

# BACHELOR OF ARTS: COMMUNICATION - DIGITAL JOURNALISM AND MEDIA EMPHASIS

## University Requirements

### General Education

UMKC Essentials is the university-wide curriculum that all undergraduate students will complete. The 30-credit hour program includes a First Year Experience course; three critical thinking courses in the areas of Arts & Humanities, Natural & Physical Sciences, and Social & Behavioral Sciences; a Culture and Diversity course; a Civic & Urban Engagement course; two courses in Written Composition and one course in Oral Communication; and a Math Pathway course. Transfer students entering UMKC will elect from the UMKC Essentials General Education Program or the Missouri Core 42 General Education Curriculum. Academic advisors will meet with incoming transfer students to determine which option best serves the student's educational needs. More information about General Education may be found here: <https://catalog.umkc.edu/undergraduate-academic-regulations-information/general-education-requirements/> (<http://catalog.umkc.edu/undergraduate-academic-regulations-information/general-education-requirements/>)

### Constitution Course

Every undergraduate student must take a course covering the United States Constitution and the Missouri State Constitution before graduation. Course options are included in the program requirements section below.

### Exit Examinations

Information on exit examinations is available in the Undergraduate Academic Regulations and Information (<http://catalog.umkc.edu/undergraduate-academic-regulations-information/graduation/exitexams/>) section of the catalog.

### Missouri Higher Education Civics Achievement Examination

In accordance with Missouri Senate Bill 807 (section 170.013.1), 'any student entering a public institution of higher education for the first time after July 2019 who is pursuing an associate's or bachelor's degree from such institution shall successfully pass an examination on the provisions and principles of American civics with a score of seventy percent or greater as a condition of graduation from such institution'. To satisfy this requirement at UMKC, students access the exam through the Canvas site. This requirement will be listed in the degree audit system as, 'Take State Mandated Missouri Higher Education Civics Achievement Examination', and listed on the transcript as 'Missouri Civics Examination'.

## Student Learning Outcomes

Students graduating from this program will:

- Produce work applying best practices in short- and long-form news, feature and investigative reporting for print, broadcast and digital journalism
- Research and develop methods in data collection.
- Produce writing that meets or exceeds professional standards.
- Demonstrate reporting skill that meets or exceeds professional standards.
- Adapt the dissemination of information appropriate to cross-cultural audiences.
- Identify and express ethical news writing and reporting in the best traditions of American journalism and mass communication.

## Program Requirements

The **Digital Journalism and Media** emphasis offers concentrated study in select areas including digital and broadcast journalism, digital media, print journalism, radio, television, advertising and public relations.

### UMKC Essentials

Code	Title	Credits
First Semester Experience Course (GEFSE)		
Written Communication		
ENGLISH 110	Introduction to Academic Prose	3
ENGLISH 225	English II: Intermediate Academic Prose	3
Oral Communication (Satisfied in program requirements below)		
Math Pathway (choose one of the following):		
MATH 116	Mathematics For Liberal Arts	3
STAT 115	Statistical Reasoning	
MATH 110	Precalculus Algebra	
MATH 120	Precalculus	

Any 200-level MATH or STAT course

ACT Math Sub-score of 28 or higher; or SAT Math Sub-score of 660 or higher

Critical Thinking in Arts & Humanities (GECERT-AH)	3
Critical Thinking in Natural & Physical Sciences (GECRT-SC)	3
Critical Thinking in Social & Behavioral Sciences (GECRT-SS)	3
Culture & Diversity Course (GECDEV)	3
Civic & Urban Engagement Course (GECUE)	3
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>27</b>

## Constitution Course Requirement

Section 170.011.1 of the Missouri Revised Statutes, 2015, states that all candidates for a degree issued by a college or university in the state of Missouri must have "satisfactorily passed an examination on the provisions and principles of the Constitution of the United States and of the state of Missouri, and in American history and American institutions."

Courses at UMKC that satisfy this state requirement are:

Code	Title	Credits
Choose one of the following:		3
CJC 364	The Supreme Court And The Criminal Process	
HISTORY 101	U.S. History to 1877	
HISTORY 102	U.S. History Since 1877	
HONORS 230	Honors American Government	
POL-SCI 210	American Government	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>3</b>

There are a few other ways this requirement can be satisfied for students transferring to UMKC:

- Take an equivalent course from the list above at a regionally accredited institution.
- Earn credit for one of the above courses through AP, IB, or CLEP.
- Take a course that directly satisfies the Missouri Constitution Requirement at another Missouri institution.
- Have a previous bachelors degree (or higher) from a regionally accredited institution.
- Have an Associate of Arts degree from a regionally accredited institution.
- Complete the 42 Hour Core at a Missouri institution and have it listed on the official transcript.

## School of Humanities and Social Sciences Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Writing Intensive Course (300-level or above; satisfied in major requirements below):		0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>0</b>

## Major Requirements

### Digital Journalism and Media Emphasis

Students must maintain a 2.0 GPA in their major courses. Only major courses with a grade of C- or higher will be accepted for credit in the major, and counted toward the major GPA. With prior permission, three hours of elective credit from another department may be accepted as Communication Studies elective credit.

Students must successfully complete the major requirements below with at least 18 credit hours taken in the department at UMKC with 12 of those hours at the 300-level or above.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Department's Core Courses</b>		
COMM-ST 110	Fundamentals of Effective Speaking and Listening (satisfies Oral Communication requirement)	3
COMM-ST 483	Research Seminar In Communication Studies	3
<b>Required Courses</b>		
COMM-ST 203	Introduction to Journalism	3
COMM-ST 220	Introduction: Modern Communications Media	3
COMM-ST 484	Internship	3

**Digital Journalism and Media Electives**

Select six of the following courses including at least one WI course:

COMM-ST 270	Introduction to Broadcast and Digital TV	18
COMM-ST 311	Broadcast and Digital Media Presenting	
COMM-ST 316	Health, Science and Environmental Reporting	
COMM-ST 324	Journalism and Visual Storytelling in the Age of Data	
COMM-ST 341WI	Rhetorical Theory And Criticism	
COMM-ST 348	The Art of the Interview	
COMM-ST 351WI	Fundamentals of Writing for the Media	
COMM-ST 355WI	The News Feature Writing	
COMM-ST 363	Podcast and Audio Production	
COMM-ST 356WI	Writing, Broadcasting & Podcasting for Student Media	
COMM-ST 366	Digital Games and Society	3
COMM-ST 383	Cross-Cultural Journalism & Mass Media	
COMM-ST 387	Strategic Communication Research	
COMM-ST 388	Media Ethics	
COMM-ST 415	Global Journalism: Cultures, Trends, and Conflicts	
COMM-ST 432	Big City Issues: Race, Crime, Poverty and the Role of the Media	
COMM-ST 446	Principles Of Advertising	
COMM-ST 447	Interactive and Social Media Advertising	
COMM-ST 453	Urban Journalism Practicum	
COMM-ST 456	Intermediate Broadcast and Digital TV	
COMM-ST 466	Advanced Broadcast and Digital TV	
COMM-ST 492	Advertising Campaigns	
FILM 384	Documentary Film History	
Total Credits		36

**General Electives**

Students must take elective credit hours to meet the minimum credit hour requirement for their degree, including at least 36 credit hours of coursework at the 300-level or above. The minimum required by the university is 120 credit hours, of which at least 30 credit hours must be taken at UMKC, but some degree programs require more.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>General Electives</b>		<b>57</b>

Minimum GPA: 2.0

Total Credit Hours: 120

**Major Map****Four Year Graduation Plan - Courses & Critical Benchmarks for First Time College Students:**

UMKC's Major Maps are detailed, undergraduate four-year course outlines that inform students on the classes they should take and when to take them. Outlines are updated yearly. Graduate students should visit their program's individual school for program outlines.

The following is a sample course of study. Your path to graduation may vary based on factors such as college credit you earned while in high school, transfer work from other institutions of higher learning, and placement in Mathematics. You are responsible for checking prerequisites to any courses. It is the Student's responsibility to ensure that all program requirements are met. This guide is not a substitute for academic advisement.

**First Year**

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
COMM-ST 110 <sup>CC</sup>		3 ENGLISH 225	3
GEFSE 101		3 MATH 116	3

ENGLISH 110		3	GECRT-SS 101, 102, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, or 111		3
GECRT-AH 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 112, or 113		3	HISTORY 101, 102, or POL-SCI 210		3
General Elective		3	General Elective		3
		15			15
Second Year					
Fall Semester	Credits		Spring Semester	Credits	
COMM-ST 220 <sup>CC</sup>		3	COMM-ST 203 <sup>CC</sup>		3
GECRT-SC 101 or 102		3	COMM-ST 2XX/3XX/4XX Digital Journalism/Media Elective		3
GECUE 201, 203, 204, 205, or 272		3	GECDV 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, or 210		3
General Elective		3	General Elective		3
General Elective		3	General Elective		3
		15			15
Third Year					
Fall Semester	Credits		Spring Semester	Credits	
COMM-ST 3XX/4XX Digital Journalism/Media Elective		3	COMM-ST 341WI, 351WI, or 355WI		3
3XX/4XX General Elective		3	COMM-ST 483		3
General Elective		3	3XX/4XX General Elective		3
General Elective		3	General Elective		3
General Elective		3	General Elective		3
		15			15
Fourth Year					
Fall Semester	Credits		Spring Semester	Credits	
COMM-ST 3XX/4XX Digital Journalism/Media Elective		3	COMM-ST 484 or 447		3
COMM-ST 3XX/4XX Digital Journalism/Media Elective		3	COMM-ST 3XX/4XX Digital Journalism/Media Elective		3
3XX/4XX General Elective		3	3XX/4XX General Elective		3
General Elective		3	General Elective (3XX/4XX if needed)		3
General Elective		3	General Elective		3
		15			15

Total Credits: 120

CC Critical Courses provide feedback regarding major fit and help indicate likelihood of successful completion of chosen academic program and degree.

## Recommendations to Maintain Progress toward 4-Year Degree Completion

- Completion of the First Semester Experience (FSE) course in first term.
- Early completion of Written Communication, Oral Communication, and Math Pathway requirements.
- Maintain the minimum GPA required for academic Good Standing for your degree program.
- Completion at least 15 credit hours toward degree each regular semester. (*Students may use the summer to ensure completion of 30 hours per academic year or to lighten Fall and Spring course loads.*)
- Enrollment in Critical Courses as listed on the Major Map is recommended in order to maintain timely progress and completion of prerequisite coursework.

- Early and continuous enrollment in Foreign Language through completion of level required for degree program is recommended. (*The Foreign Language placement exam is highly recommended to ensure placement in the correct course level.*)
- Regular consultation with Academic Advisor(s) for program(s) of study is strongly recommended and may be required for some degree programs..

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