

## School of Media

Western Kentucky University  
 216 Jody Richards Hall  
 1906 College Heights Blvd. 11070  
 Bowling Green, Ky. 42101-1070  
[www.wku.edu/journalism](http://www.wku.edu/journalism) 270 745-4144

# Photojournalism

**45 hours** (Ref. # 750)

(Effective for catalog year **Fall 2021** and thereafter)

### Specific objectives are to:

- Develop the artistic, technical, and personal qualities of those who pursue a professional career in photojournalism.
- Develop a background for understanding the role of photojournalism in shaping and reflecting contemporary society.
- Provide instruction in photographic theory, principles, and practice for the student in any area of scholarly pursuit where such knowledge is needed to improve understanding and abilities.

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Prospective majors may take no more than 15 hours in the major before admission. Students must meet the following requirements before they can be admitted:

1. Completion of a minimum of 24 hours of coursework applicable to a baccalaureate degree
2. A minimum overall grade point average of 2.5
3. Completion of ENG 100 with a grade of C or above and 9 additional hours in the Colonnade Program,
4. Completion of the following courses with a grade of C or above: SOM 101, SOM 102, PJ 131, and PJ 331.

Students not meeting the above admission requirements will not be admitted into the Photojournalism major and cannot register for any additional courses in the major.

**CURRICULUM:** The major in Photojournalism (ref.# 750) requires 45 semester hours and leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree. No course with a grade of "D" or below may be counted toward the major or fulfill prerequisite requirements. One-half of the hours in the major must be at the 300- or 400-level. Students must take a minimum of 72 semester hours in courses outside of the School of Media, including the university's Colonnade Program requirements.

In addition to meeting institutional requirements for graduation, the Photojournalism major must have *a minor or second major outside of the School of Media and the Film Studies minor* that is approved by the major faculty advisor. Students may not select a minor in Film Studies, or those offered within the School, unless it is taken as a second minor.

### Required Courses - 33 hours (prerequisites in *italics*)

SOM 101	Understanding Media Content, Ethics and Technology
SOM 102	Media Content, Collaboration and Community
JOUR 202	Introduction to News Writing
PJ 131	Fundamentals of Photography
PJ 331	Photojournalism ( <i>PJ 131; or permission</i> )

### One of the following two law classes

JOUR 301	Press Law and Ethics (junior standing, <i>PS 110, SOM 101 and JOUR 202; or permission</i> )
BCOM 301	Mass Communication Law and Ethics ( <i>PS 110 and BCOM 201; or permission</i> )
JOUR 302	Intermediate Reporting ( <i>SOM 101 and JOUR 202; or permission</i> )
PJ 330	Short Form Documentary ( <i>PJ 131; or permission</i> )
PJ 333	Lighting Technologies ( <i>PJ 330 or PJ 331; or permission</i> )
PJ 431	Advanced Photojournalism ( <i>PJ 330 and PJ 331; or permission</i> )
PJ 430	Advanced Short Form Documentary ( <i>PJ 330 and PJ 331; or permission</i> )

### Capstone Course - 3 hours

PJ 436	Photojournalism Projects ( <i>PJ 430 and PJ431; or permission</i> )
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**Diversity Elective - 3 hours** Select one course from the following list: SOM 310-Media Diversity, ANTH 448-Visual Anthropology, COMM 463-Intercultural Communication, CRIM 446-Gender, Crime, and Justice, FLK 330-Cultural Connections and Diversity, SOCL 355-Sociology of Gender, SOCL 362-Social Institutions: Race, Class, and Gender, SOCL 375-Diversity in American Society, SPAN 345-Hispanic Representation in the Media,

Or a diversity class approved by an academic advisor. (Courses may have prerequisites.)

### Restricted Elective - 6 hours (prerequisites in *italics*)

JOUR 323	News Editing (JOUR 202)
JOUR 325	Feature Writing (JOUR 302 and JOUR 323; or permission)
PJ 336	Picture Editing (SOM 102 and PJ 131; or permission)
PJ 390	Cultural History of Photography
PJ 439	Advanced Lighting and Contract Photography (PJ 333)
FILM 376	Cinematography (BCOM 366 or FILM 282)
FILM 377	Film Sound (FILM 282 and BCOM 366)
SOM 399	Special Topics in Media – Study Abroad
SOM 402	First Amendment Research and Reporting (permission)

## Major in Photojournalism

### 2021 Catalog Term

For students entering the university in Fall 2021 and thereafter, the following four-year plan will help guide you through the Photojournalism major in consultation with your faculty adviser. Every student will finish with her/his unique plan, depending on the second major or minor, etc. Refer to the university undergraduate catalog for additional information. Course descriptions may be viewed at: <http://www.wku.edu/undergraduatecatalog>.

**Note:** To meet ACEJMC accreditation standards, students must take a minimum of 72 semester hours in courses outside of the School of Media, including the university's Colonnade general education requirements.

\*Accrediting Council on Education for Journalism and Mass Communication

### Major in Photojournalism – Four Year Plan

**120 hours with a 21-hour minor outside of the School of Media**

#### Fall

#### Spring

<b>Freshman Year</b>	<b>SOM 101</b> Understanding Media <b>SOM 102</b> Media Content <b>PJ 131</b> Fundamentals of Photo College Composition (F-W1) Human Communication (F-OC)  (15 hours)	<b>PJ 331</b> Photojournalism PS 110* American Nat'l Gov't (E-SB) Arts & Humanities (E-AH) Quantitative Reasoning (F-QR) Minor Course  (15 hours)
<b>Sophomore Year</b>	<b>PJ 330</b> Short Form Documentary <b>JOUR 202</b> News Writing World History (F-SB) Natural & Physical Science w/lab (E-SL) General Elective or Foreign Language**  (15 hours)	<b>PJ 333</b> Lighting Technologies <b>PJ Diversity Elective</b> Literary Studies (F-AH) Natural & Physical Science w/o lab (E-NS) Minor Course  (15 hours)
<b>Junior Year</b>	<b>JOUR 301 or BCOM 301</b> Press Law Connections - Social & Culture (K-SC) Minor Course Minor Course General Elective Course  (15 hours)	<b>PJ 431</b> Advanced Photojournalism <b>JOUR 302</b> Intermediate Reporting Writing in the Disciplines (F-W2) Connections - Local to Global (K-LG) Minor Course  (15 hours)
<b>Senior Year</b>	<b>PJ 430</b> Advanced Short Form Documentary <b>PJ Elective</b> Minor Course Minor Course General Elective Course  (15 hours)	<b>PJ 436</b> Photojournalism Projects (Capstone) <b>PJ Elective</b> Connections - Systems (K-SY) General Elective Course General Elective Course  (15 hours)
		<b>120 Total Hours</b>

\* PS 110 - Prerequisite for JOUR 301 and BCOM 301

\*\* World Language Requirement: Language Proficiency of novice-high before completing 60 credit hours is required (or completion of a second level of a language). Two credits (or equivalent) of a single world language in high school satisfies this WKU requirement.

For more details and courses offered in the Colonnade general education program visit: <https://www.wku.edu/colonnade/>

#### Suggested minors for Photojournalism Major

311 Anthropology	392 History
438 Psychology	413 Marketing
332 Business Administration	429 Philosophy
341 Computer Science	383 Political Science
359 English	437 Professional Writing
355 Entrepreneurship	447 Religious Studies
362 Folklore	464 Spanish
374 Geography	461 Sociology