

Study Plan
Master's Degree in Journalism and New Media
Chamel Track

1. Obligatory Courses: (30) credit hours:

Course NO.	Course Title	Credit Hrs.	Theory	Practical	Pre/co-requisite
7001701	News Editing	3	2	2	None
7001702	Reporting & Interviewing	3	2	2	None
7001703	Digital Media I	3	1	4	None
7001708	Digital Media II	3	1	4	7001702 7001703
7001709	Research Methods in Media	3	3		None
7001710	Specialized Reporting	3	3		7001704 7001705
7001796	Capstone Project	3	1	4	7001704 7001708
7001704	Media Law & Ethics	3	3		None
7001705	Media & Topical Issues in Jordan and the Middle East	3	3		None
7001711	Public Policy and Public Affairs in Jordan and the Arab World	3	2	2	None
7001714	Philosophy and Cultural Studies	0	0	0	None

2. Electives Courses: (3) credit hours from the following:

Course NO.	Course Title	Credit Hrs.	Theory	Practical	Pre/co-requisite
7001706	Reporting & Writing: Print	3	2	2	7001701 7001702
7001707	Reporting & Writing: Broadcast	3	2	2	7001701 7001702

3. Comprehensive Exam (7001798):

Study Plan
Master's Degree in Journalism and New Media
Thesis Track

The subjects of the study plan consist of 33-credit hours distributed as follows:

1. Obligatory Courses: (15) credit hours:

Course NO.	Course Title	Credit Hrs.	theory	practical	Pre/co-requisite
7001701	News Editing	3	2	2	None
7001703	Digital Media I	3	1	4	None
7001709	Research Methods in Media	3	3		None
7001704	Media Law & Ethics	3	3		None
7001712	Theories of Communication and Media	3	3		None
7001714	Philosophy and Cultural Studies	0	0	0	None

2. Electives Courses: (9) credit hours from the following:

Course NO.	Course Title	Credit Hrs.	theory	practical	Pre-requisite
7001702	Reporting & Interviewing	3	2	2	None
7001706	Reporting & Writing: Print	3	2	2	None
7001707	Reporting & Writing: Broadcast	3	2	2	None
7001708	Digital Media II	3	1	4	7001703
7001705	Media & Topical Issues in Jordan and the Middle East	3	1		None
7001711	Public Policy and Public Affairs in Jordan and the Arab World	3	2	2	None
7001713	Special Topics in Media	3	2		None

3. Thesis: (9) credit hours.

Study Plan

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Course Descriptions

7001701 News Editing (Three Credit Hours)

This course will teach students foundational concepts and frequent practice of journalism techniques, including research from secondary sources, editing and construction of the narrative, writing in a variety of news and public affairs formats, including breaking news, feature stories, and profiles. Student will also learn about ideals of public service, integrity, commitment to the welfare of the disadvantaged and the practical application of ethical concepts and best practices.

7001702 Reporting & Interviewing (Three Credit Hours)

This course teaches students a combination of journalism techniques that will help them build a story for various news sources. This course also introduces students to the practical side of news writing and reporting while exposing students to the process of applying ethical concepts to their work. Students will learn to think like a professional reporter, specifically incorporating the following values in their work: independence from faction and centers of power; truth-seeking;; accuracy; perspective; and the commitment to accurately portray the lives, opinions and desires of the previously-unheard members of society. Students will also learn how to propose stories in a timely, tightly-focused manner, based on pre-reporting and knowledge; and incorporate new or innovative perspectives and sources in story structure. Finally, they will learn how to gather information, by conducting long and short interviews; locate and consulting appropriate experts; finding and using data; consulting and using documents; and assess the reliability of sources.

7001703 Digital Media I (Three Credit Hours)

This class introduces students to the basics of proper use of digital and new media production. It will teach students how to use the latest digital technologies and applications to record, edit, package and publish their news stories online, both to an individual blog and to a common class web site. The skills students will learn include proper use of digital media equipment, including digital SLR cameras, portable digital radio equipment, digital prosumer camcorders, and related accessories, and posting blogs, basic editing and online publishing of audio and video, editing and publishing of digital photos, designing proper presentations, and other online applications. This course is 20% instruction/lecturing and 80% hands-on/application. Students must allocate substantial time every week to go out to the field and gather/record information and edit/publish it in the studios and newsrooms.

7001704 Media Law & Ethics (Three Credit Hours)

This course considers the laws that affect journalists and the media in Jordan. It introduces students to the national justice system, including the court structure; examines the democratic principles of freedom of expression, freedom of the media and transparency; and looks at

regulatory mechanisms for the media and the various laws and international instruments that limit or enable journalists' freedom of expression. The first eight weeks are devoted to Jordanian laws. The second eight weeks focus on regional and international laws. The aims of the ethics component of this course are to introduce students to the common ethical frameworks within which journalists practice, to help students develop an awareness of ethical dilemmas they may face and to enable them to assess and discuss them.

7001705 Media & Topical Issues in Jordan and the Middle East (Three Credit Hours)

The purpose of the course is to supply students with sufficient knowledge to report on and critically discuss core issues impacting regional politics and the public, and thus to facilitate objective reporting. Core issues will be regional issues, social issues, business/economy, and environmental issues in Jordan and the Middle East.

Reporting & Writing (Three Credit Hours)

To further develop the journalistic skills acquired in News Writing & Editing and Reporting & Interviewing, to enable students to operate independently and with confidence in a professional journalism environment and to prepare students to produce an extended piece of journalism in the Capstone Project.

7001706 Print

Longer, more complex story structures, including feature writing, opinion writing and an introduction to narrative writing and magazine writing, investigative techniques, developing the non-news story, the use of quotes and anecdotes, the use of graphics, photography and illustration to support long-form writing and reporting

7001707 Broadcast

Radio

Radio news values, understanding audiences, what makes 'good' radio, newsroom and radio station roles, acoustics, writing for the ear (radio news and features), interviewing and reporting for broadcast, presentation skills, editing and production techniques, using sound creatively, operating a studio desk and appropriate ancillary equipment, working effectively in a radio newsroom environment

Television

An introduction to field video production techniques, including shooting, lighting and sound recording for interviews, press conferences, breaking news and illustrative footage, posting video online for social networking and Web TV, basic video editing using digital software, on-camera reporting techniques, narration and voice-over video, writing to accompany pictures, and to become familiar with a television news studio program,

7001708 Digital Media II (Three Credit Hours)

This class covers advanced digital and new media production skills. It teaches students how to use record, edit, package and publish professional-quality news stories online, both to an individual blog and to a common class web site. The skills students learn include advanced use of professional digital media equipment, (photo, video and audio), advanced photo, video and audio editing, Flash multimedia production and other advanced digital applications. This course

is 20% instruction/lecturing and 80% hands-on/application. Students must allocate substantial time every week to go out to the field and gather/record information and edit/publish it in the studios and newsrooms.

7001709 Research Methods in Media (Three Credit Hours)

This course has two main aims: to train students on critically analyzing and reporting science-based stories and effectively use research methods and instruments (especially interviews) as basic tools for investigative reporting. The course introduces students to research concepts and logic, and techniques of data collection, including the mining of databases. The course informs students about the logic, concepts and conduct of research, so they can find, read, understand, critique and write about scientific studies in their daily work as journalists, and use research techniques in investigative reporting. The students also get exposed to the logic of scientific investigation, different research methods and effective ways to read and report on basic statistics. Topics covered include effective searching for information in databases and libraries; reporting and evaluation of various forms of knowledge and publications; effective use of research methods and instruments in investigative reporting; accurate interpretation and reporting of scientific findings.

7001710 Specialized Reporting (Three Credit Hours)

The educational aims of this course are to help students develop greater expertise and facility in covering specific, important subjects of great importance to the region, and to give students a strong, fundamental understanding of these subjects, preparing them to act as interlocutors between the “expert community” and the public. Students will produce four in-depth works of journalism which demonstrate their ability to absorb, understand, extrapolate, edit and structure information drawn from specified sources, including government and NGO reports, corporate information, scientific and demographic studies and their own reporting and interviewing of experts. Subjects will include reporting on energy and natural resources issues; international and regional relations; social structure and demography; business and economics.

7001711 Public Policy & Public Affairs in Jordan and the Arab World (Three Credit Hours)

This course deals with the political system of Jordan and the region, the nature of public administration, as activity and as discipline, and public finance. The course aims to arm students with the knowledge that will allow them to report on political systems, public administration, public affairs and public finance. Students are expected to develop an understanding and sense of appreciation for the role of public administration, in historical perspective and in contemporary society. It also deals with the use of the public budget as an instrument of fiscal policy and the management of public resources. The course will familiarize students with the national budgets are development, how priorities are set and how economies are planned to produce specific results.

7001712 Theories of Communication and Media

The course is designed to introduce the main theories of communication and mass media in order to enable students to understand media influence, impact and power in the society (i.e. psychological, social economic and political theories). I will trace these theories historically from



the beginning of early studies in communication till the present with particular emphasis on post modernity theories.

7001713 Special Topics in Media

This course is designed to empower students' knowledge in specialized modern Media topics, through focusing on specialized and advanced contemporary media topics, and the discussion of its present, future and its role in the world today. One topic or more will be selected in each semester, such as: Media and Gender issues, Media and Human Rights, media and environment, Media and technology. It is expected from the students to submit in depth research papers in one of the main issues.

7001714 Philosophy and Cultural Studies

This course aims to introduce media students to the basic concepts in philosophy and contemporary cultural studies ranging from the extended meaning of culture as a force for social, economic, political and cultural change to all other areas of knowledge connected to this concept that media students need to be aware of.

The course is divided into two parts. The first part comprises the principles and concepts of philosophy, and includes basic philosophical concepts, principles of logical thinking, principles of critical thinking, principles of the theory of knowledge, values, philosophy of religion, philosophy of art and beauty, philosophy of science in addition to both historical and modern schools of philosophy. The second part comprises the principles and concepts of contemporary cultural studies, and includes the history of human culture, media and law, media and religion, feminist literature, film studies, Orientalism and the major intellectual and artistic contemporary movements.

7001796 Capstone Project (Three Credit Hours)

The aim of the Capstone Project is for students to engage in a journalistic subject of their own choosing, to research it fully and to apply the skills and knowledge acquired during the course to produce an extended piece of journalism to a professional standard, so integrating theory and practice.

The assessment of the Capstone Project has three elements:

- An extended piece of journalism in a specific medium.
- A memorandum.
- An oral presentation of the memorandum to a panel of JMI's tutors and selected professional journalists.

Before starting the Capstone Project, the student must:

- Submit a written proposal that details his/ her ideas for the project to the Project Committee.
- Receive approval on his/ her proposal from the Project Committee.