

# MEDIA AND JOURNALISM - M.A.

College of Communication and Information  
School of Media and Journalism  
www.kent.edu/mdj

## About This Program

Kent State's graduate degree in Media and Journalism is an interdisciplinary program that provides a strong foundation to succeed in a rapidly changing media industry. Courses are dynamic and professionally relevant. An optional, fully online concentration in Journalism Education gives current and future educators the tools needed to effectively teach journalism and advise scholastic media at the high school/post-secondary level. Read more...

## Contact Information

- School Director: **Emily Metzgar** | mdj@kent.edu | 330-672-2572
- Connect with an Admissions Counselor: U.S. Student | International Student

## Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
  - In person
- **Location:**
  - Kent Campus

*Applications to the M.A. degree in Media and Journalism are not being accepted at this time.*

## Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries\*

### Communications teachers, postsecondary

- 3.2% about as fast as the average
- 35,600 number of jobs
- \$71,030 potential earnings

### Editors

- -7.3% decline
- 118,700 number of jobs
- \$63,400 potential earnings

### News analysts, reporters, and journalists

- -11.2% decline
- 52,000 number of jobs
- \$49,300 potential earnings

### Proofreaders and copy markers

- -2.7% decline
- 10,300 number of jobs
- \$41,140 potential earnings

### Public relations specialists

- 7.2% faster than the average
- 274,600 number of jobs
- \$62,810 potential earnings

### Writers and authors

- -2.3% decline
- 131,200 number of jobs
- \$67,120 potential earnings

\* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

For more information about graduate admissions, visit the graduate admission website. For more information on international admissions, visit the international admission website.

## Admission Requirements

*Applications to the M.A. degree in Media and Journalism are not being accepted at this time.*

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Minimum 2.750 undergraduate GPA on a 4.000-point scale
- Official transcript(s)
- Résumé or vitae
- Goal statement
- Writing sample<sup>1</sup>
- Two letters of recommendation<sup>2</sup>
- English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning one of the following:
  - Minimum 587 TOEFL PBT score
  - Minimum 94 TOEFL IBT score
  - Minimum 82 MELAB score
  - Minimum 7.0 IELTS score
  - Minimum 65 PTE score
  - Minimum 110 Duolingo English score

<sup>1</sup> A minimum of one writing sample will be required. The writing sample may be a news article, script from a news story, paper submitted for a college course, personal essay about a topics of interest or some other original non-fictional written work.

<sup>2</sup> At least one letter must be from a college professor who is familiar with the applicant's work. If the applicant has significant work experience (five or more years), the letter from a college professor may be replaced with a letter from an employer who is familiar with the applicant's work.

## Application Deadlines

- **Fall Semester**
  - Application deadline: March 15
- **Spring Semester**
  - Application deadline: November 15

- **Summer Term**
  - Application deadline: March 15

Applications submitted after these deadlines will be considered on a space-available basis.

## Program Requirements

### Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
MDJ 60011	THEORY AND SOCIETAL ROLE OF MEDIA AND JOURNALISM	3
MDJ 60012	MEDIA LAW AND ETHICS	3
MDJ 61001	PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES OF DIGITAL MEDIA	3
MDJ 66011	REPORTING, WRITING AND EDITING FOR MEDIA	3
Major-Approved Electives, choose from the following:		15
Communication Studies (COMM) Graduate (50000 level or higher) Courses		
Emerging Media and Technology (EMAT) Graduate (50000 level or higher) Courses		
Health Informatics (HI) Graduate (50000 level or higher) Courses		
Knowledge Management (KM) Graduate (50000 level or higher) Courses		
Library and Information Science (LIS) Graduate (50000 level or higher) Courses		
Media and Journalism (MDJ) Graduate (50000 level or higher) Courses		
User Experience Design (UXD) Graduate (50000 level or higher) Courses		
Visual Communication Design (VCD) Graduate (50000 level or higher) Courses		
Advisor-Approved Courses		
<i>Culminating Requirement</i>		
Choose from the following:		3-6
MDJ 60199	THESIS I	
MDJ 60399	MASTER'S PROFESSIONAL PROJECT	
<b>Minimum Total Credit Hours:</b>		<b>30</b>

## Graduation Requirements

- Minimum 50 percent of coursework must be at the 60000 level and must have the Media and Journalism (MDJ) course subject.
- Maximum 4 credit hours of workshop courses (xxx93) may count toward the degree.

## Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Communicate effectively across multiple platforms.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of relevant ethical and legal frameworks in their disciplines.
3. Ground their professional work in relevant theories.
4. Represent high levels of professionalism.

## Full Description

The Master of Arts degree in Media and Journalism is designed to give students a solid background in preparation for a professional career. Students are able to take a mix of online and face-to-face courses that allow them to craft a graduate degree that reflects their career interest. Courses are dynamic, challenging and professionally relevant. With small class sizes, students are able to learn from their professors and from the experiences of their fellow classmates, many of whom are working media professionals or nationally recognized journalism educators.

The School of Media and Journalism provides its students with a strong foundation to achieve their goals in the rapidly changing media industry. All students take a series of core courses that provide the foundation for a career in media and journalism and develop a specialization through the selection of elective courses that can be within or outside of the school. One student may choose to hone skills as a multimedia journalist focusing on public affairs, while another may seek to develop expertise as a public relations professional for not-for-profit organizations.