**Rationale for Revisions to Journalism Minor**

In accordance with the curriculum updates to the journalism major following changes to the journalism minor are suggested. These changes uphold the core of ethical journalism with the emphasis on solid writing and reporting skills while blending in the ongoing technological advancements. The proposed changes are designed to teach journalism minors some important concepts and skills in the discipline.

**The 18 – 19 credit minor comprise the following courses:**

A. Core Requirements 12 cr

***Courses added to the core***:

JLM 220 Copy Editing

*Rationale:* Copy editing class goes much beyond merely learning the Associated Press style and proofreading. In this age of speed this course emphasizes fact checking against sources and digital databases, headline writing and summarizing stories for Twitter and the Web.

JLM 319 Digital and Social Media Journalism

*Rationale:* Social media, blogs, micro blogs, and citizen journalism etc. have become an integral part of the journalism landscape. Journalism is not impervious to all these technological advancements. In JLM 319 students are taught to blend their journalistic skills with these ongoing technological advancements. This course prepares students for the converged newsroom environment. (* Name change in progress.)

***Courses removed from the core***:

JLM 310 Investigative Reporting

*Rationale*: All of the news writing and reporting classes in the journalism core curriculum teach some research and investigative skills to students. The basics of finding, researching, and interpreting sources and databases for the audience are taught in these classes. For those interested in learning in-depth investigative skills, JLM 310 will still be an option among elective courses.

B. Elective Requirements 6 -7 cr

***Classes added to the electives***:

BRC 223 Integrated Media Writing/Design

*Rationale*: This course introduces the students to the ongoing changes in the field of new media and social media. This course was added as an optional course along with BRC 229.

JLM 310: Investigative Journalism

*Rationale:* This course is an added option among upper division courses. Rigorous and quality journalism is not possible without digging beneath the surface. The investigative journalism course teaches students to search and analyze databases, including public records. The students are taught that quality reporting should be backed up with solid, credible sources and robust data.

***Classes removed from the electives****:*

JLM 220 Copy Editing

*Rationale*: JLM 220 was made a core requirement. This change was made to keep the minor in line with the major core requirements. This copy editing class, in addition to teaching the basics, also complements the reporting classes in the minor.

JLM 319: Digital and Social Media Journalism

*Rationale*: JLM 319 was also made a core requirement to be in line with the core requirements of the journalism major. This class would expose students to the ongoing changes in the field of journalism and keep them abreast of developing technologies and social media. (*Name change in progress.)

| Current Journalism Minor Curriculum 18-19 cr | | Updated Journalism Minor Curriculum 18-19 cr | |
|---|---|---|---|
| A. Core Requirements (12 cr) | | A. Core Requirements (12 cr) | |
| JLM 101 History or American Journalism or BRC 108 Introduction to Mass Media | 3 | BRC 108 Introduction to Mass Media | 3 |
| JLM 209 Introduction to Newswriting/Reporting | 3 | JLM 209 Introduction to Newswriting/Reporting | 3 |
| JLM 310 Investigative Reporting | 3 | JLM 220 Copy Editing | 3 |
| BRC 319 Mass Media and the Law | 3 | JLM 319 Digital and Social Media Journalism | 3 |
| B. Elective Requirements (6 - 7 cr) | | B. Elective Requirements (6 - 7 cr) | |
| One of the following two courses: | | One of the following two courses: | |
| BRC 229 Broadcast Newswriting | 3 | BRC 223 Integrated Media Writing/Design | 3 |
| JLM 220 Copy Editing | 3 | BRC 229 Broadcast News Writing | 3 |
| One of the following three courses: | | One of the following three courses: | |
| BRC 329 Broadcast News Reporting | 4 | BRC 329 Broadcast News Reporting | 4 |
| JLM 309 Advanced Newswriting/Reporting | 3 | JLM 309 Advanced Newswriting/Reporting | 3 |
| JLM 319 Practicum | 3 | JLM 310 Investigative Reporting | 3 |
| C. Cognate Requirements (None) | | | |
| | | | |