



# SF State Journalism

## Student Handbook

2016-2017

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL AND CREATIVE ARTS

San Francisco State University, Journalism Department  
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If you want to make sure journalism is the major for you, here are some qualities we see that are imperative for all of our students, whether they aspire to be writers, producers, photographers, or a combination of all of these.

- ***Passion:*** You want to change the world by telling stories that no one else has told.
- ***Curiosity:*** You find yourself asking people questions about themselves and their opinions.
- ***Research:*** You love finding out about new things and telling others about it.
- ***Writing:*** You live to write! Even photographers write a lot in our major. Synthesizing and analyzing information from lots of places makes you happy! Grammar is exciting!
- ***Interviewing:*** You enjoy meeting strangers and engaging them in conversation, and possibly taking pictures of them while you are doing it. You have no problem calling someone on the phone to ask a question instead of sending an email.
- ***Technology:*** Although writing or photography is your passion, you want to learn new ways to tell stories.



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## QUICK TIPS FOR SUCCESS!

- Thoroughly read ALL emails sent by the department and professors – if you don't read them, you are missing valuable information that could affect your ability to register for classes and your graduation. Check your sfsu email separately as all emails may not forward.
- Meet with an adviser every semester – your ability to register for classes may depend on it.
- Take the time to get to know each of your professors, use them as resources – they are here to help you succeed.
- Take classes that challenge you, not ones you think are easiest – the harder ones will make you a better journalist.
- Start looking for an internship now – the first one leads to the second one.
- Participate in department events and activities – we hold them for you to gain valuable connections and experience. **And, attending two each semester is required!**
- Apply for department scholarships – they will help with future networking and help your wallet.
- Sign up for Journalism Department Alumni group on Facebook – find networking opportunities, jobs and connect with alumni in the jobs you want. You don't need to be have graduated to join!
- Check bulletin boards in the Journalism hallway for events and opportunities.
- Read everything. Notices on the board - not just in the Journalism Department, but around campus. Read news from *everywhere everyday*.

## DEPARTMENT BACKGROUND

The San Francisco State University Journalism Department was founded in 1960. It is housed in the College of Liberal & Creative Arts and has a long tradition in language arts, literature, liberal arts and the humanities. We place emphasis on strong research, writing, and critical-thinking skills. We are particularly steeped in the traditions of journalism as an agent of social change and a bulwark for a healthy democracy. We expect students and journalists from our program to follow ethical and legal tenets in their practice of journalism, and these principles are fully integrated in skills courses. We also expect our students and graduates to remain open minded about the world, recognize their own biases and limitations, try to mitigate them through thorough reporting and questioning, and to stay ever curious about the world and its interdependence.

## DEPARTMENT MISSION

To educate students and provide leadership in an evolving media landscape by promoting integrity, creativity, innovation and social responsibility in accurately telling the stories of a multicultural world.

## PROGRAM GOALS

The Bachelor of Arts in Journalism prepares students for careers in journalism by providing instruction that requires students to demonstrate a working knowledge of the skills, laws, ethics, power, and responsibilities of the news media. A strong liberal arts education also is required. Skills courses are designed to help students become accurate and thorough researchers; precise and graceful writers; technically, aesthetically fine photojournalists; and competent digital technologists. Introductory courses emphasize the need to think and write clearly.

Writing students are required to take introductory courses in research, reporting, writing, digital skills, and editing. Photojournalism students are required to take introductory courses in writing, digital skills, and reporting as well as courses in basic photography and news photography. All students are required to take three courses in multimedia journalism. Advanced journalism courses are more specialized—feature writing, depth reporting, public journalism, investigative reporting, computer-assisted reporting, advanced multimedia, magazine writing, design courses and visual journalism for writers and editors. To understand the role of journalism in society, students also are required to take courses in mass media, journalism ethics and law, and cultural diversity. Students are strongly urged to develop speaking, writing, and listening competency in a second language.

Journalism students should master 12 competencies upon completion of the program. Within each of these competencies are specific learning outcomes that students are expected to obtain by the time of degree. Each year the department assesses its ability to fulfill these competencies.

### Learning Outcomes

**News Judgment:** Work demonstrates news judgment that identifies and develops story ideas through observation, reading and paying attention to their environment.

**Critical and Independent Thinking:** Work demonstrates an ability to synthesize information, think independently and work through problems using inference and logic.

**Cultural Competence:** Work demonstrates an understanding of a variety of cultures and how those cultures influence perspectives, attitudes and personal interaction with the world.

**Writing:** Work demonstrates concise, clear, and accurate writing that engages the audience with compelling storytelling.

**Analytical Competence:** Work demonstrates an ability to discern and weigh the quality of information they gather, as well as know how to analyze and interpret it.

**Research and Reporting:** Work demonstrates an ability to methodically find information through the Internet, public documents and personal interviews.

**Media Literacy:** Work demonstrates an ability to competently navigate through a rapidly changing media world, understanding media's influence on society, community and the democratic process, and understand the power of visual storytelling in shaping society's understanding of the world.

**Ethics, Integrity and the Law:** Work demonstrates an understanding of the ethical standards and constitutional laws that guide journalism excellence.

**Critical Evaluation:** Work demonstrates an ability to critically evaluate their own work and that of others for accuracy and fairness, clarity, appropriate style and grammatical correctness.

**Data and Numbers:** Work demonstrates an ability to apply basic numerical and statistical concepts.

**Technology:** Work demonstrates an ability to apply technology in their professional work.

**Visual Competence:** Work demonstrates an ability to research, find and capture in a technically competent, concise, well composed and visually compelling manner the gamut of human experience in a variety of formats.

## **ACCREDITATION**

We are an ACEJMC (Accrediting Council for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication) accredited program, one of nine in California and one of seven in the California State University program. As an accredited program we are bound to uphold nine journalism education standards: 1) Policies and practices that result in a fairly administered working and learning environment; 2) A strong curriculum and instruction that encourage learning, and prepare students for work in a diverse society; 3) A diverse and inclusive program that serves and reflects society; 4) A faculty (full and part-time) appropriately balanced with academic and professional credentials; 5) A department that supports faculty scholarship and professional development; 6) Student services that support learning and timely completion of the program; 7) Adequate resources and equipment to fulfill the department's mission; 8) A department that advances the journalism profession and serves its community, alumni and the larger public; 9) A department that regularly assesses student learning and uses the results of that assessment to improve the curriculum.

If at any time during the program you believe we are not living up to these standards, come to the chair's office and let him or her know.

## FACULTY

### Full-time, Tenured and Tenure-Track Professors

**Cristina L. Azocar**, Ph.D., *Department Chair and Associate Professor*. Azocar directed the department's Center for Integration and Improvement of Journalism from 2002-2011. In 2001, she received her doctorate in Communication Studies at U. of Michigan. Her research explores the intersection of race and journalistic practice and the coverage of Native Americans in the news media. Azocar is a past president of the Native American Journalists Association.

**Sachi Cunningham**, *Assistant Professor*. Cunningham's has been a staff video journalist at the Los Angeles Times, a staff member of the PBS news documentary series FRONTLINE and FRONTLINE/World. Her awards include Emmys, Webbys and Pictures of the Year International. A graduate of UC Berkeley's School of Journalism and Brown University, Cunningham's stories focus on the ocean environment.

**Jon Funabiki**, *Professor*: Former grantmaker with the Ford Foundation, one of the world's leading philanthropic institutions, and founding director of the Department's Center for Integration and Improvement of Journalism, which developed model programs to improve news media coverage of ethnic minority communities and issues. He is a former reporter and editor with The San Diego Union.

**Jesse Garnier**, *Assistant Professor*. Garnier has taught multimedia and online journalism at SF State since 1998. He is the editor and publisher of SFBay.ca, a Bay Area news startup founded in 2011. Previously, he directed multimedia and online editorial staff in New York for the Associated Press, and in San Francisco for both the Chronicle and the Examiner. Since 1997, Garnier has designed and programmed websites for news organizations and community groups, including a bilingual multimedia site for San Francisco and Mission District-based El Tecolote.

**Rachele Kanigel**, *Associate Professor*: Kanigel was a newspaper reporter for 15 years for daily newspapers, including The Oakland Tribune and The News & Observer of Raleigh, North Carolina and was a freelance correspondent for TIME magazine. She is author of The Student Newspaper Survival Guide.

**Kim Komenich**, *Assistant Professor*: Komenich worked as a staff photographer for the San Francisco Examiner (1982-2000) and the San Francisco Chronicle (2000-2007). He was awarded the 1987 Pulitzer Prize for Spot News Photography for photographs of the Philippine Revolution he made while on assignment for the Examiner. His documentary film and photography work can be seen at <http://kimkom.com>.

**Laura Moorhead**, *Assistant Professor*: Moorhead worked as a journalist for 15 years, most recently as a contributing editor at PBS Frontline/World and as a senior editor at *Wired*. She recently completed a doctorate in Learning Sciences & Technology Design in Education at Stanford University. Her research considers media literacy and open access to information.

**Venise Wagner**, *Associate Professor*: A former reporter with the San Francisco Chronicle and Hearst-owned San Francisco Examiner specialized in coverage of the Bay Area's African American communities, economic development, culture and education.

**Yumi Wilson**, *Associate Professor*: A former deputy readers' representative (ombudsperson) at the San Francisco Chronicle; former reporter for the Associated Press and the San Francisco Chronicle. Honors include, Fulbright Research Scholar in Japan, 2001. Her research interests include multi-ethnic family life, diversity issues in journalism and campaign finance.

## **Lecturers**

**Harriet Chiang**: Chiang is an award-winning journalist and writer. She was the legal affairs writer for the San Francisco Chronicle for many years, covering high-profile trials, including the O.J. Simpson murder trial. She is currently the marketing writer and editor for a national law firm. She has a law degree from UC's Hastings College of the Law.

**Roland De Wolk**: De Wolk created SF State's first online journalism curriculum and the first original online journalism production course in the nation. An award-winning journalist, he was a newspaper reporter for 15 years, has been published in magazines around the world, is the author of three books, and is now a TV news producer in charge of in-depth and investigative reports.

**Sibylla Herbrich**: Herbrich specializes in contemporary editorial photography. She is an award-winning Bay Area photojournalist, photo editor and photo educator. Her work has been published in national and international publications as well as photojournalism textbooks and has been featured in numerous gallery exhibitions.

**Don Menn**: Menn edited *Guitar Player* and *Multimedia World*; freelanced for Harper's, *San Francisco Magazine*, *The San Jose Mercury News*, *The San Francisco Chronicle*; wrote liner notes for Jimi Hendrix and Frank Zappa; edited numerous books; published poetry and fiction; and helped launch several award-winning periodicals.

**Beth Renneisen**: Renneisen is an award-winning visual journalist, writer and illustrator. She was the former graphics editor at the *Marin Independent Journal* in Marin County and contributing features writer and photographer for Gannett News Service. Her expertise includes an emphasis on experimental approaches to online design, including animation, virtual worlds and short-form video.



**Jim Toland:** A former San Francisco Chronicle editor and award-winning journalist and writer, is an alumnus. Author of several books, his byline has appeared in The New York Times and Sports Illustrated among others. He was chief writer for President Clinton's Y2K Education Web site and edited an education newsletter and Web site for The Times.

**Scot Tucker:** Teaches photojournalism courses in the department. He has worked as a staff photographer at the Napa Valley Register and as a freelance photographer for The San Mateo County Times, San Francisco Examiner and the Associated Press. He worked as a Picture Editor from 2001-2009 for [SFGate.com](http://SFGate.com).

**Jim Wagstaffe:** Is a litigation attorney who specializes in First Amendment and criminal cases. He has litigated numerous constitutional challenges to state and federal law. He is the co-author of "Commencing and Removing Actions of Federal Court." He also represents Xpress student publications.

## ADVISING

Journalism majors and minors are strongly encouraged to consult with a faculty adviser every academic year. They can choose their advisers or have one assigned by the department office. Students are asked to provide advisers with ongoing records of their complete academic record for the department advising folders.

**Mandatory** advising is **required** for upper division students. Seniors have mandatory advising in the fall semester and Juniors in the spring semester. An email from the department will notify you of your advising deadline (it's important to always read an email from the department before deleting it). Those who fail to meet the deadline will have a hold on their registration for classes for the next semester. Once advising is complete, your adviser will sign off on an advising form, which must then be submitted to the department office. The registration advising hold will not be lifted until the department receives this form.

Students have found advising very useful to plan their academic careers and to avoid common mistakes. Visits with an adviser do not have to be restricted to the curriculum. Advisers can also help you figure out what path you should take in your career. The advisers have had long journalism careers and know a lot about where the profession is going, so use their knowledge and expertise to your advantage. This is how you begin to mold your future career.

## CURRICULUM

To ensure that every journalism student's education is as rich and varied as possible, the department has established these requirements:

- **REQUIRED MINOR.** Journalism majors must complete a minor in one of the areas of study approved by faculty advisers. This minor also fulfills the [Complementary Studies](#) requirement for the university. Approved minors for this requirement are on our [website](#). Students should consult with an academic adviser in journalism to determine the minor that best meets their interests and professional goals, then contact the minor department to declare the minor. Please declare your minor as soon as you have chosen it so that you can enroll in classes.
- **NON-JOURNALISM UNITS.** Journalism majors must have a minimum of 72 non-journalism units in the 120 minimum overall units required for graduation. Included in these 72 units must be the minor in an approved subject area. The 72-unit requirement is consistent with the department's philosophy that a well-rounded education is crucial preparation for journalism and with the standards of the national accrediting agency (ACEJMC) that evaluates journalism education programs.
  - ◆ Accrediting standards require that we exclude classes in broadcasting (BECA), public relations (MKTG), marketing (MKTG), and advertising (MKTG) from qualifying as non-journalism units.
  - ◆ Please also be aware that classes in Art, Cinema, Design and others where you produce something will not count as non-journalism units. If you are unsure, check with the department chair.
  - ◆ You must maintain a GPA of 2.0 or higher in your minor.
- Journalism majors who successfully complete JOUR 300 GW in or after Fall 2009 will have satisfied the University Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR).

<b>Print/ Online Concentration</b>		<b>Units</b>
<b>Pre-Major (Required before students can add/change major or minor)</b>		
JOUR 205	Social Impact of Journalism	3
JOUR 221	Newswriting	3
JOUR 222	Newswriting Lab (1)	1
<b>Core</b>		
JOUR 226	Digital News Gathering	3
JOUR 300GW	Reporting	3
JOUR 307	News Media Law and Ethics	3
JOUR 395	Online Journalism	3
JOUR 400	Multimedia Journalism	
JOUR 610	Cultural Diversity and the News Media	3
<b>Core total units</b>		<b>18</b>

<b>Concentration Print and Online Journalism</b>		
JOUR 330	Editing	3
<b>Advanced Journalism Electives</b> (must choose two, at least one from <i>Writing</i> )		6
<b>Writing</b> (Must Choose One)		
JOUR 320	Investigative Reporting	
JOUR 321	Feature Writing	
JOUR 560	Public Journalism	
JOUR 570	Opinion Writing	
JOUR 575	Community Media	
JOUR 595	Magazine Writing	
JOUR 667	Variable Topics	

<b>Specialized</b>		
JOUR 500	Contemporary Magazine	
JOUR 426	Data Journalism	
JOUR 495	Profiles	
JOUR 582	Social Media Journalism	
JOUR 675	News Entrepreneurship	
JOUR 680	Advanced Multimedia	
<b>Visual Journalism</b> (Must Choose One)		3
JOUR 235	Photojournalism I	
JOUR 336	Visual Storytelling	
JOUR 450	Publication Design and Graphics	
<b>Concentration total units</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Capstone</b>		
JOUR 609	Publication Laboratory	3
<b>Second Semester Publication Laboratory Elective</b> (must choose one)		3
JOUR 609	Publication Laboratory	
JOUR 617	Journalism Internship	
JOUR 695	Senior Seminar	
<b>Capstone total units</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Total required units</b>		<b>43</b>
<b>Non-journalism units (includes required minor)</b> These 72 units must include a single subject minor chosen in consultation with an. Classes in broadcasting, public relations, and advertising (all have the prefix MKTG or BECA) and other production classes cannot qualify as non-journalism units.		72
<b>Total for Degree</b>		<b>120</b>

<b>Photojournalism Concentration</b>		<b>Units</b>
<b>Pre-Major (Required before students can add/change major or minor)</b>		
JOUR 205	Social Impact of Journalism	3
JOUR 221	Newswriting	3
JOUR 222	Newswriting Lab (1)	1
<b>Core</b>		
JOUR 226	Digital News Gathering	3
JOUR 300 GW	Reporting	3
JOUR 307	News Media Law and Ethics	3
JOUR 395	Online Journalism	3
JOUR 400	Multimedia Journalism	3
JOUR 610	Cultural Diversity and the News Media	3
<b>Core total units</b>		<b>18</b>

<b>Concentration Photojournalism</b>		
<b>Photojournalism Core</b>		
JOUR 235	Photojournalism I	3
JOUR 335	Photojournalism II	3
JOUR 435	Photojournalism III	3
JOUR 535	Photojournalism IV	3
<b>Concentration total units</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Capstone</b>		
JOUR 609	Publication Laboratory	3
<b>Second Semester Publication Laboratory Elective (must choose one)</b>		3
JOUR 609	Publication Laboratory	
JOUR 617	Journalism Internship	
JOUR 695	Senior Seminar	
<b>Capstone total units</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Total required units</b>		<b>43</b>
<b>Non-journalism units (includes required minor)</b>		
These 72 units must include a single subject minor chosen in consultation with an. Classes in broadcasting, public relations, and advertising (all have the prefix MKTG or BECA) and other production classes cannot qualify as non-journalism units.		72
<b>Total for Degree</b>		<b>120</b>

## Recommended Classes for First Semester Transfer Students

For transfer students who have already taken Jour 205 Social Impact of Journalism and Jour 221 Newswriting, the department recommends taking the following classes your first semester.

### **Print/Online Students**

JOUR 222 Newswriting Lab (1-unit)  
JOUR 226 Digital News Gathering  
JOUR 300 Reporting  
JOUR 330 Editing  
MINOR and/or Upper Division GE  
MINOR and/or Upper Division GE

### **Photojournalism Students**

JOUR 222 Newswriting Lab (1-unit)  
JOUR 235 Photo I  
JOUR 226 Digital News Gathering  
JOUR 300 Reporting  
JOUR 307 News Media Law & Ethics  
MINOR and/or Upper Division GE

## Skills Courses

Skills courses offered by the Department of Journalism impart the various skills and crafts necessary to the practice of journalism. There are three levels of skills courses: foundational, advanced, and capstone. The capstone skills courses provide students a culminating opportunity to integrate skills acquired in foundational and advanced courses, working and learning collaboratively. Journalism majors and minors ***must earn grades of C or better*** in all foundational, advanced, and capstone skills courses.

- **Foundational Courses:** JOUR 205 Social Impact of Journalism; JOUR 221 Newswriting; JOUR 222 Newswriting Lab; JOUR 226 Digital News Gathering; JOUR 300 Reporting; JOUR 307 News Media Law & Ethics; JOUR 330 Editing; JOUR 395 Online Journalism; JOUR 400 Multimedia Journalism; JOUR 235 Photojournalism I.
- **Advanced Journalism Courses:**  
**WRITING:** JOUR 320 Investigative Reporting; JOUR 321 Feature Writing; JOUR 560 Public Journalism; JOUR 570 Opinion Writing; JOUR 575 Community Media; JOUR 595 Magazine Writing; JOUR 650 Seminar in Contemporary News Media; JOUR 667 Variable Topics in Journalism  
**SPECIALIZED:** JOUR 500 Contemporary Magazine; Jour 426 Data Journalism; JOUR 495 Profiles; JOUR 582 Social Media Journalism; JOUR 675 News Entrepreneurship; JOUR 680 Advanced Multimedia  
**VISUAL:** JOUR 335 Photojournalism II; JOUR 435 Photojournalism III; JOUR 535 Photojournalism IV; JOUR 450 Publication Design and Graphics
- **CAPSTONE:** JOUR 609 Publication Laboratory; and for the 2nd semester of practicum: JOUR 608 News Bureau; JOUR 617 Journalism Internship; and JOUR 695 Senior Seminar are also options.

## Other Requirements

- Students may enroll in only one Publication Laboratory course section per semester.

- Journalism majors and minors must take all journalism courses (except for JOUR 617 Internship) for letter grade only.
- JOUR 617 Internship requires a proposal if not already a certified internship by the add deadline. See [this page](#) for more information.
- Students are required to attend two [journalism approved events](#) each semester. These events will be announced by faculty members, the department and be listed on our website. Certain classes are exempted, please check the website for these.
- Students may only repeat a class twice for credit. Students must withdraw by the published deadline or they will receive a WU, which is equivalent to an F and factored into their GPA.

## Requirements for a Minor in Journalism

Program		Units
JOUR 205	Social Impact of Journalism	3
JOUR 221	Newswriting	3
JOUR 226	Digital News Gathering	3
JOUR 300	Reporting	3
JOUR 307	News Media Law and Ethics	3
Electives – six units of the students choosing in consultation with an advisor		6
<b>Total</b>		<b>21</b>

## GOLDEN GATE XPRESS

The department hosts three student-run and managed publications: Xpress Newspaper, which is published weekly; Xpress Online, which is updated daily during the regular school year; Xpress Magazine, which is published two-three times a semester. These publications are designed to be lab courses where students can experiment with the latest trends in the field. Sometimes Xpress is way ahead of the field. Each year, for example, students in the magazine class developed an iPad application, something very few publications have done. Faculty advisers are constantly encouraging students to push the envelope, but decisions always rest with the students. To serve on the publication, students must complete Jour 300 Reporting, with at least a C.

## JOUR 617 INTERNSHIP

After completing one semester of Jour 609 Publication Lab, journalism students can fulfill their second semester capstone requirement by successfully completing an internship. Students need to enroll in Jour 617 Internship the semester the internship occurs. Students must have an approved internship proposal by the add deadline. As a culminating experience, the internship must provide significant professional experience. Additionally, we expect the internship to support the mission of our department. An internship is not required to graduate.

Certified internships have already gone through the approval process of the department. Please check the website for a current list of approved internships.

## EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS

We understand that students in the journalism department have certain goals in mind when they choose to join the program. While we can help you meet your academic and career goals, you must also be an agent of your own success. That means being actively engaged in learning. An essential trait of a good journalist is curiosity. Your curiosity can lead you down many interesting paths. Use this same curiosity in the classroom. This means coming to class prepared, reading assigned readings, meeting deadlines, and having good questions for the instructor during class time. The faculty have established rules and policies that are well established in the journalism profession. We see our job as preparing you for real world experience. These rules and policies were developed in that context.

### **San Francisco State Journalism Department Ethical Guidelines**

The First Amendment assures freedom of speech and entrusts the press with explicit protection. These rights establish the important role of journalism in our democratic society, and demand journalists adhere to the highest ethical standards to protect the integrity of journalism and the credibility that audiences expect.

As an institution of journalism education, we expect journalistic excellence from our students. Following this code of ethics along with best professional practices is required of San Francisco State journalism students.

Use this code to recognize and navigate ethical dilemmas presenting themselves in your work as student journalist, intern or professional.

Overall, this department abides by a broad interpretation of the Society of Professional Journalists Code of Ethics.

This or any code cannot be comprehensive. Many ethical decisions involve unique circumstances. When in doubt about the ethics surrounding a situation, consult a Journalism faculty member. It is your responsibility to know what is ethical.

### BEHIND THE CODE

**Strive for accuracy, fairness and inclusive reporting practices.** Safeguard against bias by checking with a variety of sources. Get outside of your circle and talk to people other than usually cited experts or sources. Explore how perspectives about a story might be influenced by race, gender, class, sexual orientation, generation and/or geography. Look for shades of gray: Those can be the most interesting places to dig. Go out of your way to check, then check again, then check one more time. Minimize harm.

**Be professional.** Always introduce yourself as a San Francisco State journalism student before an interview. This can be tricky — and important — in social situations where conversation is casual. If someone reveals information you feel may be crucial for a story, it's important they know you are a journalist and that you want to use the information in a story. Treat sources as you would want to be treated if the roles were reversed. Be punctual. Dress appropriately when on assignment. Do not engage in conduct unbecoming of the department during class, online or while on assignment. Such misconduct includes disruptive behavior, physical or verbal abuse, property damage, theft, lewd or obscene behavior — and discrimination on the basis of race, gender, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation or place of origin.

**Ask, don't assume.** Don't be afraid to ask what may seem to be an "obvious" question. Journalists can sometimes get into trouble because they assume rather than ask. Better to ask — and attribute — than to print or produce the wrong information.

**Correct your errors.** We all make mistakes. Journalists admit to them and correct them publicly. Notify your professor or student editor promptly if you discover or are made aware of any errors.

**Avoid conflicts of interest.** Conflicts or perceived conflicts can arise when a student has a connection to the subjects or institutions they are covering, or a personal stake in the outcome. Do not allow financial, family or personal interests to make you part of the story. The appearance of conflict can be just as perilous as an actual conflict, so when in doubt, ask your professor. Disclose all potential conflicts to your instructor or editor before beginning an assignment.

**Expose injustice and give voice to those who rarely have one.** This is the motto of some of the world's most respected journalists.

**Don't fabricate.** If you are caught fabricating information or sources for any assignment in any journalism class, you will receive an F on the assignment and could receive a failing grade for the course given the weight of the assignment and the Journalism chair will be notified. Subsequent discoveries of fabrication may subject you

## CODE OF ETHICS

As a member of the Journalism program at SF State, the following ethical guidelines will drive all of my journalistic activities. I will:

**Be accurate, fair and inclusive.**

**Be professional.**

**Ask, not assume.**

**Correct my errors.**

**Avoid conflicts of interest.**

**Expose injustice and give voice to those who rarely have one.**

**Never fabricate anything.**

**Never plagiarize.**

**Never deceive or mislead using journalistic tools.**



to department review of all work performed for credit in the Journalism Department, with discipline up to and including disqualification from the journalism program.

People can feel pressured to fabricate when they are unprepared with deadline pressure weighing on them. Don't corner yourself. Locate sources early. Schedule and prepare for interviews ahead of time. Do your research in advance. If you have trouble with any of these things, faculty members are ready and willing to help.

**Don't plagiarize.** Plagiarism, the passing off of someone else's work as your own, is a serious offense against scholarship, journalism and honesty. It is regarded as a serious offense by this university and this department.

When a journalist steals someone else's work, the credibility of all his or her associates is damaged, and the integrity of the publication in which the plagiarized work is published is also questioned.

Plagiarists fail their readers, their profession and themselves. San Francisco State University calls plagiarism "literary theft" and treats it as a disciplinary issue. Journalism professors regard plagiarists as liars and thieves.

Never copy and paste from the Internet without citing the source. Always cite the source and seek guidance from your professor if needed.

Using the same work for multiple classes is not allowed except with permission from all instructors and/or editors involved.

Any assignments found to have represented the work of others as one's own without citation of the source will receive an F on the assignment and could receive a failing grade for the course given the weight of the assignment. Additionally, the Journalism chair will be notified. Additional incidents of plagiarism could trigger a department review and discipline, including disqualification.

**Don't mislead viewers or misrepresent subjects.** Any editing, including use of software for photo and video, should maintain the integrity of the images' content and context. Any altering of sound, manipulation of images in video or still photographs that misleads viewers undermines the most basic contract of authenticity that visual journalists have with their viewers.

Any assignments discovered with manipulation deemed deceptive or misleading will receive an F on the assignment and the Journalism chair will be notified. Subsequent incidents of manipulation could trigger a department review and discipline, including disqualification.

## **Use of Technology in the Classroom**

Some courses are dependent on technology, while others are not. Be aware that instructors may have different rules about the use of cell phones and computers in their class. Stay engaged in your classes. Be alert, pay attention, or you might miss an important point. That means putting your cell phone away and turning off Facebook and other social networks during class. If the instructor allows you to use cell phones and computers during class, you still need to pay attention. Sending emails to friends during a lecture is not only inconsiderate to the instructor, but it shows a lack of respect for the subject, which is part of your academic goals.

## **Tardiness and Attendance**

Yes, MUNI is unreliable. Cars break down on the bridge. And traffic jams are plentiful. But that just means you need to plan ahead, give yourself a little bit of extra time get to school, class or your interview. Be on time to class and appointments. If something happens, make sure to let your instructor or adviser know as soon as possible. Attendance is also essential to success in the classroom. When you miss a class, you miss important information and lessons that can affect your understanding of subsequent lessons. If you have to miss a class, let your instructor know. Each instructor has his or her own rules on handling absence. Make sure to read the syllabus, and keep your absences to a minimum.

## **Illness and Leave from a Course**

We understand illness is a part of life. But it is important to let an instructor know about any long-term illnesses that may affect your ability to attend class and perform well in the class. If you are sick for a long period of time, sometimes it is better to drop the class and start fresh the next semester. Incompletes are discouraged in this department, and the university requires students complete at least 75 percent of the work for the semester to get an incomplete. The reason the department discourages incompletes is we find it is very difficult for students to make up the work. The university requires students complete the final work within one semester after the class. That seems reasonable, but generally students get so involved in their current course work, that it is difficult for them to find the time to complete the make-up work. All of this should be discussed with your instructor to come to a reasonable solution to the problem.

There are also instances when a student dealing with an illness or family issue has missed so much of his or her classes that it makes sense to withdraw from the entire semester. If this is the case, you should visit the department chair in HUM 305 to discuss your options.

It is the sole responsibility of a student to withdraw from a course prior to the deadline. Unauthorized withdrawals (WU) from a class are factored into your GPA as an F.

## TECHNOLOGY

**Equipment:** Equipment: Since today's journalists must be prepared to cover stories at a moment's notice across multiple formats, having the right equipment to capture photos, audio and video in real-time is essential. We recommend all journalism majors have a modern smartphone capable of recording HD or 4K video; most contemporary Android and iOS phones meet these requirements.

We also recommend being able to utilize multiple methods of transferring photos, videos and audio off of your smartphone for editing, production and publication. This includes a portable USB hard drive (1TB or greater recommended), high-speed Secure Digital (SD) cards (32gb or higher with minimum UHS-1 speed rating), and cloud storage accounts with adequate capacity, including but not limited to Google Drive, Box.com, or Dropbox.

In addition to a smartphone and external storage, dedicated devices for capturing high-quality audio and video are also recommended. Many modern point-and-shoot cameras are sufficient for photos and HD video, as are dedicated camcorders, preferably with an input for an external microphone (e.g. Canon Vixia HFR600, Panasonic HC-V770). Dedicated high-fidelity digital audio recorders (Tascam DR-05, Zoom H2N) can be used standalone or alongside video equipment to capture production-quality audio.

If you are a photojournalism major you must purchase a DSLR (single-lens reflex) digital camera. It is recommended you select a camera with a dedicated audio input for external microphones, like a Canon EOS Rebel T5i, or Nikon D3300.

For advanced multimedia classes you will also be required to use professional grade equipment for capturing audio and video. The department has a variety of devices available for you to check out on a first come, first serve basis. Please contact Scot Tucker ([tucker@sfsu.edu](mailto:tucker@sfsu.edu)) for more information.

Other classes may require that you purchase professional grade equipment. Photojournalism courses, for example, require that you purchase a DSLR digital camera. Check with your instructor for more details about what will be needed. If you have any questions regarding equipment, please contact Kim Komenich ([komenich@sfsu.edu](mailto:komenich@sfsu.edu)) Scot Tucker ([tucker@sfsu.edu](mailto:tucker@sfsu.edu)), Sachi Cunningham ([sachic@sfsu.edu](mailto:sachic@sfsu.edu)) or Jesse Garnier ([jgarnier@sfsu.edu](mailto:jgarnier@sfsu.edu)).

**Labs:** The department hosts four labs. Labs are *generally* open from 9 a.m. – 9:45 p.m. Mon-Thurs. and 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. on Friday. HUM 308 is dedicated to the Xpress Newsroom. You are welcome to use those computers when newsroom staff are not working on them. HUM 306, 309/310 and 312 are also labs but also house many courses. You are welcome to use those computers when classes are not in session. Help us keep the labs and classrooms clean. We want to keep the computers in the best shape as possible.

**SECURITY:** Theft is the most common crime on campus. Never leave in a classroom phones, laptops, readers, or any other object you wish to keep. They are not secure. Log-off of computers when not in use. You are not only jeopardizing your own identity, but the identity of your sources and your classmates.

All electronic and telephone communication is vulnerable to hacking and snooping, which can put journalists and their sources at risk. We must always strive to communicate securely and protect our sources, particularly when working on sensitive stories. Students can learn about ways to do this at [pressfreedomfoundation.org/encryption-works](http://pressfreedomfoundation.org/encryption-works).

## **ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF CLASS**

One of the unique things about the Journalism program at San Francisco State is friendships that are started here usually last for a long time. Faculty are very attentive. Because you spend so much time with the same people in your classes, you are bound to develop some deep friendships. The department also hosts some amazing events, allowing students to meet professionals in the field who are doing some incredible things and to learn the ins and outs of specialized tools that can be useful for journalism. These events also offer you an opportunity to meet some of your peers in the program.

## **RENAISSANCE JOURNALISM**

San Francisco State University's Department of Journalism created Renaissance Journalism ([www.rejournalism.org](http://www.rejournalism.org)) to spark promising new journalistic models, storytelling methods and other media practices that serve, strengthen and empower communities. RJC incubates innovative projects and initiatives that demonstrate new ways in which journalism and media can be harnessed to benefit communities.

Renaissance Journalism was founded in 2009 by Executive Director Jon Funabiki, a professor of journalism and former Deputy Director of Media, Arts & Culture at the Ford Foundation. Valerie Chow Bush is the center's Deputy Director.

RJC utilizes a variety of tools, including grants, technical assistance, training and research, and it forges entrepreneurial partnerships with journalists and their news organizations, ethnic and hyperlocal news outlets, philanthropic and nonprofit organizations, scholars and students. If you are interested in learning more about RJC contact Jon Funabiki at [funabiki@sfsu.edu](mailto:funabiki@sfsu.edu).

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Journalism Department offers several scholarship opportunities to students. We encourage students to apply for as many as they are eligible. In some cases the award is more than monetary; it offers networking opportunities – invaluable career mapping. Watch your email for an announcement about scholarships.

## **Tips for Applying for Scholarships**

A number of factors have informed the judges' decisions and should be kept in mind when applying:

- Make sure you meet all the requirements as stated on the announcement, e.g., the minimum GPA, a biography, statement of need, etc.
- Once the online application is completed and saved, make certain to click "Submit."
- If there is a question or essay topic, give it some thought before you begin writing and be sure you have addressed it *in depth* – and not some other subject.
- Examine the emphasis, intent and values evident in the scholarship announcement and consider if those are reflected in your experience or career plans.
- Proofread, proofread, proofread.
- Photojournalism applicants should demonstrate a wide variety of photojournalism skills, submit a tightly edited portfolio, and excel in storytelling capabilities within each image.

***The Kat Anderson Media Workers Support Fund for Student Journalists*** assists promising SFSU journalism majors who have financial need and are interested in either focusing on or have focused on 1) issues affecting women; 2) labor reporting and/or other economic social justice issues; 3) issues in minority communities such as the African American, Asian American, American Indian or Latina/Latino communities. The \$1,000 scholarship will give a student the opportunity to focus on areas of study that he or she may not have otherwise considered.

***The Otto J. Bos Memorial Scholarship for Excellence in Journalism***, awards full tuition for the academic year to a full-time student taking at least one journalism class each semester. Otto Bos was a 1970 graduate of the department. Following graduation, he became a government and politics reporter at *The San Diego Union*. In 1977, Otto became press secretary for San Diego Mayor Pete Wilson. He continued to serve Wilson as he later was elected a U.S. senator and then California governor. At the time of his death of a heart attack in 1991, Otto was Gov. Wilson's director of communications and public affairs.

***The Bob Brown and Greg Robinson scholarships*** are awarded respectively to BECA or journalism students (Bob Brown) or photojournalism students (Greg Robinson). Both of these scholarships, when available, defray the cost of tuition. Bob Brown was an NBC News cameraman and Greg Robinson a photographer for the San Francisco Examiner when it was Hearst-owned. Both journalists were killed in Guyana on Nov. 18, 1978 during a visit to the controversial religious sect called the People's Temple. While there, members of the group shot at Congressman Leo J. Ryan, his aides and several journalists.

***The Friends of Greg Robinson Photojournalism Fund for Supplies*** was established to disburse a stipend for photographic supplies to the Greg Robinson Scholarship winner.

***The Richard Cushing Scholarship in Journalism*** was established to assist promising journalism majors who demonstrate financial need. Richard received his undergraduate degree from SFSU in 1948, worked for 15 years in the S.F. bureau of the Associated Press, and was one of the first Americans to enter Tokyo when the war ended. He covered the surrender to Gen. Douglas MacArthur on the main deck of the battleship Missouri. Richard reached his professional pinnacle serving as Deputy Director of the Voice of America (1968-69).

***The Stacey Doukas Memorial Scholarship***, when available, is awarded to photojournalism students. Stacey was a student at San Francisco State when her car overturned on a Bay Area freeway causing her death. Her family established scholarship to remember her free spirit and love of life.

***The John & Douglas Fang Memorial Scholarship*** honors the memory of John Fang, the late publisher of the *San Francisco Independent*, by providing support, when available, to journalism majors in good academic standing. Applicants are called upon to make a strong case in favor of diversity in journalism, a major concern of Mr. Fang.

***The William G. Flynn Political Reporting Scholarship*** is in memory of the late William G. Flynn, long-time political reporter on the *San Francisco Examiner* and for *Newsweek*, who died in 1990, to encourage interest and excellence in political reporting among San Francisco State student journalists.

***The Frank McCulloch Investigative Reporting Scholarship*** offers small grants, when available, for students to pursue investigative reporting. Frank McCulloch is a famed investigative reporter and an editor who, in the course of five decades, went after some of the biggest stories that would make history. He exposed connections between politicians and the mafia. When covering Vietnam, he wrote stories that countered official reports about the progress of the war. He spent many years as an editor fighting libel actions and making sure journalists remained protected by the First Amendment. He wrote the first cover story of Thurgood Marshall before he was a Supreme Court Justice but after he made a name for himself in the Brown v. Board of Education trial. McCulloch, who is in his early 90s, lives in the Santa Rosa area.

The application periods vary. Keep your eyes open for email announcements and fliers that advertise the call for applications.

## **STUDY ABROAD**

International journalism experience and a second language are highly valued skills in journalism. The department has exchanges with six programs in five universities worldwide. Getting a new perspective on the world will help you in your reporting and in your ability to empathize with and understand a broad range of people. It will also help you get a job after graduation. For the most up to date information on our exchanges, visit the [Office of International Programs website](#). You must successfully pass Jour 300 Reporting to study abroad. You may apply, however, during the semester you are taking

Jour 300. Additionally, there are no study abroad equivalents to Jour 307 Law and Ethics.

Applications are generally due the year before the exchange. The OIP encourages freshmen to apply for exchanges in their sophomore year. You must meet with an adviser to discuss course options/articulations as part of the application process.

**University of Technology, Sydney, Australia**

UT is one of the top universities in the country. Students in this program can take courses in the following fields: Media Arts, Journalism, and Broadcasting. This can be a semester-long or academic year program. Financial aid can be used to cover tuition costs for this program.

**Concordia University, Montreal, Canada**

Concordia University is one of Canada's most innovative and diverse comprehensive universities. Of the nearly 45,000 students enrolled at Concordia, eleven percent are international students who come from more than 150 different countries. This can be a semester-long or academic year program. Financial aid can be used to cover tuition costs for this program.

**Danish School of Media and Journalism, Aarhus, Denmark**

DSJ is the only recognized professional journalism school in Denmark. It has received international recognition for contributing to the development of a free press in Central and Eastern Europe and other developing nations. There are prescribed sets of courses that fulfill SF State Journalism requirements. This is a semester-long program. Financial aid can be used to cover tuition costs for this program.

**Europe and the World Journalism Program – Utrecht, The Netherlands & Aarhus, Denmark**

This yearlong-program combines course work from the Aarhus program in Denmark and the Dutch School of Journalism in the Hogeschool van Utrecht and includes courses in journalism and European studies. Financial aid can be used to cover tuition costs for this program.

**Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (PUC), Santiago, Chile**

Over the last few years, the university has had considerable influence on the country's cultural and scientific development. In addition, the PUC has established itself as a strong supporter of international student exchange and is well-equipped to provide academic and personal assistance to CSU students. Four semesters of college-level language study or equivalent proficiency by the end of the last full semester prior to departure required. This is a year-long program. Financial aid can be used to cover tuition costs for this program

**Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, Port Elizabeth, South Africa**

Students study in the Bachelor of Technology in Journalism program at NMMU. This is a semester-long program. To gain a greater understanding of the South African culture, IP students enroll in Xhosa language each semester while attending Nelson Mandela

Metropolitan University. Financial aid can be used to cover tuition costs for this program

### **ieiMedia – Summer Study Abroad Program**

ieiMedia provides a summer experience in cities that may include Perpignan, France; Istanbul, Turkey; Prague, Czech Republic; Urbino, Italy. Each of these programs offers language classes as well as coursework in reporting, writing and multimedia storytelling. Students can earn three-credit units that will fulfill the advanced journalism requirement (Writing or Specialized). The costs for this program (about \$5,000) cannot be covered using financial aid. However, scholarships are available.

## **Current Study Abroad Equivalents**

### ***Europe and the World Program***

<b>Utrecht Courses (September-December)</b>	<b>SFSU Courses</b>
Intro to UtrechtViews and Digital Publishing	Jour 226 Digital Newsgathering
Reporting Europe/Brussels trip	Advanced Journalism (Writing or Specialized))
Regional Economy	Non-Jour credits
European Economics	Non-Jour credits
European History	Non-Jour credits
English Writing (optional)	
Intro to European Las (2 <sup>nd</sup> Block)	
Europe and Islam (2 <sup>nd</sup> Block)	Jour 610 Cultural Diversity in News Media
Political Philosophy (optional, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Block)	Non-Jour credits
<b>Aarhus Courses</b>	<b>SFSU Courses</b>
Introduction to Dane Views	
Foreign Policy and World Politics	Non-Jour credits
Euroviews	Jour 610 Cultural Diversity in News Media
Final Exam Project and Oral Exam	Advanced Journalism (Writing or Specialized)

### ***Danish School of Journalism***

<b>DSJ Courses</b>	<b>SFSU Courses</b>
Introduction and International Newsgathering	Advanced Journalism (Specialized)
EU Workshop	Jour 609 Publication Lab
Lectures on World Politics and Europe	Jour 610 Cultural Diversity in U.S. News
Risk Reporting	Advanced Journalism (Writing or Specialized)
Final Project	Advanced Journalism (Writing or Specialized)
Journalism, Multimedia and World Politics	Advanced Journalism (Specialized)
Photojournalism 1 (portfolio required for entry)	Jour 335 Photo II
Photojournalism 2 (portfolio required for entry)	Jour 435 Photo III
Graphic Design	Jour 450 Publication Design & Graphics (Visual elective)

### ***University of Technology, Sydney***

<b>UTS Courses</b>	<b>SFSU Courses</b>
Introduction to Journalism	Jour 221 Newswriting, Jour 205 Social Impact of Journalism
Reporting with Sound and Image	Jour 395 Online Journalism
Reporting & Editing for Print & Online Journalism	Jour 330 Editing
Online Documentary	Jour 395 Online Journalism
Television and Video Journalism	Jour 400 Multimedia Journalism



Storytelling, Narrative and Features	Advanced Journalism (Writing)
Specialist Reporting, Audiences and Interactivity	Advanced Journalism (Writing or Specialized)
Industry Portfolio	Jour 609 Publication

\* Reporting and Editing for Print and Online Journalism is a prerequisite for 1, 2 and 3

### **Concordia University, Montreal**

<b>CU Courses</b>	<b>SFSU Courses</b>
Jour 303 Feature Writing	Advanced Journalism (Writing)
Jour 310 Gender, Diversity and Journalism	Jour 610 Cultural Diversity and Journalism
Jour 318 Publication Workshop	Jour 450 Publication Design and Graphics
Jour 319 Computer Assisted Reporting	Advanced Journalism (Specialized)
Jour 321 Visual Journalism	Jour 395 Online Journalism
Jour 325 Social Media and Mobile Reporting	Advanced Journalism (Specialized)
Jour 330 Radio Newsroom	Advanced Journalism (Specialized)
Jour 336 Introduction to Television	Advanced Journalism (Specialized)
Jour 336 Photojournalism	Advanced Journalism (Visual)
Jour 400 Advanced Reporting	Advanced Journalism (Writing)
Jour 402 Specialist Reporting	Advanced Journalism (Writing)
Jour 404 Magazine Writing	Advanced Journalism (Writing)
Jour 421 Advanced Video Journalism	Jour 400 Multimedia Journalism
Jour 428 Multi-Platform Journalism	Jour 395 Online Journalism
Jour 428 Multi-platform Journalism	Jour 226 Digital Newsgathering
Jour 432 Documentary Video and Radio	Advanced Journalism (Specialized)
Jour 436 Citizen Journalism	Advanced Journalism (Specialized)
Jour 442 International Journalism	Jour 610 Cultural Diversity and Journalism
Jour 443 The Digital Magazine	Jour 609 Publication
Jour 445 Advanced Photojournalism	Jour 435 Photo III
Jour 450 Journalism Practicum	Jour 609 Publication

## **MAPPING YOUR FUTURE**

It is a very exciting time to be a journalist. But to be successful during such a transformative time, you need a really good plan. You can't rely on something happening when you walk across the stage with your diploma. You have to be the agent of your own success. So think about these questions: What are your professional goals? How will you get there? We can offer you two pieces of advice will take you very far on this path.

1. First, carefully read the department [internship page](#) for all information. We suggest completing two internships prior to graduating, but it is not a requirement. You can get credit for internships through two avenues. The first is Jour 699 Directed Study credit for up to three credit units, but these credits do not count for graduation. There is no prerequisite for this class. The internship must involve some journalism, such as writing, producing multimedia, managing social media, making photos, or fact checking. Getting coffee for the boss does not count. The experience needs to be meaningful and purposeful and brings you closer to your career goal. The second avenue for internship credit is JOUR 617 Journalism Internship with a prerequisite of one semester of JOUR 609 Publication Lab, with a C or better. A proposal or acceptance to a certified internship is required prior to the add deadline.

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2. Having a mentor or coach in the same profession is essential when learning how to navigate the ins and outs of getting your work out there. We have a volunteer mentoring program we encourage you to participate in. We have a great resource of names and contacts we can use to find the perfect match for you. Jim Toland, one of our lecturers, coordinates our mentoring program. When he sends out a message to all journalism majors, be sure to respond. He is here to help.