

# DIGITAL JOURNALISM MAJOR

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Digital Journalism in the English department is a rigorous, 12-course program designed to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and experience needed to understand and take part in today's quickly changing, digital journalism world. The major includes a large focus on ethics, consistent with Fairfield's mission, and a multidisciplinary approach that will draw on courses offered by other departments. It is inspired by the *eloquentia perfecta* approach to which the English Department aspires, consistent with Jesuit ideals.

The Digital Journalism major, alone or in combination with other majors and minors, will prepare students for professional careers in print and online journalism, broadcast journalism, technical writing, online writing, public relations, social media, marketing, law, and other fields. Students taking coursework in this major will build proficiency in media literacy and develop the ability to navigate the digital media spheres in their roles as civic leaders.

By completing a major in Digital Journalism, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate their ability to collect information and report on stories of public interest, using a conventional print format, social media tools like Twitter, and multimedia platform like WordPress.
- Demonstrate their ability to synthesize information from varied sources, including research, interviews, eyewitness accounts; analyze its veracity and usefulness; and build it into stories to help their audience understand an issue.
- Describe and debate the varied and sometimes conflicting roles of the press (to inform and amuse, educate and titillate, give readers what they want and what they need).
- Explain the privileges given to U.S. journalists through the First Amendment and the limitations – legal, ethical, and from professional standards – that guide and influence their work.
- Describe how the knowledge, attitudes, skills, and experience they develop in the program can be used in non-journalism settings such as law, public relations and marketing, and a variety of writing careers.
- Demonstrate their ability to write and communicate clearly across multiple platforms.

Students may start the Digital Journalism sequence as early as their freshman year. Students are also encouraged to gain experience from various campus media outlets such as the *Mirror*, WVOF, or Stag TV.

## Requirements

For a 36-credit major in Digital Journalism, students complete the following:

| Code                    | Title                           | Credits |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| Digital Journalism Core |                                 | 21      |
| DJOU 1860               | News Media and Society          |         |
| DJOU 1870               | News Writing I                  |         |
| DJOU 2370               | News Writing II: Digital Design |         |
| DJOU 2384               | Media Law and Ethics            |         |
| DJOU 3330               | Big Data Storytelling           |         |
| DJOU 4951               | Journalism Practicum            |         |

|                             |   |           |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------|
| FTMA 1011                   | Introduction to Film and Video Production                                     |           |
| Media Electives (select 3)  |   | 9         |
| COMM 1232                   | Television Studio Production  |           |
| COMM 2252                   | Broadcast Communication   |           |
| COMM 4330                   | Misinformation in Digital Media   |           |
| COMM 4333                   | News Media and Democracy  |           |
| DJOU 1872                   | Introduction to Sports Writing  |           |
| DJOU 2380                   | Journalism Editing and Design   |           |
| DJOU 2382                   | The Power of Podcasting   |           |
| DJOU 3320                   | Writing the Feature Story   |           |
| DJOU 3340                   | Photojournalism   |           |
| DJOU 3350                   | Issues in News Writing  |           |
| DJOU 3370                   | Sports Journalism   |           |
| FTMA 2231                   | Documentary Film Production   |           |
| English Elective (select 1) |   | 3         |
| ENGL 1630                   | Literature of Illness and Healing: Wounded Storytellers and Dedicated Healers |           |
| ENGL 1700                   | Writing the Self: Autobiography   |           |
| ENGL 1806                   | Creative Writing: Nonfiction I  |           |
| ENGL 2001                   | Rhetorics that Matter: Personal, Public, Political                            |           |
| ENGL 2310                   | Rhetorics of Resistance   |           |
| ENGL 3140                   | World of Publishing   |           |
| ENGL 3161                   | Magazine Writing  |           |
| ENGL 3201                   | Persuasive Writing  |           |
| ENGL 3236                   | Issues in Professional Writing  |           |
| ENGL 3237                   | Multimedia Writing  |           |
| Capstone (select 1)         |   | 3         |
| ENGL 4960                   | Independent Writing Project   |           |
| ENGL 4980                   | Internship  |           |
| <b>Total Credits</b>        |   | <b>36</b> |