | 3 | Media Editing, Proofreading & Entry-level Layout (Mandatory prereq: 260) | | | |
JOUR 329 | 3 | News Laboratory / The Orion (Suggested prereqs: JOUR 260, JOUR 327) |

Preferred degree GE foundations: A2 – JOUR 130W; A4 – MATH 105

Option Electives – 21 units selected from two groups of electives

Group A, Theory – 9 units required

Subject | Units | Course title at Chico State | Preferred degree GE foundations: A2 – JOUR 130W; A4 – MATH 105
---|---|---|---
JOUR 101 | 3 | Intro to Communication | | | |
JOUR 210 | 3 | Pop Culture, Media & Values – GE Societal Institutions & U.S. Diversity | | | |
JOUR 211 | 3 | Women, Men & the Media – GE Individual & Society | | | |
JOUR 313 | 3 | International Communication | | | |
JOUR 411 | 3 | Race & Diversity in Media (Prereq: JOUR 260) | | | |
JOUR 424 | 3 | Public Opinion & Propaganda | | | |

Group B, Applied & Visual Storytelling Skills – 12 units required

Subject | Units | Course title at Chico State | Preferred degree GE foundations: A2 – JOUR 130W; A4 – MATH 105
---|---|---|---
JOUR 325 | 3 | Magazine Writing (Prereq: JOUR 260) | | | |
JOUR 329 * | 3 | News Laboratory / The Orion (Suggested prereqs: JOUR 260, JOUR 327) | | | |
JOUR 331 * | 3 | News Laboratory Management (Prereqs: JOUR 260, 320, 321, 327, 329) | | | |
JOUR 341W | 3 | Writing for PR – WI (Mandatory prereqs: JOUR 244, 260) | | | |
JOUR 351 | 3 | PR Publications (Mandatory prereq: JOUR 260) | | | |
JOUR 353 | 3 | Photojournalism (Prereq: JOUR 260) | | | |
JOUR 355 | 3 | Online Presentation of News & PR (Mandatory prereqs: JOUR 255, 260) | | | |
JOUR 444 | 3 | Job Hunting & Professional Skills for News & PR (Prereq: Junior standing) | | | |
JOUR 445 | 2 | PR Lab / TGC (Mandatory prereq: JOUR 321 for news option students) | | | |
JOUR 451 | 3 | Digital Media Innovation (Mandatory prereq: JOUR 255) | | | |
JOUR 489 | 1-3 | Journalism Internship (Prereqs: JOUR 260, 329 and faculty permission) | | | |

*Second or third semester on The Orion; first semester of JOUR 329 counts only in option core. Please see your adviser.

Advising is required of J&PR majors every semester. Mandatory advising is held the week before class registration opens.

J&PR majors must take 72 units outside the School of Communication, with the exception of JOUR 130W, CMST 131, 132 and 334.

Transfer units: A maximum of 18 transfer units from a community college may be used for credit in the major in agreement with the Journalism Transfer Model Curriculum (equivalents to JOUR 101, 210, 244, 260, lower-division student media and lower-division photojournalism.)
Graduating in Four Years – NEWS OPTION

This schedule assumes students start their first year at Chico State.

If you are a transfer student, earning a bachelor’s degree within two years requires that you follow the Journalism Transfer Model Curriculum and transfer 18 units of journalism credit to Chico State (equivalents to intro mass com, intro reporting and newswriting, intro PR, intro photojournalism, student media work, and an elective course that covers visual communication, pop culture and media, gender and media, or multimedia reporting).

See your academic adviser for schedule planning and department chair for course substitutions.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester one, first year</th>
<th>Semester five, junior year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Four GE courses</td>
<td>• JOUR 327, “Media Editing”</td>
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<td>• 1 lower-division Group A elective</td>
<td>• JOUR 329, The Orion</td>
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<td>(JOUR 210 or 211 recommended;</td>
<td>• 1 Group A elective</td>
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<td>either also fulfills a GE requirement)</td>
<td>• 2 minor courses *</td>
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<tr>
<th>Semester two</th>
<th>Semester six</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Four GE courses</td>
<td>• JOUR 322, “History of Journalism”</td>
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<td>• JOUR 255, “Digital Media Literacy”</td>
<td>• 1 Group B elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>(fulfills GE “Learning for Life”)</td>
<td>• GE upper-division pathway course</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(Natural or Social Sciences)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• 2 minor courses</td>
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<tr>
<th>Semester three, sophomore year</th>
<th>Semester Seven, senior year</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Three GE courses</td>
<td>• 1 Group A elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>• JOUR 260, “Writing for Mass Media”</td>
<td>• 1 Group B elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>• JOUR 265, “PR &amp; Media Relations”</td>
<td>• GE upper-division pathway course</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(Natural or Social Sciences)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• 2 minor courses</td>
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<tr>
<th>Semester four</th>
<th>Semester Eight, graduation</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Remaining lower-division GE courses</td>
<td>• JOUR 460W, “Mass Media Ethics”</td>
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<tr>
<td>• JOUR 320, “Mass Com Law”</td>
<td>(GE capstone and UD Pathway Arts &amp; Humanities)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• JOUR 321W, “Public Affairs Reporting”</td>
<td>• 2 Group B electives</td>
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* Please note: GE Pathway Minors do not fulfill formal minor requirement.