School of Journalism and Communication

Julianne H. Newton, Interim Dean
(541) 346-3738
217 Allen Hall
1275 University of Oregon
Eugene OR 97403-1275

The School of Journalism and Communication offers programs leading to bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees.

Undergraduate students major in the following: journalism, journalism: advertising, journalism: media studies, or journalism: public relations. The school also offers a minor in media studies and participates in four interdisciplinary programs: the major in cinema studies, the major in general social science, the certificate in film studies, and the minor in multimedia.

Master’s degree majors are journalism, media studies, multimedia journalism, and strategic communication (the school is no longer accepting applications for the master’s degrees in journalism: advertising, journalism: magazine, and journalism: news-editorial).

The doctoral program in media studies develops scholars and teachers who can critically examine questions of communication and society from many perspectives.

The school, which started as a department in 1912 and became a professional school in 1916, is one of the oldest journalism schools in the United States and one of the most broadly conceived. It is accredited by the national Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications.

The school’s faculty members are scholars and researchers who combine academic background with professional experience in their teaching fields. Among them are copywriters, designers, and advertising agency executives; newspaper reporters and editors; public relations executives; broadcast journalists and documentarians; communication researchers; photojournalists; magazine writers and editors; Pulitzer Prize–winners and Page Legacy Scholars; New York Times columnists; and award-winning researchers. The faculty’s influence extends beyond the university campus through scholarly and professional publication, consulting, creative design, documentary filmmaking, radio and multimedia production, and textbooks and trade books in such areas as advertising, language skills, ethics, literary nonfiction, international public relations, information gathering, media criticism and history, reporting, visual communication, political communication, public relations writing, graphic arts, magazine writing, and public broadcasting.

The school’s George S. Turnbull Portland Center at the White Stag Block offers a gateway to the state’s media center. Academic programs include the Portland Senior Experience, a term-long, residential internship program for undergraduates; Portland-based master’s degree programs in multimedia journalism and strategic communication; and public lectures, Internet programs, regional and national academic conferences, and professional development programs. The Turnbull Center is also home to the school’s scholastic journalism outreach coordinator and executive director of the Northwest Scholastic Press. Current information on the center’s programs is available on the school’s website (http://journalism.uoregon.edu).

General Information

The School of Journalism and Communication occupies Eric W. Allen Hall, named in memory of the school’s first dean. Allen Hall underwent a major renovation in 2012 that updated all facilities and added 18,000 square feet of space. Included in the renovation is an open and collaborative digital commons that provides students with twenty-four-hour access to the school’s computer labs during academic terms. Allen Hall offers wireless Internet connection, as does most of the campus. Fully equipped laboratories support writing, editing, design, video and audio, digital photography, mobile media, and web production. The school’s Carolyn S. Chambers Electronic Media Center houses video and audio production facilities, and the Student Services Center supports academic-, internship-, and career-advising services for journalism and communication students. Seminars, meetings, and special events are held in the Hall of Achievement, which honors more than fifty distinguished alumni and faculty members of the school. The atrium is filled with course-related activities, student meetings, and special events throughout the year. The school receives the newspaper services of the Associated Press. Knight Library, the main branch of the university’s library system, houses an extensive collection of the literature of journalism and communication.

Diversity and Freedom of Expression

The goal of building greater social, political, cultural, economic, and intellectual diversity among students and members of the faculty and staff as well as in our curriculum, public scholarship, and communities is central to the school’s mission: to prepare professional communicators, critical thinkers, and responsible citizens for a global society. The promotion and practice of freedom of expression and intellectual inquiry across an evolving media environment are integral to the school’s long and proud tradition of academic excellence. Discrimination of any kind, disrespect for others, or inequity in educational opportunity are unacceptable.

Code of Conduct

Students enrolled in the School of Journalism and Communication as well as its faculty, staff, and administrators are expected to meet the highest standards of conduct as defined in the school and university codes of conduct and relevant professional codes of ethics. The school reserves the right to deny admission or graduation of a student found to be in violation of these codes.

Cinema Studies Major

The cinema studies major, which leads to a bachelor of arts degree, gives students the opportunity to study moving-image media as multicultural, transnational, and humanistic phenomena. This multidisciplinary major is a joint program of the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Architecture and Allied Arts, and the School of Journalism and Communication.

More information is available in the Cinema Studies (http://catalog.uoregon.edu/arts_sciences/cinemastudies) section of this catalog under the College of Arts and Sciences.

Minor in Multimedia

Through the multimedia minor, undergraduates study print, time-based, and interactive digital arts; web programming, digital imaging, writing for
multimedia, and digital audio and sound design. The interdisciplinary program spans the Department of Art, Department of Computer and Information Science, School of Journalism and Communication, and the School of Music and Dance.

More information is available in the Minor in Multimedia section of this catalog under the Department of Art.

Certificate in Film Studies
School of Journalism and Communication courses on media production and industries, film history, music, genres, and other topics emphasizing the aesthetic aspects of film may be applied to the requirements for the certificate in film studies.

More information is available in the Cinema Studies Program (http://catalog.oregon.edu/arts_sciences/cinemastudies/#text) section of this catalog under the College of Arts and Sciences.

General Social Science Major
Courses from the School of Journalism and Communication and other professional schools can apply to the multidisciplinary major in general social science.

More information is available in the General Social Science Program (http://catalog.oregon.edu/arts_sciences/generalsocialscience/#text) section of this catalog under the College of Arts and Sciences.

Digital Technical Services
Students have access to technical support for computer issues at the help desk in 319 Allen Hall. In 113 Allen Hall, video and photo production equipment is available for checkout to students enrolled in designated courses in those areas.

The School of Journalism and Communication expects students to have regular and reliable access to a laptop computer. Instructors specify technology expectations on the first day of class, in the class syllabus, or both. Some instructors require a laptop for the entire class or just part of the class; some require that no laptops be present in class.

Scholarships
More than $500,000 in scholarships, ranging from $300 to $15,000, are offered by the School of Journalism and Communication with the support of endowments and contributions. Applications are available on the school's website.

Undergraduate Student Services
Information about undergraduate admission and degree requirements, advising materials, sample programs, internships, and careers is available on the school's website. The office of the director of student services is in 134 Allen Hall.

Graduate Programs Manager
Information about graduate admission and degree requirements is available on the school's website. The office of the graduate programs manager is 214A Allen Hall.

Faculty


Harsha Gangadharbatla, associate professor (advertising, social and economic effects of advertising, new and emerging media). BE, 1999, Allahabad (India); MA, 2002, Michigan State; PhD, 2006, Texas, Austin. (2008)


Debra L. Merskin, associate professor (communication studies; gender, race, and media; media and society). BA, 1983, South Florida, Tampa; MLA, 1989, South Florida, St. Petersburg; PhD, 1993, Syracuse. (1993)


H. Leslie Steeves, professor (diversity and media, development communication and social change); associate dean, graduate affairs and research. BS, 1971, Vermont; MS, 1974, PhD, 1980, Wisconsin, Madison. (1987)


Janet Wasko, Philip H. Knight Chair in Communication Research; professor (communication studies, political economy of communication). BA, 1973, MA, 1974, California State; PhD, 1980, Illinois. (1986)


**Emeriti**


Arnold Ismach, professor emeritus. BA, 1951, Oklahoma; MA, 1970, California, Los Angeles; PhD, 1975, Washington (Seattle). (1985)


Duncan L. McDonald, professor emeritus. BS, 1966, Ohio; MS, 1972, Oregon. (1975)

Karl J. Nestvold, professor emeritus. BS, 1954, Wyoming; MS, 1960, Oregon; PhD, 1972, Texas, Austin. (1961)

Deanna M. Robinson, professor emerita. BA, 1964, MA, 1972, PhD, 1974, Oregon. (1976)

Ronald E. Sherriffs, professor emeritus. BA, 1955, MA, 1957, San Jose State; PhD, 1964, Southern California. (1965)


*The date in parentheses at the end of each entry is the first year on the University of Oregon faculty.*