



# Journalism

**2022-2023 Freshman Orientation Packet**

**Nicholson School of  
Communication and Media**

# Welcome to the Nicholson School of Communication and Media!



You're a communicator. A creator of worlds. Whether it's developing a game, filming a scene, or writing a newscast, you've got a point of view.

The Nicholson School of Communication and Media has a dozen degrees and almost 100 faculty in areas like advertising, journalism, communication and conflict, interactive media, and film. Award-winning faculty who have shot Super Bowl commercials and studied the language of astronauts. Practical and profitable degrees.

So go ahead and create. Collaborate. Change the world even. At NSCM we've got you covered.

NSCM has three academic areas including Communication, Film and Mass Media, and Games and Interactive Media.

## Communication

- Advertising/Public Relations BA
- Communication and Conflict BA
- Human Communication BA
- Communication MA
- Strategic Communication PhD

## Film and Mass Media

- Film BA/BFA
- Journalism BA
- Media Production & Management BA
- Film MFA

## Games and Interactive Media

- Digital Media BA
- Digital Media MA
- Interactive Entertainment MS, Florida Interactive Entertainment Academy

# Nicholson Academic Student Services Center—Your Major Advisor

*The Nicholson Academic Student Services Center (NASSC) provides major specific advising for all Nicholson School of Communication and Media students.*

**Major specific advising services include:**

- *Major specific questions*
- *Limited access admissions processing*
- *Class scheduling assistance*
- *Course equivalency review for major specific courses*
- *Course override review and processing for major specific courses*
- *Major specific course substitutions and exceptions*
- *Course content questions*
- *Internship and career information*
- *Major specific clubs and organizations*
- *Study abroad opportunities and major specific course equivalency reviews*
- *Undergraduate research and Honors Undergraduate Thesis guidance*

**NASSC is located on the UCF Main Campus, Nicholson School of Communication and Media (NSCM) Building, NSCM room 130. The NSCM Building is located next to Lake Claire Apartments and is across the street from the Visual Arts Building.**

- **Website:** [www.communication.ucf.edu/advising](http://www.communication.ucf.edu/advising) *Links to an external site.*
- **E-mail:** [nassc@ucf.edu](mailto:nassc@ucf.edu)
- **Phone:** (407) 823-2681
- **Advising hours:**
  - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9:00-12:00 & 2:00-4:00 and Friday 9:00-12:00 (call to schedule appointment)
  - Advising is offered in person, via phone, and via Zoom

Academic advising is not mandatory at UCF, but it is strongly encouraged. Students should seek advising at least once a semester. Requesting an advising appointment is simple. Just call (407) 823-2681 to schedule an appointment.

You should seek advising before you enroll in courses to ensure that you are taking the correct courses for your major.

- You enroll in **Spring courses in late October**, so you should schedule an advising appointment in **September**.
- You enroll in **Fall and Summer courses in late March**, so you should schedule an advising appointment in **February**.
- Even if you don't plan to enroll in Summer courses, you still must advise and enroll in Fall courses in March. If you miss your enrollment appointment, courses could fill up and you may delay progress in your major.

Students are assigned a registration appointment date and time. You cannot enroll in courses until your appointment time is open. You can, however, seek out advising and plan for enrollment so when your appointment time opens, you can simply move the courses from your shopping cart to fully enrolled courses. Enrollment appointments are available on myUCF in fall and spring. It's a good idea to review the academic calendar each semester and write down important academic dates and deadlines like when enrollment appointments are viewable on myUCF. The academic calendar can be found in your myUCF portal or at the link below.

## UCF Academic Calendar

<https://calendar.ucf.edu/2022/summer>

<https://calendar.ucf.edu/2022/fall>

Here's how you can find your enrollment appointment in your myUCF student center.

Click into your "Enrollment Appointment" box to view the semesters that you can enroll in and the days and times you can begin enrollment.

▼ **Enrollment Dates**

**Shopping Cart Appointment**  
Your Shopping Cart for the Spring 2022 Regular Academic Session session is available for use beginning March 8, 2021.

**Enrollment Appointment**  
Click 'details' for your enrollment appointments

[Details ▶](#)

Fall 2022 | Undergraduate | University of Central Florida

[Change Term](#)

Shopping Cart Appointments		
Session	Appointment Begins	Appointment Ends
Regular Academic Session	March 7, 2022 8:00AM	October 28, 2022 11:59PM

Enrollment Appointments	
Appointment Number	Appointment Begins
0005	March 24, 2022 11:00AM

Term Enrollment Limits	
Max Total Units	
	17.00

It's important to note that adding courses to your shopping cart does not enroll you in the courses. You must completely enroll the courses from your shopping cart to the enrollment page. Until you see the green check mark that shows that you have successfully enrolled, you are not enrolled in a course.

You can continue to adjust your schedule online until the **end of the first week of classes** for each term. **Please note that the last day to add/drop/swap a course is the Friday of the first week of the semester.** Don't forget to consult your major advisor when making changes to your schedule. Additionally, you should periodically check your class schedule to ensure that you are still registered for the classes you originally enrolled in.

# Journalism BA

*This describes the skills, attributes, and aptitude of students looking to launch a career in the widely diverse field of journalism. After reviewing this article below from Reva University you'll know what's expected of students in the classroom and the skill set required to enter the profession. Careers in the field are expansive and are best researched doing a simple web search.*

Do you get inspired by famous journalists and the righteous persona they represent? What are those qualities that make them stand out of the crowd? From courage to honesty, integrity to determination, there are some essential qualities that a professional journalist possesses. If you are aspiring to make a career in journalism, you should have these qualities.

## **A Way with Words**

How do you distinguish between an average news story and an enthralling news piece? Effective writing skills can make all the difference. A writer should know how to play with words and should be able to produce an error-free, grammatically correct and concise article with factual information that would pique the interest of the audience.

## **Thorough Knowledge**

To be a good journalist, you need to be aware of the current events. Read a wide range of both print and digital medium of news sources to stay updated on the happening events. Also, you need to have some background knowledge before you go out to cover a story and write on it. Your ability to research to find out the important details of a story is quite helpful.

## **Investigative Skills**

A journalist relies on facts and evidence, not on emotions while working on a story. An ideal journalist should be observant and possess strong analytical skills to assess a situation if there is something more to it. Whether it is about confirming the credibility of sources or assessing an incident, a journalist should know how to weight a situation critically. Sound judgment to verify the information before drafting the story is equally significant.

## **Effective Communication Skills**

Like any other field, effective communication skills are essential for an ideal journalist. If you know your way with people, you can understand them then you can extract relevant information for a story. An ideal journalist should also know how to take control of a situation if the interview goes wrong. Journalists should be proficient in English and be well-versed to file a story that would attract the target audience.

## **Professionalism and Confidence**

Even if you are a fresher and in your internship phase, you should consider yourself a professional. What professionalism means in the journalism field is meeting deadlines, ready to take up work before regular working hours and have the courage to accept criticism from the editors. Also, journalists should reflect confidence to succeed. However, you should always be eager to learn from your limitations and enhance your skills.

## **Persistence and Discipline**

The profession of journalism requires hard work and persistence. Sometimes you might be chasing a story for months to get a lead and hit the newspapers. During such times, an ideal journalist should not give up following on a story and must remain disciplined. The ultimate motive of any journalist should be to find the truth and seek justice in all matters even if he or she doesn't receive recognition for their efforts.

## **Ethics are Important Too**

With so much competition to move ahead in the race, sometimes journalists abandon their ethics for money and fame. A good journalist should always behave ethically and never follow illegal measures even if it helps in uncovering the secrets behind a story. Accuracy and honesty should be more important while writing a new piece.

From print to electronic, from newspapers to magazines, the profession of journalism requires some important personality traits and significant skills to succeed. If you are planning to pursue a career in journalism, you should question yourself if you have these essential skills.

## Journalism is a Limited Access Major

The Journalism BA program is a limited access major. This means that you are declared a **Journalism Pending major** until you apply and are accepted to the program. Students must submit an admissions application for faculty review. Applications to the program are accepted three times a year in Summer, Fall, and Spring semesters. The faculty review applications and accept approximately 40 students (20 students in the Print/Digital News track and 20 students in the Electronic News track) each semester. **The limited access application can be completed online here <https://communication.ucf.edu/advising/#admissions>.** As a Journalism Pending student you will receive emails to your Knights email account reminding you to apply to the major.

- **Fall 2022 application deadline - July 1, 2022**
- **Spring 2023 application deadline - October 1, 2022**
- **Summer 2023 application deadline - February 1, 2023**

*The Journalism BA program has two tracks. Students can only be admitted to one track, but may rank their choices on their application. This means you can select Electronic News as your first choice and Print/Digital News as your second choice. If you meet the competitive GPA criteria for both tracks, you will be admitted to the track you rank the highest.*

- **Print/Digital News track** - designed for students who wish to work as writers, reporters, editors and photographers for the news media, primarily websites, newspapers and magazines.
- **Electronic News track** - designed for students who desire to work in broadcast news as reporters, photographers, anchors or broadcast sports journalists.

**Students must meet minimum admissions requirements before submitting an application.**

**Minimum admission requirements (must meet all four conditions below):**

1. Complete a minimum of **30 college credit hours** prior to the admissions deadline,
2. **Meet the grammar proficiency requirement (must meet one condition below)**
  - Complete ENC 1101 (English Composition I) and ENC 1102 (English Composition II) with "A-" grades or better **OR**
  - Show proof of qualifying Advanced Placement, IB or CLEP test credit equivalent to ENC 1101 and ENC 1102 **OR**
  - Take and pass the Accuplacer Grammar Proficiency Exam in the UCF Testing Center. Contact <https://academicsuccess.ucf.edu/utc/accuplacer/> for more information. **OR**
  - Take and pass with a "B" grade or better an approved ENC Gordon Rule Writing course

***For students who opt to take and pass an approved ENC Gordon Rule Writing course to meet grammar proficiency, please note that you cannot apply to the major until the course is complete and the minimum grade passing grade of a "B" or better is noted on your transcript. This could delay your application to the Journalism program.***

***The following are approved ENC Gordon Rule Writing courses: ENC 3250 (Professional Writing), ENC 3241 (Technical Writing), ENC 3310 (Magazine Writing), ENC 3311 (Essay as Cultural Commentary), ENC 3315***

*(Argumentative Writing), ENC 4212 (Professional Editing). Please contact NSCM Advising at [nassc@ucf.edu](mailto:nassc@ucf.edu) for additional information about the grammar proficiency requirement*

***Students who meet minimum admissions requirements will be advanced to the competitive review process. The competitive review process consists of a review of college cumulative GPA.***

Students with the top 20 college cumulative GPAs (by track) will be invited for admission to the major. The cut-off GPA will vary by semester, but usually falls between a 2.8 and a 3.4.

**Print/Digital News track - top 20 students accepted by college cumulative GPA**

**Electronic News track - top 20 students accepted by college cumulative GPA**

Once admitted to the Journalism program, students will attend a mandatory new major Journalism orientation and receive a detailed plan of study through graduation. Journalism BA students will also be assigned a faculty advisor, who will provide academic and professional guidance through graduation.



## What do you do if you don't get accepted to the Journalism Major

*Applying to a limited access major can be very stressful. While admission is competitive and there is no guarantee that you will be offered a seat, there are things you can do to make yourself a more competitive candidate.*

- Apply to the major as soon as you've completed a minimum of 30 college credit hours.
- Enroll in JOU 3015 (Principles of Journalism) and JOU 2100C (News Reporting) in your first semester at UCF. The content that you learn in these courses will not only reinforce your desire to become a journalist but will provide a strong foundation of knowledge and skills needed to progress in the major.
- Maintain a strong GPA. Students who have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA have a better chance of being admitted to the major. If your GPA is close to a 3.0, then don't wait to apply; throw your hat in the ring. You never know what the cut-off GPA might be in the semester you apply.
- Begin practicing journalism right away. Connect with student media organizations like NSM Today, Knightly News, Knightly Latino, and Knight News and start building your portfolio.
- Submit a reconsideration application to the Journalism faculty. If you are denied admission to the Journalism program, you may appeal decision. The reconsideration process will be outlined in your denial email, but you may also request a copy by emailing [nassc@ucf.edu](mailto:nassc@ucf.edu).

**Advisor tip:** If you don't get accepted to the Journalism major your first time around, schedule an appointment with your major advisor by calling (407) 823-2681. Your major advisor will evaluate your academic records and let you know if you are a good candidate to apply to the major a second time.

*It is not recommended that transfer students apply to the Journalism major more than twice. The list of courses you can take while you are a Journalism Pending student is short. Students will eventually run out of courses to take, and wind up putting their education on hold. This will delay your graduation. Instead, consult with a NASSC advisor and consider the following.*

- *What do you want to do after you graduate?*
- *What other majors in the Nicholson School of Communication and Media or UCF will help you meet your career goals?*
- *What specific skills do you need to develop for you to meet your career goals?*
- *What types of internships should you consider to help you meet your career goals?*

# Journalism Degree Requirements

*The Journalism BA program has two tracks. Students can only be admitted to one track but may rank their choices on their application. This means you can select Electronic News as your first choice and Print/Digital News as your second choice. If you meet the competitive GPA criteria for both tracks, you will be admitted to the track you rank the highest.*

*Print/Digital News track - designed for students who wish to work as writers, reporters, editors and photographers for the news media, primarily websites, newspapers and magazines.*

*Electronic News track - designed for students who desire to work in broadcast news as reporters, photographers, anchors, or broadcast sports journalists.*

*While you are a Journalism Pending major, you may enroll in the following lower level and upper-level core courses.*

**Lower Level Required Core Courses (may be completed while Pending in the major):**

*These courses are required for both Print/Digital News and Electronic News track students.*

- SPC 1608 - Speech (Fundamentals of Oral Communication)
- JOU 2100C - News Reporting (*Prerequisite for this course is Grammar Proficiency; must have "A-" grades or higher in ENC 1101 AND ENC 1102 or qualifying test scores*)
- MMC 2004 - Mass Media

*NOTE: You may have completed these courses at your previous institution. If you did and the course numbers are different, please submit the courses for review through the COS Course Evaluation system. <https://sciences.ucf.edu/cosas/new-returning-students/cos-course-evaluation/>*

**Upper Level Required Core Courses (may be completed while Pending in the major):**

*These courses are required for both Print/Digital News and Electronic News track students.*

- JOU 3015 - Principles of Journalism
- JOU 3004 - History of Journalism
- MMC 3200 - Mass Communication Law
- Must complete one course with an international focus:
  - MMC 4300 - International Media
  - MMC 4303 - Hispanics in the Media in the US
  - NSCM approved study abroad course

*Students will not be permitted to enroll in any of the following limited access courses until they apply and are accepted to the Journalism major.*

**Print/Digital News Track - Upper Level Required Core Courses (can only be completed after admitted to the Journalism program):**

- JOU 3101 - Advanced Reporting
- RTV 3321 - Electronic News Gathering
- JOU 4950 - Senior Capstone in Journalism

- **Choose one course below**
  - JOU 4340C - Online Journalism
  - JOU 4342C - Multimedia Journalism

**Electronic News Track - Upper Level Required Core Courses (can only be completed after admitted to the Journalism program):**

- RTV 3321 - Electronic News Gathering
- RTV 3301 - Electronic Journalism I
- RTV 3304 - Electronic Journalism II
- RTV 4681C - Television News Capstone (Knightly News)

**Upper-Level Group A Reporting Restricted Electives (6 credit hours required, choose 2 courses, can only be complete after admitted to the Journalism program):**

*These courses are required for both Print/Digital News and Electronic News track students.*

- JOU 3130 - In-Depth Reporting
- JOU 3184C - Metro Reporting
- JOU 3201 - Editing I
- JOU 3313C - Sports Reporting
- JOU 3591 - Knightly Latino
- JOU 4181 - Public Affairs Reporting
- JOU 4300 - Feature Writing
- JOU 4447 - Magazine Editing and Production
- PGY 3610C - Photojournalism I
- RTV 3601 - Broadcast Announcing & Performance
- RTV 4591C - Webcasting I
- JOU 4941 - Internship

**Upper-Level Group B Media Studies Restricted Electives (3 credit hours required, choose 1 course, may be completed while Pending in the major):**

*These courses are required for both Print/Digital News and Electronic News track students.*

- JOU 3301 - Journalism Readings
- MMC 3630 - Social Media as Mass Communication
- MMC 4602 - Contemporary Media Issues
- RTV 3007 - Development and Structure of Electronic Media
- RTV 3511 - Production Fundamentals of Electronic Media
- RTV 4403 - Electronic Media, Technology, and Society
- RTV 4503 - Sports Programming in Electronic Media
- RTV 4505 - Program Issues for TV & Motion Pictures

**NOTE: You must earn a C (2.0) grade or higher in all Journalism courses used in the major.**

**Portfolio: You must submit and pass the portfolio requirement to graduate. You can review portfolio exit requirements here.**

<https://communication.ucf.edu/advising/resources-undergrad/>

## Journalism – Minor & External Elective Requirement

Journalism majors are required to complete a minimum 72 credit hours of external electives outside of the disciplines of Ad/PR, Communication, Journalism, and Media Production and Management.

Transfer course work, including courses that were completed as part of an AA degree will count toward the 72 credit hours of external electives. However, most students will have a deficiency in hours and will need to complete the requirement at UCF. The number of external elective credit hours required is unique to each student and should be evaluated by your major advisor. Please email [nassc@ucf.edu](mailto:nassc@ucf.edu) with questions about external electives.

The Journalism BA requires that students declare and complete a minor outside of the disciplines of Ad/PR, Communication, Journalism, and Media Production and Management. Again, Film and Digital Media minors are acceptable. *The rule of thumb is to choose a minor that will inform your journalism.*

The following is a list of complementary and popular minors.

- Digital Media
- Political Science
- History
- Psychology
- Cultural Anthropology
- Sociology
- Global Sociology
- Latin American Studies
- Africana Studies
- Asian Studies
- International and Global Studies
- Women's and Gender Studies
- Spanish
- Business
- Sports Business Management
- Criminal Justice
- Public Administration
- Legal Studies
- Environmental Studies
- Foreign Language

To declare a minor on myUCF follow the instructions below. You should also reach out to the academic department that oversees the minor to seek advising specifically for your minor. You can find a complete list of minors in the UCF Undergraduate Catalog (<https://www.ucf.edu/catalog/undergraduate/#/programs>).

**Step 1:** Log into <https://my.ucf.edu> and navigate to the “Student Self Service”.

**Step 2:** Select the drop-down menu “other academic” in the upper left-hand corner of your student center. Choose: “Change Major: Request.” (Note, this should be the very first choice in the drop-down menu so you may have to scroll to the top of the drop-down menu).

**Step 3:** Read the instructions and click on “Next”.

**Step 4:** Click on “Add” in the minor box.

**Step 5:** Click on the magnifying glass to select the college of your minor.

**Step 6:** Click on the magnifying glass to select a specific minor. Click on “Look Up” and choose your minor from the list.

**Step 7:** Click on “Next” and then press “Submit.”

## Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement

As a Bachelor of Arts degree student, the University of Central Florida requires that you complete college-level foreign language to graduate.

You may have completed foreign language in high school. Your high school foreign language qualifies you for admission to UCF, but completion of college-level foreign language qualifies you to graduate from UCF with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

*There are several ways to complete the Foreign Language Proficiency requirement:*

- Pass up to Elementary II of a foreign language taught within the Department of Modern Languages or the Department of Judaic Studies.
  - **Example: Complete BOTH SPN 1120C (Elementary Spanish I) AND SPN 1121C (Elementary Spanish II).**
- Pass the second semester of a foreign language. If you have some proficiency in a foreign language, but not quite one year worth, you may need to take fewer than two semesters of foreign language to satisfy the foreign language requirement. If you did 2-3 years of foreign language in high school, you may want to skip Elementary I and enroll in Elementary II.
  - **Example: The normal Spanish sequence is SPN 1120C --> SPN 1121C. SPN 1121C is what completes the language requirement.**
- Pass either the CLEP or FLATS test <https://academicsuccess.ucf.edu/utc/>. If you speak a language other than English, this may be a good option for you to complete the requirement.
- Pass up to two semesters (ASL 2140C and ASL 2150C) of college instruction in American Sign Language (ASL). ASL proficiency is met by successful completion of ASL 2150C.

*Foreign Language and American Sign Language courses are considered external electives.*

# Planning a Balanced First Year

## Journalism Schedule

As a first year Journalism Pending major, you should focus on completing General Education Program (GEP) course work. The two most important GEP courses to complete in your first year are ENC 1101 (English Composition I) and ENC 1102 (English Composition II). Remember, you must earn "A-" grades or better in these two courses to meet the grammar proficiency requirement to apply to the Ad/PR program. You should also plan to complete 30 credit hours in your first year at UCF so you can apply to the Journalism program in your second year.

Here's a sample plan of study for a first-year Journalism Pending major. If you have AP/IB test credit or dual enrollment credit, you may not have to complete certain GEP courses. Please consult with your College of Sciences advisor for assistance in selecting GEP courses.

### **Year 1, Semester 1 - Complete 15 credit hours**

- **GEP 1: ENC 1101 - English Composition I (Required for JOU majors, must earn an A- or better)**
- **GEP 3: SPC 1608 - Fundamentals of Oral Communication (Required for JOU majors)**
- **GEP 7: Math (Must earn a C- or better)**
- **GEP 4: Historical/Cultural Foundation - choose Gordon Rule Writing & State Core**
- **GEP 9: Social Science - choose State Core**

### **Year 1, Semester 2 - Complete 15 credit hours**

- **GEP 2: ENC 1102 - English Composition II (Required for JOU majors, must earn an A- or better)**
- **GEP 8: Math (Must earn a C- or better)**
- **GEP 5: Historical/Cultural Foundation - choose Gordon Rule Writing & State Core**
- **GEP 10: Social Science - choose State Core**
- **GEP 12: Science - choose State Core**

**If you completed a significant amount of GEP course work through test credit or dual enrollment, you may enroll in the following upper-level core courses.**

### **Lower Level Required Core Courses (may be completed while Pending in the major):**

**These courses are required for both Print/Digital News and Electronic News track students.**

- **JOU 2100C - News Reporting (Prerequisite for this course is Grammar Proficiency; must have "A-" grades or higher in ENC 1101 AND ENC 1102 or qualifying test scores)**
- **MMC 2004 - Mass Media**

**NOTE: You may have completed these courses at your previous institution. If you did and the course numbers are different, please submit the courses for review through the COS Course Evaluation system.**

**<https://sciences.ucf.edu/cosas/new-returning-students/cos-course-evaluation/>**

**Upper Level Required Core Courses (may be completed while Pending in the major):**

*These courses are required for both Print/Digital News and Electronic News track students.*

- JOU 3015 - Principles of Journalism
- JOU 3004 - History of Journalism
- MMC 3200 - Mass Communication Law
- Must complete one course with an international focus:
  - MMC 4300 - International Media
  - MMC 4303 - Hispanics in the Media in the US
  - NSCM approved study abroad course

## Nicholson Student Media



*Working in student media provides Journalism students the opportunity to hone their skills and develop their portfolios while working on their degree. The Nicholson School of Communication and Media offers several media outlets for students. Nicholson Student Media provides students with real-world experiences, opportunities to try different roles, and the ability to connect what is learned in the classroom with hands-on experience.*

**NSM Today** is operated by the Journalism majors of the Nicholson School of Communication and Media. Content is created, edited and published by students in the Senior Capstone in Journalism course (JOU 4950) class under the guidance of a faculty advisor. Stories do not reflect the opinions or positions of UCF, its administration, faculty, or staff.

**Knightly News** is a division of the Journalism program in the Nicholson School of Communication and Media. It is a weekly campus television newscast. Daily newsgathering and production decisions are conducted by students in the Senior Capstone TV News course (RTV 4681C) under the advisement of an instructor functioning as news director.

**Knightly Latino** is an outlet for journalists who speak Spanish and for those interested in the Latino media market. Students write, produce, and deliver stories of interest to the Central Florida Latino community. News coverage ranges from cultural to immigration and political stories. By covering these topics, Knightly Latino student journalists serve the UCF's Latino student population, which is currently at more than 20 percent.

**Centric** is a student-produced magazine in the Nicholson School of Communication. Centric belongs to the tight-knit community of the University of Central Florida, including students, alumni, faculty, and fans. The mission of the magazine is to bring the community together and embrace the unique, ever-changing spirit of the school. Centric showcases the exceptional opportunities offered to those with humble beginnings at UCF. We will bring you into the lives of those from past, present, and future generations that capture the heart of UCF. "Centric" means central and our school is central to our community. UCF is the focal point in the stories told in this magazine. UCF is centric



## Newsroom, Production Facilities & Equipment



### Learn Real-World Skills in a Real-World Environment

NSCM's newsroom, studio and production facilities opened in 1999 as a centerpiece of the new \$14 million communication and media building. The facility was equipped with state-of-the-art analog and digital technology through a combination of public and private funding. A unique partnership with Panasonic Broadcast Systems along with a major donation from the Harris Corporation facilitated the outfitting of the facility. Financial contributions from Darden Restaurants, WOFL-TV, WFTV-TV, Cox Radio and WESH-TV were also critical. The primary mission of the production facility is to support instruction and access to the facility is normally restricted to Journalism and Media Production & Management majors and faculty.

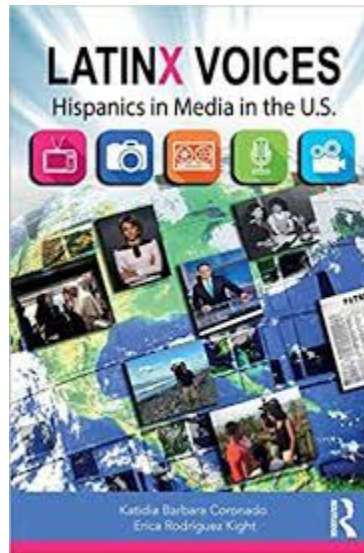
In the summer of 2012, major upgrades happened in the NSCM studio and newsroom. UCF awarded technology enhancement grants for two major projects at the Nicholson School of Communication and Media: Phase 1 of the multimedia newsroom and High Definition (HD) upgrades to the NSC studio.

The multimedia newsroom project created a new learning laboratory for Journalism students. Phase 1 of the project focused on adding new computer equipment and editing facilities for students in both capstone news experiences. Students will work on expanding the online and broadcast news product from the Nicholson School.

The HD upgrades to the NSCM studio included HD cameras and a new digital switcher in the production control facility. With this equipment, Journalism and Media Production & Management students can produce programs in widescreen HD as part of their coursework and projects.

Journalism and Media Production & Management students who are enrolled in production focused courses can check-out equipment and reserve time in video and sound editing labs. Please click on the document below for a list of equipment.

# Hispanic/Latino Media Certificate



The Journalism program features a certificate in Hispanic/Latino Media.

The certificate is a total of 15 credit hours (5 courses) and has a dual focus:

1. It is designed to provide students in media-related fields training on how to serve diverse audiences; and
2. It allows students to demonstrate that they have conceptual and applied knowledge about the role of Hispanic/Latino media and how it impacts a growing multicultural environment.

The certificate is open to Journalism majors and offers excellent training for students who desire to work in Spanish speaking media.

The certificate, however, does not replace the required Minor. Journalism majors are permitted to use up to 6 credit hours of course work from their major in the certificate.

**Students can choose between two areas of specialization.**

## **Specialty 1: Latin American and U.S. Hispanic Culture & Media**

- Complete MMC 4303 - Hispanics in the Media in the U.S.
- Complete MMC 4300 - International Media
- Complete MMC 4602 - Contemporary Media Issues
- Complete 2 courses:
  - LAS 3002 - Topics in Latin American Studies
  - LAS 3101 - Latin American Popular Culture
  - Study abroad course in Spain or Latin America

## Specialty 2: Spanish Language Media

- Complete MMC 4303 - Hispanics in the Media in the U.S.
- Complete JOU 3951 - Knightly Latino
- Complete SPN 4410 - Advanced Spanish Conversation
- Complete SPT 3805 - Spanish Translation and Interpretation for Mass Communication
- Complete 1 course:
  - LAS 3002 - Topics in Latin American Studies
  - LAS 3101 - Latin American Popular Culture
  - Study abroad course in Spain or Latin America

## Journalism Internships



### InternPursuit

YOU'LL WANT  
TO BE THERE.

Journalism students are strongly encouraged to complete at least one 3 credit hour internship for major elective credit. Students must be accepted to the Journalism program and complete News Reporting (JOU 2100C) with a minimum grade of a "C" or better before enrolling in an internship course.

Internships are designed to provide students with opportunities to gain relevant work experience in a particular career field of their interest. These experiences can be used to help you explore a career field more and determine if it is a good fit for you. Time spent completing an internship is also a great way for students to create or expand their professional network and further develop their knowledge and skills, while getting hands-on learning experience. Internships come in many forms, can be paid or unpaid, and many times lead to permanent employment opportunities post-graduation.

To earn internship credit in the Journalism major, you must enroll in an internship course through the Nicholson School of Communication and Media. This requires completing a form with your employer and faculty internship coordinator. Please contact your major advisor at [nassc@ucf.edu](mailto:nassc@ucf.edu) or (407) 823-2681 to learn how to enroll your internship.

Every year the Society of Professional Journalists at UCF, hosts Intern Pursuit, the largest biannual internship fair at UCF. Intern Pursuit is usually hosted in October for Spring internship seekers and March for Summer and Fall internship seekers. The event brings more than 150 companies to campus, giving students the opportunity to have one-on-one conversations with potential employers.

# Undergraduate Research

Participating in undergraduate research prepares you for life after graduation by expanding your academic experience and giving you the opportunity to work with a Journalism faculty member while exploring an academic topic more fully.

There are many benefits to becoming a researcher, including:

1. **Graduate and Professional School:** Undergraduate researchers are more likely to move into graduate programs.
2. **Academic Achievement:** Undergraduate researchers demonstrate higher achievement and are more likely to stay in school.
3. **Career Goals:** Undergraduate research can help you clarify your choice of degree program, career interests, and post-graduation plans.
4. **Transferable Skills:** Undergraduate research strengthens written and oral communication, critical thinking, technical skills, and information literacy.
5. **Community:** Undergraduate research provides opportunities to build a learning community with faculty.
6. **Confidence:** Undergraduate research builds confidence in your abilities within the discipline and improves your overall perception of the discipline.

2 ways that you can get involved with research within the Nicholson School of Communication and Media is through an Independent Research Course and through the Honors Undergraduate Thesis Program through the UCF Burnett Honors College.

## Independent Research

Independent Research courses are designed to provide an opportunity for students to complete academic research independently, under the general guidance and direction of a Journalism faculty member. These courses present a way for highly motivated students to research a topic of interest that isn't fully explored or does not necessarily fit into the traditional academic curriculum of the declared degree program.

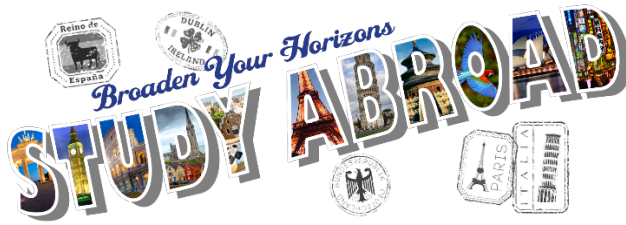
*Interested? Contact your major advising office, NASSC, at [nassc@ucf.edu](mailto:nassc@ucf.edu) or (407) 823-2681.*

## Honors Undergraduate Thesis Program

The Honors Undergraduate Thesis program is the oldest and most prestigious undergraduate research program at UCF. Through this program students research, write, defend and publish an original undergraduate Honors thesis. The thesis is published through the university library and becomes available to researchers worldwide through electronic databases.

*Interested? Contact the Burnett Honors College at <https://honors.ucf.edu/hut/about/>*

**You can earn credit in your major for completing undergraduate research. Undergraduate research courses count as restricted electives. To receive credit for research, you must enroll the experience as a course. For more information, contact your major advisor at [nassc@ucf.edu](mailto:nassc@ucf.edu) or (407) 823-2681.**



*Do you want to travel the world and earn credit your major? Then consider studying abroad.*

You can earn up to 12 credit hours of study abroad credit that can be applied to internal, external, and general elective credit in your major and/or minor.

## REASONS TO STUDY ABROAD

- Explore different countries
- Increase intercultural competency
- Earn credit in your major or minor
- Learn or enrich language skills
- It looks great on your resume
- Make life-long friendships
- Become more independent and self-reliant
- Embark on an adventure of a lifetime
- Try new food
- Gain a new appreciation for home and family

## 5 SIMPLE STEPS TO STUDYING ABROAD

1. **Conduct a self-evaluation**
  - Meet with your academic advisor to determine course needs and graduation term
  - Evaluate what funding sources are available to you
2. **Select and apply for a program**
  - Determine what type of program you're looking for
  - Consider location, duration, academics, program type, budget
  - Complete your online application <https://studyabroad.ucf.edu/>
3. **Arrange your finances**
  - Create a budget for your study abroad program and experience
  - Schedule an appointment with the Office of Student Financial Assistance
4. **Get course approvals**
  - Meet with your academic advisor and get your course approval forms completed
  - Submit your completed course approval forms to the Study Abroad Office
5. **Complete pre-departure preparations**
  - Apply for housing
  - Arrange travel logistics (airfare and airport pick-up)
  - Apply for visa (if required)
  - Complete **UCF** Abroad pre-departure orientation

## TYPES OF STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

### Short-Term

These programs offer group travel and are led by **UCF** faculty. Typically ranging in duration from one to eight weeks, these programs are a great option for students who cannot dedicate an entire semester to studying abroad. Because they are shorter in length, they are more cost effective and offer 3 to 6 hours of **UCF** enrolled course credit.

### Exchange

Lasting in duration from one to two semesters, exchange programs give students the opportunity to have a longer, more culturally immersive experience while paying **UCF** tuition and using existing financial aid and funding sources. Exchange programs are sponsored by academic departments and colleges, and because of this, courses are **UCF** enrolled and pre-evaluated for use within the major.

***The Nicholson School of Communication and Media has exchange partnerships with the following international schools.***

- ***University of Canberra - Australia***
- ***Salzburg College - Austria***
- ***Hong Kong Baptist University - China***
- ***Saxion University - Netherlands***
- ***IE University - Spain***
- ***San Jorge University - Spain***
- ***Jonkoping University - Sweden***
- ***Bournemouth University - UK (England)***

### Partner Programs

These programs are offered through organizations outside of **UCF** to broaden the spectrum of opportunities for students. Programs are available in every major and discipline and in many countries around the world. Since costs and opportunities vary greatly, partner programs allow students to customize their experience to get the “best fit” for them.

### Internships

Gain valuable experience and become more culturally aware by completing an international internship. There are many internship programs that specialize in placing students in a company or organization that best matches their major, career interests and experience. Many internships may be completed for credit in the major.

## HOW TO FINANCE STUDY ABROAD

Studying abroad requires *careful financial planning*. You are advised to select a program that best meets your anticipated available funding. Factors such as program duration, location and the number of courses taken can increase or decrease the cost of your experience. Remember that financial aid may be applicable to your study abroad experience. Additionally, scholarships that are study abroad specific and general use are available and can be used toward the cost of participation. The Nicholson School of Communication and Media awards up to six study abroad scholarships each year.

# Journalism Clubs & Organizations

## Society of Professional Journalists at UCF

**Advisor: Dr. Steve Collins**

**Facebook: Society of Professional Journalists at UCF**

The UCF Chapter of the Society for Professional Journalists is a chapter dedicated to the professional development of aspiring journalists, promoting high standards of ethical behavior and protecting First Amendment freedoms of speech and press.

## National Association of Hispanic Journalists

**Advisor: Ms. Katie Coronado**

**Facebook: NAHJ @ UCF**

The National Association of Hispanic Journalists (NAHJ) is dedicated to the recognition and professional advancement of Hispanics in the news industry. Established in April 1984, NAHJ created a national voice and unified vision for all Hispanic journalists.

## National Association of Black Journalists

**Facebook: National Association of Black Journalists @ UCF**

**Instagram: @ucfnabj**

National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) is a national organization of journalists, students and media-related professionals that provides quality programs and services to and advocates on behalf of black journalists worldwide.

## Radio Television Digital News Association

**Advisor: Mr. Rick Brunson**

**Facebook: RTDNA @ UCF**

The Radio Television Digital News Association is a national, professional association of electronic journalists. As a campus chapter, RTDNA focuses on helping students better prepare for the broadcast news industry. RTDNA is open to all students, but is focused on electronic journalism majors.

## National Broadcasting Society

**Facebook: National Broadcasting Society at UCF**

**Instagram: @ucfnbs**

The National Broadcasting Society is a national organization comprised of people working in the television industry, specifically production. The purpose of the student chapter is to give students a chance to network and gain additional experience working with other students interested in production.



## **National Communication Association**

**Advisor: Dr. Michelle Dusseau**

**Email: [michelle.dusseau@ucf.edu](mailto:michelle.dusseau@ucf.edu)**

The National Communication Association advances communication as the discipline that studies all forms, modes, media and consequences of communication through humanistic, social scientific and aesthetic inquiry.

## **Zeta Phi Eta**

**Advisor: Ms. Lindsay Hudock**

**Facebook: Zeta Phi Eta at UCF**

**Instagram: @zetaphietaucf**

Zeta Phi Eta is a coed, professional communication fraternity open to all undergraduate students studying communication. The fraternity is designed to not only assist communication students in their pursuit of success, but to unite them under the principles of brotherhood, scholarship and professionalism.

## **Kappa Tau Alpha Honor Society**

**Web: <https://www.kappataualpha.net> (Links to an external site.)**

Kappa Tau Alpha is a college honor society that recognizes academic excellence and promotes scholarship in journalism and mass communication. Membership must be earned by excellence in academic work at one of the colleges and universities that have chapters. Selection for membership is a mark of highest distinction and honor.

## **Lambda Pi Eta - Communication Honor Society**

**Advisor: Ms. Shari Hodgson**

**Facebook: Lambda Pi Eta at UCF**

Lambda Pi Eta is the honor society of the National Communication Association. The purposes of Lambda Pi Eta are to recognize, foster and reward outstanding scholastic achievement in communication studies, to stimulate interest in the field of communication, to promote and encourage professional development among communication majors, and to provide an opportunity to discuss and exchange ideas in the field of communication.

## **UCF Debate**

**Advisor: Mr. Jonathan Conway**

**Facebook: UCF Debate**

Intercollegiate debate program, open to any undergraduate student enrolled in the university. UCF Debate is a nationally competitive team policy debate program that competes on the annual national topic.

## **UCF Speech**

**Advisor: Mr. Jonathan Conway**

**Facebook: UCF Speech Team**

Intercollegiate speech (forensics) and parliamentary debate program, open to any undergraduate student enrolled in the university. Students are eligible to qualify for the major intercollegiate national tournaments for competitive speaking.

# Course Modalities and Attributes at UCF

There are several types of courses offered at UCF, referred to as course “instructional modes” or “course modality.” The course description includes a modality field which will identify the type of course. In addition, “course attributes” indicate whether or not students will be expected to participate in regularly scheduled online meetings.

## Course Modalities include:

- **P** – Face-to-Face
- **W** – Web-based
- **V** – Video
- **M** – Mixed Mode, FLEX and LIVE
  - **Mixed Mode FLEX** - on-campus meeting with online instruction delivered through flexible, asynchronous elements in Webcourses
  - **Mixed Mode LIVE** - on-campus meeting with online instruction that is delivered through live, regularly scheduled video class meetings. With this attribute you will still meet on campus as a regular mixed mode course however on the days you do not to meet on campus you will meet online through synchronous online instruction (Zoom in Webcourses).
- **RS** – Limited Attendance

## Course Attributes:

Course attributes add additional information to help students make the most informed decision when selecting classes. They describe how the course is delivered and how students will be expected to participate. Attributes are included in the course details returned by the search tool in my.ucf.edu.

Search for Classes

---

Class Detail

ENC 3330 - 0M01 Rhetorical Traditions  
University of Central Florida | Spring 2021 | Lecture

**Class Details**

<b>Status</b>	Open	<b>Course ID</b>	045030
<b>Class Number</b>	11470	<b>Career</b>	Undergraduate
<b>Session</b>	Regular Academic Session	<b>Dates</b>	1/11/2021 - 5/4/2021
<b>Units</b>	3 units	<b>Grading</b>	ABCD
<b>Instruction Mode</b>	Mixed Mode/ReducedSeatTime (M)	<b>Location</b>	Main Campus (Orlando)
<b>Class Components</b>	Lecture Required	<b>Campus</b>	Main Campus

**Meeting Information**

Days & Times	Room	Instructor	Meeting Dates
MoWe 1:30PM - 2:20PM	NSC O 110		01/11/2021 - 05/04/2021

**Enrollment Information**

**Enrollment Requirements** PR for ENC3330 is a grade of 'C' or better in ENC1102.

**Class Attributes** Gordon Rule Writing  
Live, online class meetings

**Class Availability**

<b>Class Capacity</b>	25	<b>Wait List Capacity</b>	500
<b>Enrollment Total</b>	18	<b>Wait List Total</b>	0
<b>Available Seats</b>	7		

**Notes**

**Class Notes** Substitutes WWW for some class time; requires Internet access, browser, and E-mail skills.

**Description**

\*ENC 3330 CAH-WRITE 3(3,0)  
Rhetorical Traditions: PR: Grade of "C" (2.0) or better required in ENC 1102. Examines the roots of rhetoric and the evolution of its theoretical, pedagogical and civic tradition. Even Spring.\*

[View Search Results](#)

To learn more about course modalities and attributes, visit <https://cdl.ucf.edu/support/student/modalities/>.

# How to Remove Holds Before Your Orientation Day

Holds may be placed on your record for various reasons including failure to turn in the appropriate Undergraduate Admissions paperwork, Orientation verification required, Health Immunizations required, parking fines, Advising required, Financial Aid documents required, International Student documents required, as well as failure to pay a university debt.

*If you have a Hold on your record, it will prevent you from registering for UCF courses.*

To check if you have Holds and to resolve them follow these instructions in myUCF.

1. Visit the **myUCF Portal** ([my.ucf.edu](http://my.ucf.edu)) and select **Student Self Service**.
2. Select **Holds** from the right column to visit your list of current holds.
3. Select **Holds** from the right column to visit your list of current holds.
4. Select the hold you wish to view. **Click on the highlighted name** of the hold to display the hold details.
5. Follow the instructions to resolve your hold.

The screenshot displays the myUCF Student Self Service portal. On the left is a navigation sidebar with categories like Academic Resources, Staff Applications, Student Self Service, and Employee Self Service. The main content area is divided into sections: Academic Information, Finances, and Enrollment Dates. The Academic Information section shows a message: "You are not enrolled in classes." The Finances section shows: "You have no outstanding charges at this time." The Enrollment Dates section shows: "Details". On the right side, there are three summary boxes: "Holds" (No Holds), "To Do List" (No To Do's), and "Advisor" (Program Advisor: None Assigned). A search bar for classes is also visible at the top right.

**Your Holds**

Item List							
Hold Item	Amount	Institution	Start Term	End Term	Start Date	End Date	Department
<a href="#">HOLD-Graduate Studies</a>		USD University of Central Florida	Begin Term - Svc Indicatr Use		01/27/2009		GRADUATE STUDIES

go to ...

**HOLD-Graduate Studies**

**Reason and Contact**

**Description:** University of Central Florida  
**Start Term:** Begin Term - Svc Indicatr Use  
**Start Date:** 01/27/2009  
**Reason:** HOLD for 9 Hour (Non-Degree)  
**Department:** GRADUATE STUDIES  
**Contact:**

**Instructions**

HOLD on Non-degree students: only nine graduate hours may be transferred into a graduate degree program. Students should contact the College of Graduate Studies at 407/823-2766 for more information.

Here is a list of common Holds and what department you need to contact to address the issue.

- **Orientation** - UCF First Year Experience <https://orientation.ucf.edu/>
- **Health Immunizations** - UCF Student Health Services <https://studenthealth.ucf.edu/immunizations>
- **Admissions** - UCF Undergraduate Admissions <https://www.ucf.edu/admissions/undergraduate/>
- **International Students** - UCF Global <https://global.ucf.edu/international-students-scholars-and-professionals/prospective/>
- **Conduct** - Office of Student Conduct <https://scai.sdes.ucf.edu/>

# Final Tips from your Nicholson School of Communication and Media Advisor

Your time at UCF is finite, so make the most of it. You are in control of your destiny, so make good decisions. Be proactive. Remember, you are your best advocate. UCF is a big place, but your major is highly selective, professionally focused, and thrives on the network that you cultivate. Manage your brand carefully.

## Here's a few tips...

- Be your best advocate.
- Get to know and contact your academic advisors early and often.
- Check your Knights email daily.
- Log in to myUCF weekly.
- Log in to Webcourses daily.
- Review your degree audit each semester.
- Make note of important deadlines in the UCF academic calendar.
- Be aware of your campus resources and use them.
- Learn how to use advising technologies like my.ucf.edu, myKnight audit, UCF academic calendar, UCF catalog, and mySchedule Builder.
- Create a clear plan to graduation and review the plan regularly with your advisor.
- Register for courses on time
  - **October – enroll in Spring courses**
  - **March – enroll in Summer and Fall courses**
- Plan to do more than one internship.
- Join professional clubs and associations.
- Apply for Nicholson scholarships via A2O in Fall and Spring.
- If you need help, don't bury your head in the sand. Contact your advisor immediately to discuss a plan to get back on track.