University Core and Graduation Requirements

**University Core Requirements:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>#Classes</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Classes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Religion Cornerstones</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachings and Doctrine of The Book of Mormon</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>REL A 275</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jesus Christ and the Everlasting Gospel</td>
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<td>2.0</td>
<td>REL A 250</td>
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<td>Foundations of the Restoration</td>
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<td>REL C 225</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Eternal Family</td>
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<td>REL C 200</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Individual and Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Heritage</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global and Cultural Awareness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Year Writing</td>
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<td>WRTG 150*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Written and Oral Communications</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quantitative Reasoning</td>
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<td>Languages of Learning (Math or Language)</td>
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<td>Arts, Letters, and Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Civilization 1</td>
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<td>Civilization 2</td>
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<td>Social Science</td>
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<td>Core Enrichment: Electives</td>
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<td>Open Electives</td>
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<td>Variable</td>
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FOR UNIVERSITY CORE/MAJOR QUESTIONS CONTACT THE ADVISEMENT CENTER — FOR CAREER QUESTIONS SEE YOUR FACULTY ADVISOR

* THESE CLASSES FILL BOTH UNIVERSITY CORE AND MAJOR REQUIREMENTS (3 hours overlap)

**Graduation Requirements:**

- Minimum residence hours required: 30.0
- Minimum hours needed to graduate: 120.0

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* THESE CLASSES FILL BOTH UNIVERSITY CORE AND MAJOR REQUIREMENTS (3 hours overlap)

**Suggested Sequence of Courses**

### FRESHMAN YEAR

- **1st Semester**
  - WRTG 150* 3.0
  - COMMS 101 3.0
  - Religion Cornerstone course 2.0
  - General Education courses and/or general electives 7.0
  - **Total Hours**: 15.0

- **2nd Semester**
  - American Heritage 3.0
  - COMMS 239 3.0
  - Religion Cornerstone course 2.0
  - General Education course, and/or general electives 7.0
  - **Total Hours**: 15.0

### SOPHOMORE YEAR

- **3rd Semester**
  - COMMS 300 3.0
  - COMMS 304 3.0
  - Religion Cornerstone course 2.0
  - General Education courses and/or general electives 7.0
  - **Total Hours**: 15.0

- **Apply to major in September or January, after you have completed the prerequisites with a "B" or better.**

- **4th Semester**
  - COMMS 305 3.0
  - COMMS 308 3.0
  - COMMS elective 3.0
  - COMMS 312, 313, 314 and/or 315 1.5
  - Religion elective 2.0
  - General Education courses and/or general electives 2.5
  - **Total Hours**: 15.0

### JUNIOR YEAR

- **5th Semester**
  - COMMS 312 or 325 3.0
  - COMMS 312, 313, 314 and/or 315 1.5
  - Religion cornerstone course 2.0
  - General Education courses and/or general electives 7.0
  - **Total Hours**: 13.5

- **6th Semester**
  - COMMS 385, 386, 389 or 386 3.0
  - COMMS elective 3.0
  - Religion elective 2.0
  - General Education courses and/or general electives 7.0
  - **Total Hours**: 15.0

### SENIOR YEAR

- **7th Semester**
  - COMMS 321 or 325 3.0
  - COMMS 312, 313, 314 and/or 315 1.5
  - Religion elective 2.0
  - General Education courses and/or general electives 10.0
  - **Total Hours**: 15.0

- **8th Semester**
  - COMMS 496R 4.0
  - General Education courses and/or general electives 11.0
  - **Total Hours**: 15.0

Note: Students are encouraged to complete an average of 15 credit hours each semester or 30 credit hours each year, which could include spring and/or summer terms. Taking fewer credits substantially increases the cost and the number of semesters to graduate.
All students must take a campus writing course before applying for admission to the major. The following writing course fills this requirement and satisfies the GE First-Year Writing requirement: WRTG 150. AP credit does not fulfill this requirement. Note: Students must receive a B grade or better to be eligible to apply for admission to the program.

REQUIREMENT 1 Complete 3 courses
- COMM 101 - Mass Communication and Society  3.0
- COMM 239 - Introduction to Multimedia Storytelling  3.0
- "WRTG 150 - Writing and Rhetoric  3.0

REQUIREMENT 2 Complete 2 courses
COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING: (COMM 100 AND COMM 304 MAY BE TAKEN DURING THE SEMESTER IN WHICH STUDENTS APPLY FOR ADMISSION TO THE MAJOR.)
- COMM 300 - Media Law and Responsibility  3.0
- COMM 304 - Media Ethics: Ethical Decision-Making in a Diverse Society  3.0

REQUIREMENT 3 Complete 1 course
AFTER-ADMISSION TO THE MAJOR, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:
- COMM 308 - Research Methods for Journalism  3.0

REQUIREMENT 4 Complete 1 option
OPTION 4.1 Complete 1 course
- COMM 305 - Foundations of Journalism  3.0

OPTION 4.2 Complete 2 courses
- COMM 311 - Writing for News Media  1.5
- COMM 312 - Digital Media Production  1.5

REQUIREMENT 5 Complete 2 courses
- COMM 312 - Digital Media Production  1.5
- COMM 313 - Media Design and Graphics  1.5
- COMM 314 - Intro to Social Media Management  1.5
- COMM 315 - Intro to SEO and Analytics  1.5

REQUIREMENT 6 Complete 1 course
- COMM 321 - News Reporting  3.0
- COMM 325 - Broadcast Media Reporting  3.0

REQUIREMENT 7 Complete 1 course
NOTE: JOURNALISM MAJORS WILL NEED TO COMPLETE COMM 313 PRIOR TO ENROLLING IN COMM 365.
- COMM 365 - Photojournalism  3.0
- COMM 384 - Editing for News Media  3.0

COMM 385 - Television News Producing  3.0
COMM 386 - Sports Communication  3.0

REQUIREMENT 8 Complete 1 course
- COMM 420 - Advanced Print Reporting  3.0
- COMM 422 - Newsroom Leadership  3.0
- COMM 484 - Publication Graphics and Production  3.0
- COMM 486 - Advanced Broadcast Reporting  3.0
- COMM 488 - Advanced Broadcast Producing  3.0

REQUIREMENT 9 Complete 2 courses
- COMM 301 - Mass Media History and Philosophy  3.0
- COMM 302 - Popular Culture and Media  3.0
- COMM 351 - Media and Their Audiences  3.0
- COMM 360 - Communication Management Principles and Theory  3.0
- COMM 381 - International Media Systems  3.0
- COMM 382 - Issues in Global Communication  3.0
- COMM 406 - Media and the First Amendment  3.0
- COMM 411 - Media Effects  3.0
- COMM 416 - Media Advocacy and Social Change  3.0
- COMM 426 - Persuasion in the Media Age  3.0
- COMM 480 - Media Ethics and Moral Reasoning  3.0
- COMM 481 - Gender, Race, and Class in the Media  3.0
- COMM 482 - Media and World Religions  3.0

REQUIREMENT 10 Complete 4.0 hours from the following course(s)
- COMM 496R - Academic Internship 6.0v
  You may take up to 4 credit hours.

REQUIREMENT 11
Complete a minimum of 72 hours in courses outside of the department while meeting BYU’s University Core requirements.

GENERAL INFORMATION:
Working under faculty direction, students in the school edit and publish the Daily Universe as a laboratory newspaper for the campus, produce daily television newscasts that air on the local BYU TV station and are streamed online, produce content for universe. byu.edu, plan advertising and public relations campaigns, solve media sales and management problems, and use “new media” in diverse situations.

The School of Communications sponsors the International Media Studies Program, which seeks to broaden students’ awareness of worldwide communications issues and practices. Not only do students have opportunity to study the media systems of other nations through classes and on-site experiences, but media practitioners of other nations are also brought to campus as lecturers and visiting experts. The school encourages early admission. Students who enroll in Comm 101, 239, and complete the English requirement can apply to the major as early as the second semester of their freshman year.

SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS:
1. Each student must be Pre-Comms in order to apply to the major. Contact the college advisement center for admission requirements, or comms.byu.edu.
2. All students must take a campus writing course before applying for admission to the major. WRTG 150 or any Advanced Writing Course fulfills this requirement. AP credit does not.
3. Complete a minimum of 72 hours in courses outside of the department, while meeting BYU’s University Core requirements.
4. Every student is required to complete an internship. Although the school operates an internship office (280 Brimhall Building) that serves as a clearinghouse for internship information, the responsibility for securing an internship rests with the student. However, students may not embark on any internship without prior approval from a faculty advisor, before processing appropriate documents with the Internship Office (280 BRMB), and without being enrolled in Comm 496R.
5. In certain courses, students will be required to demonstrate proficiency in InDesign, Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator by portfolio review.
6. For program objectives, please see: learningoutcomes.byu.edu.

THE DISCIPLINE:
Journalism is a discipline that provides factual and relevant information for democratic decision making, community building, and public deliberation.
The study of journalism entails the mastery of working with people to present news and features in a way that accurately and fully reflects the world in which we live. Students will acquire skills in analytical thinking, lucid writing, and effective interviewing to be able to present clear and compelling news products in words, sounds, and images. Students will study media law and ethics, journalism research methods, and will choose the degree to which they will specialize in either new media, traditional print, or traditional broadcasting. To develop a wide understanding of the world and the processes that make society work, students are encouraged to earn more than 60 percent of their credits in other departments.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:
The exciting field of journalism offers the allure of working in a profession that has its finger on the changing pulse of society. Whether serving as reporters, producers, or editors for newspaper, television, radio, or online, journalists find themselves rubbing shoulders with important people and recording important events. A career in journalism implies not only skills with words, but the ability to make sound judgments and to ferret out facts. In addition to the obvious careers as reporters, editors, anchors, and producers, students often find their journalism skills in demand in a variety of other areas. Many find the challenge of recording the drama of real life both satisfying and enlightening. Recent changes in technologies and business models continue to change the way news is produced and distributed. These changes call for greater skill in writing and multi-media storytelling to be able to visualize the world in an interesting way. Overall, one of journalism’s great satisfactions had been the sense that one can make a difference in the world and bring about changes for the better.

OFF-CAMPUS PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIPS:
Internships must be arranged with the approval of students’ faculty advisors. Students are required to complete 280 hours on an internship. Such an internship must be under the supervision of a full-time print journalist practitioner. Prerequisites for the internship are Comms 308; 321 or 325. Internships on campus must be specifically approved by the faculty advisor well in advance. Not all campus internships fill the requirement. Students must have C- or better in all internship prerequisite classes.