

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
GAYLORD COLLEGE OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Academic Year
For Students Entering the Oklahoma State System for Higher Education Summer 2026 through Spring 2027

General Requirements	
Minimum Total Credit Hours	120
Minimum Upper-Division Hours	48
Major Hours	42
Upper-Division Hours within Major	36
Minimum Retention/Graduation Grade Point Averages:	
Overall - Combined and OU	2.50
Major - Combined and OU	2.50
Last 60 hours	2.50

Program
Professional Writing B795 Bachelor of Science

OU encourages students to complete at least 30 hours of applicable coursework each year to have the opportunity to graduate in 4 years.

GENERAL EDUCATION AND COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Courses for fulfillment of General Education and College of Journalism requirements must be from the approved General Education course list. **Courses graded S/U or P/NP will not apply.**

MINIMUM OF 40 HOURS REQUIRED FOR UNIVERSITY-WIDE GENERAL EDUCATION

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Area I: Symbolic and Oral Communication		
<i>English Composition</i>		
ENGL 1113	Principles of English Composition	3
ENGL 1213	Principles of English Composition	3
or EXPO 1213	Expository Writing	
<i>Language</i>		
(0-10 hours, 2 courses in the same language) May be met by successful completion of 2 years of the same language in high school (additional language requirement – see below)		
	Beginning Course	0-5
	Beginning Course, continued	0-5
<i>Mathematics</i>		
	Choose one course	3
Core Area II: Natural Science		
	Choose two courses from different disciplines; one must include a laboratory	7
Core Area III: Social Science		
P SC 1113	American Federal Government	3
	Choose one course	3
Core Area IV: Arts and Humanities		
<i>Artistic Forms</i>		
	Choose one course	3
<i>Western Culture</i>		
HIST 1483	United States to 1865	3
or HIST 1493	United States, 1865 to the Present	
	Choose one course (excluding HIST 1483 and HIST 1493)	3
<i>World Culture</i>		
	Choose one course	3
Core Area V: First-Year Experience		
	Choose one course	3
Total Credit Hours		37-47

ADDITIONAL GAYLORD COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Western Culture		
	Choose one upper-division course outside the major and in addition to University General Education Core IV	3
Language or Humanities		
	Choose one from:	0-3
	a language course at the intermediate level or demonstrated competency at that level	
	Upper-division (3000-4000) level Humanities course must be from Artistic Forms, Western Civilization & Culture, or World Culture.	
Total Credit Hours		3-6

FREE ELECTIVES

Electives to bring total applicable hours to the minimum total required for the degree including 48 upper-division hours.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

A maximum of 50 hours of Journalism and Mass Communication may be counted in the 120 hours required for graduation. No student will be awarded a BS in Journalism degree without completing at least 70 semester credit hours outside the College.

A grade of C or better is required in all Journalism and Mass Communication courses.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Required Courses		
JMC 1013	Introduction to Media	3
JMC 2033	Media Writing & Storytelling	3
JMC 3011	Practicum	1
JMC 3011	Practicum	1
JMC 3011	Practicum	1
JMC 3504	Introduction to Professional Writing	4
JMC 4514	Writing the Novel	4
JMC 4524	Writing the Short Story	4
JMC 4563	Category Fiction	3
JMC 4573	Theories of Professional Writing	3
JMC 4603	Business of Professional Writing	3
JMC 4813	Media Law	3
Electives		
	Choose 9 hours upper division JMC elective	9
Total Credit Hours		42

REQUIRED MINOR

All Gaylord College students pursuing a baccalaureate major are also required to complete an academic minor of their choice in accordance to JMC policies.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
	Choose a minor ¹	15-21
Total Credit Hours		15-21

¹ Required Completion of a Minor – 15-21 hours (hours vary due to minor chosen).

RECOMMENDED JMC ELECTIVES

Code	Title	Credit Hours
JMC 3013	Intermediate Cross-Platform Reporting	3
JMC 3023	Long Form Storytelling	3
JMC 3103	News Editing	3
JMC 3723	Introduction to Documentary	3
JMC 3753	Electronic Media Criticism	3
JMC 4503	Tutorial in Writing	3
JMC 4533	Mystery Writing	3
JMC 4543	Sci-Fi & Fantasy Writing	3
JMC 4593	Young Adult Fiction Writing	3
JMC 4803	History of Media	3

More information in the catalog: (<http://ou-public.courseleaf.com/gaylord-journalism-mass-communication/professional-writing-bachelor-science/>).

INFORMATION CONCERNING GENERAL RULES, REGULATIONS AND MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Information regarding Total Hours; Hours by Examination, Correspondence Study and/or Extension; Repeat of Failed Coursework; and Requirements for Full Admission to the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication can be found in the catalog under Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication: Undergraduate Study.

Attendance: Students who do not attend a JMC class or lab on the first day of classes may be dropped from the class or lab.

Transfer Work: Students may transfer in a maximum of 12 credit hours of journalism and mass communication coursework prior to full admission to the Gaylord College. Once fully admitted to the college, students may petition the faculty to have an additional three (3) credit hours from an outside ACEJMC institution applied to their University of Oklahoma degree. A maximum of fifteen (15) credit hours of JMC transfer coursework may be applied to a degree.

Individual Studies (e.g., courses titled "Independent Study"): A maximum of 12 total semester hours may be counted toward graduation.

Senior Institution Hours: A minimum of 60 semester hours applied toward graduation must be earned at senior (4-year) institutions.

Residency:

- A minimum of 30 semester hours acceptable toward graduation must be earned in residence at OU, including at least 15 of the last 30 hours applied toward the degree.
- At least 15 semester hours of upper-division major work must be completed in residence at OU.
- OU correspondence courses are not considered resident credit.
- Credits earned via examination are neither resident nor nonresident credit.

Application for Graduation: Students must apply for graduation during the term in which they complete their degree requirements in order to graduate in that term. Application forms are available in the Student Services Center, 2533 Gaylord Hall. The deadline for completion of all coursework to graduate in a particular term is the last day of classes in that term.

SUGGESTED SEMESTER PLAN OF STUDY

This plan of study should not be used in lieu of academic advisement.

Year	FIRST SEMESTER		Hours	SECOND SEMESTER		Hours
FRESHMAN	ENGL 1113	Principles of English Composition (Core I)	3	ENGL 1213 or EXPO 1213	Principles of English Composition (Core I) or Expository Writing	3
	HIST 1483 or HIST 1493	United States to 1865 (Core IV) or United States, 1865 to the Present	3	JMC 2033	Media Writing & Storytelling	3
	JMC 1013	Introduction to Media	3		MATH (Core I)	3
		Beginning Language (Core I)	5	P SC 1113	American Federal Government (Core III)	3
		First-Year Experience (Core V)	3		Beginning Language continued (Core I)	5
	CREDIT HOURS			17	CREDIT HOURS	
SOPHOMORE	JMC 3504	Introduction to Professional Writing	4	JMC 4524	Writing the Short Story	4
		Artistic Forms (Core IV)	3	JMC 3011	Practicum (PW Readings)	1
		Natural Science with lab (Core II)	4		Natural Science without lab (Core II)	3
		Choose one of the following:	3		World Culture (Core IV)	3
		Intermediate Language			Social Science Core III	3
		Upper-Division Humanities (Core IV) -Artistic Forms, Western Civilization & Culture, or World Culture				
	Free Elective, lower- or upper-division					
	Free Elective, lower-division	2				
CREDIT HOURS			16	CREDIT HOURS		14
JUNIOR	JMC 4514	Writing the Novel	4	JMC 4573	Theories of Professional Writing	3
	JMC 3011	Practicum (PW Readings)	1	JMC 3011	Practicum (PW Readings)	1
		Western Culture (Core IV)	3		JMC Major Elective, upper-division (3000-4000-level)	3
		Free Elective, upper-division (3000-4000-level)	3		Upper-division Western Culture outside major (Gen. Ed.)	3
		Free Elective, upper-division (3000-4000-level)	3		Free Elective, upper-division (3000-4000-level)	3
	CREDIT HOURS			14	CREDIT HOURS	
SENIOR	JMC 4563	Category Fiction	3	JMC 4603	Business of Professional Writing	3
	JMC 4813	Media Law	3		JMC Major Elective, upper-division (3000-4000-level)	3
		JMC Major Elective, upper-division (3000-4000-level)	3		Free Elective, lower- or upper-division	3
		Free Elective, lower- or upper-division	3		Free Elective, lower- or upper-division	3
		Free Elective, lower- or upper-division	3		Free Elective, lower- or upper-division	2
	CREDIT HOURS			15	CREDIT HOURS	