



## HTC Journalism Program Overview (New Curriculum as of 2016/17)

The HTC Program in Journalism offers exceptional students the opportunity to study the many aspects of journalism and mass communication in small groups and one-on-one relationships with our school's faculty members. Maximum opportunities will be afforded for the student to progress well beyond the material found in conventional courses. The primary purpose of the tutorial program is to prepare students for a professional career while at the same time serving as preparation for graduate study. Students will receive a degree of Bachelor of Science in Journalism from the Honors Tutorial College. The HTC Journalism Program satisfies the accreditation standards of the E.W. Scripps School of Journalism. Students in the HTC Journalism Program typically follow one of the two main tracks in journalism, the *news & information track* or the *strategic communication track*.

Students in the HTC Journalism program will be prepared to (1) achieve a sophisticated understanding of their discipline and profession via conceptual and skills classes, labs, and tutorials, (2) pursue original, independent research and journalistic creative activity by completing pertinent assignments, participating in applicable projects, and working on the honors thesis, and (3) develop a professional work ethic and responsibility through ethics training, tutorials, group work, and the honors thesis. These goals are assessed continuously throughout the program.

### OPPORTUNITIES UPON GRADUATION

Most students graduating from the program will work in the field of journalism, mass communication, PR, or advertising, and related fields. Journalism graduates are often hired into other jobs, as well, due to their general abilities (critical thinking, writing skills, analytical abilities, computer literacy, etc.). The Bachelor degree in journalism is also a great preparation for graduate school. Students may apply for graduate school in journalism or related fields, including law school, business school, and political science. Our HTC Journalism Program and the E.W. Scripps School of Journalism have an outstanding record of post-graduation job placement.

### **1. Admissions Information**

#### FRESHMAN/FIRST-YEAR ADMISSION

Students are selected by the Director of Studies of the Journalism Tutorial Program and the Honors Tutorial College on the basis of superior ability and sustained motivation. While we look for good scores on standardized tests (ACT composite score of 30 or a combined SAT score of 1300), we also expect a good high school record (class standing in the top 10%). We conduct a comprehensive review based on test scores, school grades, and recommendations, as well as the portfolio material, the applications essays, and the impression from the admission interview.

A successful interview with the Director of Studies is required for acceptance into the program. Recommendations from two high school teachers are highly recommended. Portfolios with up to six journalistic writing samples and/or broadcast or multimedia productions are strongly encouraged (showcasing experience with journalism and mass media). If no journalism work exists, other writing samples from classes or extracurricular work may be submitted.

The personalized aspects of the tutorial system occasionally make it possible for us to accept students who have not performed well on standardized measures of ability but who demonstrate exceptional aptitude in other ways.

The deadline for application for admission is December 1st, and admission interviews are held in January. For further information, please consult <https://www.ohio.edu/honors/future-students/apply.cfm>.

#### INTERNAL TRANSFER POLICY

First-Year students at Ohio University may apply to transfer into the HTC Journalism Program and the Honors Tutorial College. These students must meet the same entrance requirements as entering freshmen. The deadline for application is December 1<sup>st</sup>. Admission interviews are held in December.

#### EXTERNAL TRANSFER ADMISSION

First-Year students at another institution may also apply to transfer into the HTC Journalism Program and the Honors Tutorial College. These students may meet the same entrance requirement as entering freshmen. The deadline for application is December 1st, and admission interviews are held in January.

## 2. Information on the Tutorial System

### ADVISING AND MENTORING

Each semester, typically during week 9 or 10, students will meet with the Director of Studies regarding selection and sequencing of tutorials and other courses, students' progress toward graduation, internship opportunities, choice of a thesis advisor, and other procedural matters. Additional individual meetings are held as needed by request.

Your Director of Studies (DOS) is the first and most important point of contact. HTC students are expected to talk proactively to the DOS about any academic issues, ranging from course selection and changes in program (minor, certificate, area of specialization), to questions about academic opportunities (study abroad, research, internships), to performance issues (e.g. procrastination, motivation, etc.) to make sure that those can be addressed appropriately.

Similarly, questions and doubts about the program of study and/or the desire to change into a different program of study or to transfer out of HTC should always be brought up first with the DOS. We do everything to support students in the HTC program but we will also not stand in a student's way if they should come to the conclusion that the HTC program is not a good fit for them. It is crucial, though, that the communication channels are kept open!

### TUTORIALS AND EVALUATION

As a rule, tutorials meet on a weekly basis for a minimum of one hour. The student and the tutor will discuss current reading and writing assignments, discuss research tasks or creative work at hand, encourage debate and offer critical analysis. It is important to understand that a tutorial is not simply an independent study. Both tutor and tutee must be involved actively and dedicate a fair amount of time and effort to it.

Ideally, the tutorial will be a challenging, enriching, and enlightening experience for both the tutee and the tutor. Tutees are always expected to be well prepared and to engage in a substantive dialogue with the tutor. The role of the tutor is that of a conversation facilitator and a critical questioner, not that of a lecturer.

The tutor continuously evaluates the progress of the student. The final grade is based on many facets of evaluation available to the tutor: Oral contributions and discussions, presentations by the student, written assignments and exams, oral exams, field work, etc. In addition to letter grade assessments, tutors complete course descriptions and evaluations of each student's work, assessing the student's academic standing, progress, and attitude.

Throughout the program, students earn letter grades consistent with the university grading system and are expected to maintain a GPA of 3.5 or higher. Students who earn less than a B, or who maintain less than a 3.5 GPA will need to confer with the Director of Studies and/or the Dean of the College and may be put on academic probation.

### THE HONORS THESIS

The Honors Thesis is a reflection of the student's special interests. Due to the professional orientation of journalism, the thesis can either be a scholarly piece or a professional project. As a rule, the thesis should be somewhere between 50 and 80 pages long (not including appendices/attachments).

- A **scholarly thesis** may focus on theoretical/conceptual research, investigate empirical issues, or combine the two; it may also include qualitative and/or quantitative research. It should be a product of sustained research on a specific subject and reflect the academic and professional expectations and standards of our discipline. It should also include some conceptual and ethical reflections on the process, showing how concepts and methods were applied and used in the work, and discussing the challenges, obstacles, and benefits of the process.
- A **professional project** should be a substantial piece of journalistic work in the *news & information track* or in the *strategic communication track*, such as a series of in-depth magazine articles, a TV/radio documentary, a PR kit, an ad campaign, or marketing plan. It must include a scholarly essay of 25 pages minimum on theories, methods, concepts, developments, experiences and open questions etc., pertaining to the project. The essay must also address ethical questions and specific challenges of the project, such as conflict of interest, journalistic ethics, etc.

The thesis committee is usually composed of the thesis adviser and the Director of Studies (DOS), who will monitor the thesis work. Its acceptance, dependent upon an appropriate mixture of research and analysis, relies upon the judgment of the thesis adviser and the DOS. It is expected that the thesis will constitute work of the highest quality in investigating a problem of concern to both scholars and practitioners. Although an intensive study of relevant theoretical and research literatures is the underpinning of the thesis, students are encouraged to augment this scholarly base with field data whenever possible.

### **3. Overview of the Program Requirements**

#### JOURNALISM TUTORIALS (ca. 26 credit hours)

Students are required to complete eight tutorials within the School of Journalism, including two devoted to the thesis. To allow maximum flexibility needed in a tutorial-based program, tutorials can be between 1 and 15 credit hours per semester. However, non-thesis tutorials will usually **three credit hours each** (please talk to the DOS if you want to take fewer or more hours). Credit hours for thesis tutorials can vary according to the student's need but should be no less than **four credit hours**.

The tutorial program is structured as follows:

##### **a) Freshmen Year: Core Tutorials (6 credit hours total)**

- Ethics, Media & Society (equivalent to JOUR 3200, 3 crh.)
- Communication Law (equivalent to JOUR 3100, 3 crh.)

##### **b) Sophomore Year: Advanced Tutorials (6 credit hours total)**

- Skills/Specialized Journalism (see "Journalism Electives" in JOUR curriculum, 3 crh.)
- Journalism Issues & Topics (see "Journalism Electives" in JOUR curriculum, 3 crh.)

##### **c) Junior Year: Thesis Preparation Tutorials (6 credit hours total)**

- Journalism Theories, Methods, or History (3 crh.)
- Research & Prospectus Seminar (with DOS, 3 crh.)

##### **d) Senior Year: Thesis Tutorials (8-30 credit hours total)**

- Fall Semester: Emphasis on Thesis Research (4 - 15 crh.)
- Spring Semester: Emphasis on Thesis Writing (4 - 15 crh.)

#### OTHER JOURNALISM COURSES (16 credit hours)

##### **a) Non-Tutorial Core Courses (6 credit hours)**

Students must take core courses in journalism not covered by tutorials. Core courses not covered by tutorials include:

- JOUR 1010 Future of Media (3 crh.)  
This course may be replaced, if approved by the DOS, with a course that reflects journalism and its societal environment, such as JOUR 4130 Gender, Race, & Class, or JOUR 4230 International & Cross-Cultural Advertising, or JOUR 4630 Media and Conflicts, or JOUR 4660 International Mass Media.
- JOUR 2311 or 2310 Multiplatform Reporting (3 crh.)

##### **b) Professional and Conceptual Journalism Courses (10 credit hours)**

Students are also expected to take the independent study JOUR 4930 as introduction in the fall of the first year and an appropriate number of adviser-approved electives in journalism; at a minimum three courses. These are typically professional and conceptual courses, including those that focus on skills and specific issues. Students will usually follow one of the two tracks in journalism (news and information track or strategic communication track), unless advised differently.

Some professional courses such as reporting, editing, and practicum are experiential by nature. These courses provide a set of experiences to learn journalistic techniques. In some instances, the experiences may be available outside regular journalism courses. In such cases the tutorial student may obtain permission to waive the course or substitute it through an independent study. Some of the courses, however, are group experiences by nature, so the tutorial student joins other students in those courses.

##### **c) Internship**

Students are required to complete an adviser approved internship in the field of journalism. The internship must have a minimum of 200 hours and be in a field that is relevant to journalism and the student's track. Internship approval and evaluation forms can be downloaded from the [School's website](#) (tab "current students").

##### **d) Study Abroad**

A study abroad is highly recommended and may be included within the program with special permission from the Director of Studies. Students are advised to use the study abroad time for fulfilling liberal arts requirements (such as language training) and/or to hone their journalism skills. Sometimes, study abroad can also be combined with internships and other professional opportunities.

## GENERAL EDUCATION, LIBERAL ARTS, and SPECIALIZATION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the journalism classes students must complete general education requirements and number of other liberal arts requirements because journalism programs generally require the student to develop a broad background in liberal arts. The idea is that you have to understand a broad variety of subject matters in order to cover them in your journalistic work. Foreign language skills, as well as a thorough understanding of logic/argumentation, statistics, economy, and diversity are seen as indispensable. The other liberal arts requirements and also the specialization requirement are open choice. The foreign language requirement is considered fulfilled if you test into the 3000-level or above. In this case, however, we encourage you to continue language studies for liberal arts credit.

### GENERAL EDUCATION (9 credit hours)

- HC 250: Honors Tutorial College Seminar (3 crh.)
- Tier I Freshman English/Composition (3 crh.)
- Tier I Junior English (3 crh.)

### LIBERAL ARTS REQUIREMENTS (48 credit hours)

#### **Required courses (18 crh.)**

- two courses of a single foreign language or sign language (6 crh.) – will be waived if you test into the 3000-level or above
- one course in economics or a related field (ECON, MKT, BUSL, MGT, FIN, MIS, 3 crh.)
- one course in logic/argumentation (typically PHIL 1200, 3 crh.)
- one course in statistics (typically PSY 1110, MATH 2500, or ECON 3810, 3 crh.)
- one course in Afro-American Studies or Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies (3 crh.)

#### **Elective requirements (30 crh.)**

- take ten courses (at least 30 crh.) from at least three different departments (except JOUR, MDIA, and VICO) as advised by the DOS
- four classes (at least 12 crh.) must be at the 3000 level or above

### SPECIALIZATION REQUIREMENTS (18 credit hours)

In addition, students are required to take 18 hours in a subject area outside of Journalism and with only up to 6 hours from Media Arts & Studies or Visual Communication/Photography. Courses taken to fulfill a specialization requirement cannot also count toward a liberal arts requirement but may be counted toward general education (Tier I) requirements.

#### **Complete 18 crh. with one of the following options:**

- 1) 18 hours (= six courses) in a single department other than JOUR, MDIA, or VICO, with 6 hours at the 3000-level or higher.
- 2) 12 hours in a single department other than JOUR, MDIA, or VICO and 6 hours in any other department than JOUR or an advisor-approved collection of related courses outside of Journalism, with 6 hours at the 3000 level or above
- 3) 18 hours through a certificate program not in JOUR, MDIA, or VICO; no more than 6 hours of the certificate may come from MDIA, or VICO.

### MINIMUM CREDIT HOURS PER SEMESTER

Honors Tutorial students must take a minimum of **15 hours** per semester. The maximum is 20 hours per semester.

#### **For questions and further information, please contact**

Dr. Bernhard Debatin  
Director of Studies in Journalism  
227A Schoonover Center  
Ohio University

740-593-9809  
debatin@ohio.edu

# HTC Journalism Checksheet

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

as of Fall 2016/2017

## UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

To earn a Bachelor of Science in Journalism degree from the Honors Tutorial College you must:

- Fulfill all requirements for the HTC Journalism program
- Maintain at least a 3.5 GPA
- Satisfy university's English freshman requirement
- Satisfy university's junior English composition requirement

TIER I Freshmen English/Comp	3 crh	<input type="checkbox"/>
TIER I Junior English	3 crh	<input type="checkbox"/>
HC 2500	3 crh	<input type="checkbox"/>

## LIBERAL ARTS REQUIREMENTS

Foreign Language (2 courses)	6 crh	<input type="checkbox"/>
ECON, ACCT, BUSL, MGT, MKT...	3 crh	<input type="checkbox"/>
Logic & Argumentation (PHIL 1200)	3 crh	<input type="checkbox"/>
Statistics	3 crh	<input type="checkbox"/>
Diversity (AAS or WGSS)	3 crh	<input type="checkbox"/>

- **Take 30 crh. (10 courses)** from at least three different departments (except JOUR, MDIA, and VICO) as advised
- **12 crh. (4 courses)** must be at the 3000 level or above

1.	3 crh	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	3 crh	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	3 crh	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.	3 crh	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.	3 crh	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.	3 crh	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.	3 crh	<input type="checkbox"/>
8.	3 crh	<input type="checkbox"/>
9.	3 crh	<input type="checkbox"/>
10.	3 crh	<input type="checkbox"/>

## AREA OF SPECIALIZATION

Choose ONE of the following options:

1. Complete **18 hours** in a single department (not JOUR, MDIA or VICO) with 6 hours at the 3000-level or higher.
2. Complete **12 hours** in a single department (not JOUR, MDIA or VICO) and **6 hours** in any other department (but not JOUR), or an advisor-approved collection of related courses, with 6 hours at the 3000-level or higher.
3. Complete **18 hours** through a certificate program not in JOUR, MDIA or VICO; 6 hours of the certificate may come from MDIA or VICO

1.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.	<input type="checkbox"/>

## JOURNALISM REQUIREMENTS

### Jour Tutorial Requirements

#### Freshmen Year: Two CORE Tutorials

Media, Ethics & Society	J2970T	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication Law (or v.v.)	J2980T	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### Sophomore Year: Two ADVANCED Tutorials

Skills/specialized Journalism	J2971T	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issues and Topics	J2981T	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### Junior Year: Two RESEARCH Tutorials

Jour. Theories, Methods, or History	J3970T	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research & Prosp. Sem. (w. DOS)	J3980T	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### Senior Year: Two THESIS Tutorials

TT1: Fall Semester	J4970T	<input type="checkbox"/>
TT 2: Spring Semester	J4980T	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Journalism Core Requirements

- Must earn a "B" or higher in each core course
- Must maintain a 3.5 g.p.a. in all required course work

J1010 Future of Media (3 crh) This course may be replaced, if approved by the DOS, with a conceptual overview course, such as J4130, J4230, J4630, or J4660 (relevant for double majors only)	<input type="checkbox"/>
J2311 Multiplatform Reporting (4 crh)	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Other Journalism Requirements

Independ. Study JOUR 4930 (Intro with DOS)	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Students will usually follow one of the two tracks (*News & Information Track* or *Strategic Communication Track*) and **must take at least three** elective courses in their track (a capstone course is recommended).

News and Information Track	Strategic Communication Track
<input type="checkbox"/>	

**Sample Program Template as of Fall 2016/17**  
**Four-Year Bachelors Program / Semesters**  
 Program: HTC Journalism

	Fall		Spring	
	Course	Credits	Course	Credits
<b>Year 1</b>	JOUR 2970T (Ethics)	3	JOUR 2980T (Law)	3
	JOUR 1010 (CORE)	3	JOUR 2310 (CORE)	3
	HC 2500	3	Lib Arts (1)	3
	STATS	3	WGSS/AAS	3
	Foreign Language	3	Foreign Language	3
	JOUR 4930 (with DOS)	1		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Year 2</b>	JOUR 2971T (Skills/ Specialized Journalism)	3	JOUR 2971T (Issues and Topics)	3
	JOUR 3330 - elective (1)	3	JOUR 3140 - elective (2)	3
	Lib Arts (2)	3	Lib Arts (4)	3
	Lib Arts (3)	3	Lib Arts (5)	3
	Logic & Arg. PHIL 1200	3	Fresh. ENG/Lib Arts (6)	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	JOUR 3970T (Theories, Methods or History)	3	JOUR 3980T (Research & Prosp. Seminar)	3
	JUN. ENG/JOUR 4410J - elective (3)	3	Lib Arts (9)	3
	ECON 1010	3	Lib Arts (10 )	3
	Lib Arts (7)	3	Specialization (1)	3
	Lib Arts (8)	3	Specialization (2)	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	JOUR 4970T (Thesis tutorial)	5	JOUR 4980T (Thesis tutorial)	6
	JOUR capstone - elective (4)	3	Specialization (5)	3
	Specialization (3)	3	Specialization (6)	3
	Specialization (4)	3		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Total hours over 4 years</b>				<b>117</b>

Please note that this is only a sample to show that and how the requirements can be met in a four year period. This schedule leaves room for at least eight additional electives. It also does not reflect that some coursework may fulfill two requirements or that many students bring AP course credit to college.