BA IN JOURNALISM

In Workflow

1. COMS Committee Chair (phillip.reese@csus.edu)
2. COMS Chair (jenstark@csus.edu)
3. ALS College Committee Chair (rebekkah.mulholland@csus.edu)
4. ALS Dean (schmidmc@csus.edu)
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6. Senate Curriculum Subcommittee Chair (curriculum@csus.edu)
7. Dean of Undergraduate and Graduate (s.storms@csus.edu)
8. Catalog Editor (catalog@csus.edu)
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Approval Path

1. 2026-09-16T14:56:32Z
   Phillip Reese (phillip.reese): Approved for COMS Committee Chair
2. 2026-09-22T21:54:44Z
   Jenny Stark (jenstark): Approved for COMS Chair
3. 2026-10-14T18:17:41Z
   Rebekkah Mulholland (rebekkah.mulholland): Approved for ALS College Committee Chair
4. 2026-10-22T14:27:24Z
   Matt Schmidtlein (schmidmc): Approved for ALS Dean

History

1. Apr 30, 2018 by clmig-jwehrheim
2. Oct 8, 2018 by 212408496
3. Feb 7, 2019 by 212408496
4. Feb 26, 2019 by Janett Torset (torsetj)
5. Apr 28, 2020 by 220267334
6. Apr 20, 2021 by 220267334
7. Mar 6, 2024 by Phillip Reese (phillip.reese)

Date Submitted: 2026-08-11T20:25:43Z

Viewing: BA in Journalism

Last approved: Wed, 06 Mar 2024 19:05:56 GMT

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Changes proposed by: Phillip Reese (219698766)

Academic Group: (College)

Arts & Letters

Academic Organization: (Department)

Communication Studies

Catalog Year Effective:

2027-2028 Catalog

Individual(s) primarily responsible for drafting the proposed degree major program:

Name (First Last)	Email	Phone 999-999-9999
Phillip H Reese	phillip.reese@csus.edu	9162675454

Program Snapshot

Type of Program:
Major

Program Change Type:
Non-Substantive

Title of the Program:
BA in Journalism

Designation: (degree terminology)
Bachelor of Arts

Delivery Mode:
Fully Face to Face

Support Mode:
State Support

CIP Code:
09.0401

CSU Degree Code:
06021

Please see the CSU/CIP Code Crosswalk: https://www.csus.edu/academic-affairs/curriculum-workflow/_internal/_documents/csu_codes_to_cip.pdf

TMC Templates: https://c-idsystem.org/transfer-efforts/

Will this program require accreditation?
No

Provide a clear, concise overview of the program proposal (new or change) and provide a justification. For NEW programs describe the purpose and focus of the program, identify the target student population(s), and highlight key strengths and distinguishing features of the program.
Replace J128 (News Editing) with J125 (Multimedia Journalism) on the list of major requirements. Add J138 (Writing for Sports Media) and J128 to the list of electives. This change reflects the program's renewed emphasis on multimedia journalism, which is the specialty of our latest tenure-track faculty member.

University Learning Goals

Undergraduate Learning Goals:
Competence in the disciplines
Knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world
Intellectual and practical skills
Personal and social responsibility
Integrative learning

Will this program be required as part of a teaching credential program, a single subject, or multiple subject waiver program (e.g., Liberal Studies, Biology) or other school personnel preparation program (e.g., School of Nursing)?
No

Curriculum Alignment and Assessment

Program Learning Outcomes

Provide measurable, program-specific learning outcomes that reflect the most important competencies students will demonstrate upon completion of the program. Programs are expected to assess and use PLOs for continuous improvement.

Program Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcome
- Articulate the role of journalism in shaping history, culture and society
- Write clear, concise and evocative stories
- Conduct interviews using accepted journalistic practices
- Distinguish between what is newsworthy and what is not
- Apply effective news gathering techniques through research and reporting
- Analyze and visualize data in a fair and illuminating way
- Apply journalism ethics in decision-making
- Conceive, create and edit multiplatform stories with clarity and precision

Learning Outcomes Display

Course Code	PLO 1	PLO 2	PLO 3	PLO 4	PLO 5	PLO 6	PLO 7	PLO 8
JOUR 20		✓						
JOUR 30		✓	✓	✓				
JOUR 55	✓						✓	
JOUR 50	✓			✓			✓	
JOUR 125					✓			✓
JOUR 130A		✓	✓	✓	✓			
JOUR 130B		✓	✓	✓	✓			
JOUR 131					✓	✓		
JOUR 135		✓	✓	✓	✓			
JOUR 153	✓						✓	
JOUR 195	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
JOUR 197A		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
JOUR 116						✓		
JOUR 120	✓						✓	

JOUR 123		✓		✓				
JOUR 132		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
JOUR 128		✓		✓				
JOUR 134	✓		✓				✓	
JOUR 138		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
JOUR 158		✓		✓	✓			
JOUR 172	✓						✓	
JOUR 175	✓		✓				✓	
JOUR 193	✓				✓		✓	
JOUR 197B		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Catalog Description (catalog copy):

Units required for Major: 40
Total units required for BA: 120

Program Description

The journalism program at Sacramento State educates its students in ethical, accurate and effective communication. We employ innovative methods to prepare students, enlighten the public and engage our communities. Our students become committed and versatile professionals with a strong background in both journalism theory and practice.

Sacramento State's program emphasizes research, writing and editing for interactive media, and other courses necessary to prepare students for success in media-related jobs; it also includes courses that critically examine media as an institution.

Journalism majors write The State Hornet (https://statehornet.com/), a daily multimedia publication.

A journalism degree prepares students for a variety of careers and graduate studies. Graduates work as journalists in a diverse range of media, as public relations representatives, and as communications staff for government agencies, non-profits, and other organizations.

Admission and Continuation Requirements (catalog copy): minimum GPA and prerequisites (if applicable), required coursework or preparation, portfolio, test scores, and/or letters of recommendation. For graduate programs: expectations for a relevant bachelor's degree (required or preferred disciplines, prerequisite knowledge, or equivalent experience), include evidence that program requirements conform to the minimum requirements for the culminating experience, as specified in Title 5 Section 40510 The Master's Degree and Section 40511 The Doctoral Degree.

Pre-Major to Journalism

Prior to acceptance as a Journalism major, students must first complete a pre-major consisting of all required lower division courses plus JOUR 130A and JOUR 130B. Students must successfully complete each pre-major courses with a "C-" or better.

Students with a Sacramento State grade point average of 2.3 or better may request early admission to the major.

Code	Title	Units
Required Pre-Major Courses (13 Units)		
JOUR 20	Style For Media Writers	1
JOUR 30	News Writing	3
JOUR/COMS 55	Media Communication and Society	3

or JOUR 50	Media Literacy and Critical Thinking	
JOUR 130A	News Reporting I	3
JOUR 130B	News Reporting II	3

Minimum Grade Requirement

Majors must complete all courses taken in the major with a grade of "C-" or better.

Program Requirements (catalog copy):

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Units
Required Lower Division Courses (7 Units)		
JOUR 20	Style For Media Writers	1
JOUR 30	News Writing	3
JOUR/COMS 55	Media Communication and Society [1]	3
or JOUR 50	Media Literacy and Critical Thinking	
Required Upper Division Courses (21 Units)		
JOUR 125	Multimedia Storytelling	3
JOUR 130A	News Reporting I	3
JOUR 130B	News Reporting II	3
JOUR 131	Data Journalism	3
JOUR 135	Public Affairs Reporting [1]	3
JOUR/COMS 153	Journalism Law and Ethics	3
Select one of the following:		3
JOUR 195	Internship In Journalism	
JOUR 197A	The State Hornet-Introduction	
Electives (12 Units)		
Select 12 units [2]		12
JOUR 116	Data Visualization	
JOUR 120	History of the Media	
JOUR 123	Writing for Public Relations	
JOUR 132	Digital Magazine	
JOUR 128	News Editing	
JOUR 134	War, Peace and the Mass Media	
JOUR 138	Writing for Sports Media	
JOUR 158	Public Relations Planning and Management	
JOUR 172	Women in the Mass Media	
JOUR 175	Minorities, Social Change and the Press	
JOUR 193	The Media Business	
JOUR 197B	The State Hornet-Continuing	
Total Units		**40**

1 Course also satisfies General Education (GE)/Graduation Requirement.

2 Elective units chosen in consultation with an advisor from among Journalism faculty. At least 9 of the 12 units must be upper division. No more than a total of six units in JOUR 195, JOUR 197A, JOUR 197B **OR** JOUR 199 combined may be counted toward the Journalism or Government-Journalism major. Up to nine units in JOUR 197B may be counted for university credit but no more than three units in JOUR 197B may be counted toward the Journalism or Government-Journalism major.

Note: Up to 6 units of coursework from photography or graphic design may be applied toward a major or minor in Journalism with approval of a Journalism advisor.

General Education Requirements [1]

Code	Title	Units
Area A: Basic Subjects (6-9 Units)		
A1 - Oral Communication		3
A2 - Written Communication		3
A3 - Critical Thinking [2,3]		0 - 3
Area B: Physical Universe and Its Life Forms (13 Units)		
B1 - Physical Science		3

B2 - Life Forms	3
B3 - Lab (Note: Lab experience to be taken with one of the following: B1, B2 or B5)	1
B4 - Math Concepts	3
B5 - Additional Course (Any B to reach 12 units) - Take upper-division course to complete Area & upper division requirements.	3
Area C: Arts and Humanities (12 Units)	
C1 - Arts	3
C2 - Humanities	3
C1/C2 - Area C Course	3
C1/C2 - Area C Course - Take upper-division course to complete Area & upper division requirements.	3
Area D: The Individual and Society (6 Units)	
Area D Course	3
Area D Course	3
Area D Course - Take upper-division course to complete Area & upper division requirements. [2]	0
Area E: Understanding Personal Development (3 Units)	
Area E Course	3
Area F: Ethnic Studies (3 Units)	
Area F Course	3
Total Units	**43-46**

1 To help you complete your degree in a timely manner and not take more units than absolutely necessary, there are ways to use single courses to meet more than one requirement (overlap). For further information, please visit the General Education page (https://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/academic-affairs/general-education/).
Note: There is no way to list all possible overlaps so please consult with a professional advisor. The Academic Advising Center can be visited online (http://www.csus.edu/acad), by phone (916) 278-1000, or email (advising@csus.edu).

2 Required in Major; also satisfies GE.

3 Department offers students an "OR" option for JOUR 55 and JOUR 50:
- If student chooses to take JOUR 55 or COMS 55, they will not meet any area of General Education.
- If student chooses to take JOUR 50, they will meet Area A3.

Graduation Requirements [1]

Code	Title	Units
Graduation Requirements (required by CSU) (6 Units)		
American Institutions: U.S. History		3
American Institutions: U.S. Constitution & CA Government		3
Writing Intensive (WI) [2]		0
Graduation Requirements (required by Sacramento State) (12 Units)		
English Composition II		3
Race and Ethnicity in American Society (RE)		3
Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement [3]		6

1 To help you complete your degree in a timely manner and not take more units than absolutely necessary, there are ways to use single courses to meet more than one requirement (overlap). For further information, please visit the General Education page (https://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/academic-affairs/general-education/).
Note: There is no way to list all possible overlaps so please consult with a professional advisor. The Academic Advising Center can be visited online (http://www.csus.edu/acad), by phone (916) 278-1000, or email (advising@csus.edu).

2 Required in Major; also satisfies Graduation Requirement.

3 If not satisfied before entering Sacramento State, it may be satisfied in General Education Area C2 (Humanities). "C- or better required." The alternative methods for satisfying the Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement are described here: https://www.csus.edu/college/arts-letters/world-languages-literatures/foreign-language-requirement.html (https://www.csus.edu/college/arts-letters/world-languages-literatures/foreign-language-requirement.html)

Please attach the Curriculum Overview

revised 4year road mapb.pdf

Fiscal Impact to Change an Existing Program

Indicate programmatic or fiscal impact which this change will have on other academic units' programs, and describe the consultation that has occurred with affected units:

No impact - switching existing courses within program from requirement to elective.

Provide a fiscal analysis of the proposed changes:

No impact - switching existing courses within program from requirement to elective.

How will the above changes be accommodated within the department/College existing fiscal resources?

No impact - switching existing courses within program from requirement to elective.

Will the proposed changes require additional resources?

No

What additional space, equipment, operating expenses, library, computer, or media resources, clerical/technical support, or other resources will be needed?

None

Key: 16