

This course plan is a recommended sequence for this major. Courses designated as critical (!) may have a deadline for completion and/or affect time to graduation. Please see the Program Notes section for details regarding "critical courses" for this particular Program of Study.

Critical	Course Subject and Title	Credit Hours	Min. Grade ¹	Major GPA ²	Code	Prerequisites	Notes
Semester One (15-16 Credit Hours)							
	ENGL 101 Critical Reading and Composition	3	C		CC-CMW		
	STAT 201 Elementary Statistics ³	3			CC-ARP	MATH 111, 115, or STAT 110	
	JOUR 101 Media & Society	3	C		MR		
	Foreign language ⁴ or other Carolina Core Requirement ⁵	3-4			CC-GFL		
	UNIV 101 The Student in the University or Carolina Core Requirement ⁵	3			PR/CC		
Semester Two (15-16 Credit Hours)							
	ENGL 102 Rhetoric and Composition	3	C		CC-CMW CC-INF	C or better in ENGL 101	
	Carolina Core ARP ³	3			CC-ARP		
!	JOUR Principles Course ⁶	3	C		MR	See Bulletin listing.	
	Carolina Core Requirement ⁵	3-4			CC		
	Foreign language ⁴ or other Carolina Core Requirement ⁵	3			CC-GFL		
Semester Three (15-16 Credit Hours)							
!	JOUR 291 Writing for Mass Communications	3	C		MR	ENGL 101 & 102	
!	JOUR Principles Course ⁶	3	C		MR	See Bulletin listing.	
	Cognate or Minor Course ⁷	3	C		PR		
	Carolina Core Requirement ⁵	3-4			CC		
	Foreign language ⁴ or Carolina Core Requirement ⁵	3			CR/CC		
Semester Four (15 Credit Hours)							
	JOUR 303 Law & Ethics of Mass Communications or JOUR 304 Internet and Social Media Law	3	C		MR		
!	JOUR Principles Course ⁶	3	C		MR	See Bulletin listing.	
	Cognate or Minor Course ⁷	3	C		PR		
	Carolina Core CMS (SPCH 140, 145, 230, 260)	3			CC-CMS		
	Carolina Core Requirement ⁵	3			CC		
Semester Five (15-18 Credit Hours)							
	JOUR Major Course ⁸	3	C		MR	See Bulletin listing.	
	JOUR Major Course ⁸	3	C		MR	See Bulletin listing.	
	Cognate or Minor Course ⁷	3	C		PR		
	ECON 224 Introduction to Economics	3			CR		
	ENGL Literature Course ⁹	3			CR		
	Carolina Core Requirement ⁵ (only if needed to meet CC)	0-3			CC		
Semester Six (15-18 Credit Hours)							
	JOUR Major Course ⁸	3	C		MR	See Bulletin listing.	
	JOUR Major Course ⁸	3	C		MR	See Bulletin listing.	
	JOUR Major Course ⁸	3	C		MR	See Bulletin listing.	
	Cognate or Minor Course ⁷	3	C		PR		
	MKTG 350 Principles of Marketing or MGMT 371 Principles of Management	3			CR	ECON 224 (MKTG 350 only)	
	Carolina Core Requirement ⁵ (only if needed to meet CC)	0-3			CC		
Semester Seven (15 Credit Hours)							
	JOUR Major Course ⁸	3	C		MR	See Bulletin listing.	
	JOUR Leadership Pathway Course ¹¹	3	C		MR	See Bulletin listing.	
	Minor Course ⁷ or Approved Elective ¹⁰	3	C (minor)		PR		
	History ¹²	3			CR		
	Social or Behavioral Science ¹³ (300-level or above)	3			CR		
Semester Eight (15 Credit Hours)							
	JOUR 515 Mass Communications Capstone Portfolio	3	C		MR CC-INT		
	JOUR Major Course ⁸	3	C		MR	See Bulletin listing.	
	JOUR Leadership Pathway Course ¹¹	3	C		MR	See Bulletin listing.	
	Minor Course ⁷ or Approved Elective ¹⁰	3	C (minor)		PR		
	Social Science	3			CR		

Graduation Requirements Summary

Minimum Total Hours	Minimum Major Requirements Hours	College & Program Requirements Hours	Carolina Core Hours	Minimum Institutional GPA
120	48	36-42	31-37	2.5

- Regardless of individual course grades, students must maintain a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA.
- Some colleges require a minimum GPA for major courses. Courses indicated in this column are included in the major GPA for this program of study.
- A score of less than 16 on the Math Placement Test requires that a student take STAT 110 as the first ARP course to meet the prerequisite requirement for STAT 201.
- Students in the College of Information and Communications are required to demonstrate proficiency in one foreign language equivalent to the 122 course through course credit or the corresponding foreign language placement score.
- The [Carolina Core](#) provides the common core of knowledge, skill and academic experience for all Carolina undergraduate students.
- Principles Courses (9 hours)

Select 3 of the following:

JOUR 201 – Principles of Public Relations (3)	JOUR 203 – Principles of Visual Communications (3)
JOUR 202 – Principles of Advertising & Brand Communications (3)	JOUR 204 – Principles of Journalism (3)

- Students must complete either a minor (18 hours) or a cognate (12 hours) from courses outside the SJMC. The minor is intended to develop a coherent basic preparation in a second area of study. Courses applied toward general education requirements cannot be counted toward the minor. No course may satisfy both major and minor requirements. A cognate requires a minimum of 12 hours of courses in other departments related to the student's major and/or career goals. Cognate courses may be taken in one or more departments depending on the interest and requirements of the student, but must have approval of the student's advisor. Journalism courses may not be used in the cognate. At least 6 of the 12 hours must be at the 300-level or higher. No 100-level courses may be used in the cognate.
- Journalism major courses include: 1) three (9 hours) required courses from the table below; and 2) four JOUR electives (12 hours) of the student's choice (*at least 3 hours and no more than 6 hours must be from skills courses*).

Select 3 required JOUR courses: (9 hours)

JOUR 205 – History & Philosophy of the Mass Media (3)	JOUR 506 – Mass Media Criticism (3)
JOUR 306 – Theories of Mass Communications (3)	JOUR 542 – Public Opinion & Persuasion (3)
JOUR 501 – Freedom, Responsibility, & Ethics of the Mass Media (3)	

- English literature course (3 hours) from ENGL 282-288.
- The Carolina Core, College and Program requirements must include at least 72 semester hours in academic subjects. Students with fewer than 72 hours in these areas must take enough electives to fulfill the 72-hour minimum. No courses of a remedial, developmental, skill-acquiring, or vocational nature may apply as credit toward the 72-hour minimum.
- Leadership Pathway courses (6 hours): Choose one of the University's Leadership with Distinction Pathways – Global Learning, Research, Professional & Civic Engagement, Community Service, or Diversity and Social Advocacy. Courses listed under each pathway are examples that address the pathway's learning outcomes. Except for the required courses identified, other relevant courses that address the pathway outcomes may be substituted per approval of the advisor.
 - Global Learning:** JOUR 504 and one approved JOUR international elective
 - Research:** JOUR 332 and one approved JOUR research elective
 - Professional & Civic Engagement:** Two of the following approved Professional & Civic Engagement electives: JOUR 303, JOUR 436, JOUR 501, JOUR 536, JOUR 537, JOUR 539
 - Community Service:** Two approved JOUR service learning or community engagement electives
 - Diversity and Social Advocacy:** JOUR 311 and one of the following approved SJMC Diversity and Social Advocacy electives: JOUR 501 or JOUR 508
- The School of Journalism and Mass Communications requires one U.S. History (HIST 111 or 112) and one non-U.S. History (HIST 101-109) course. Whichever is not fulfilled through the Carolina Core GHS requirement must be fulfilled through this college requirement.
- Three hours of a 300-level or higher course in Social or Behavioral Sciences from: AFAM (African American Studies); ANTH (Anthropology); COLA (College of Liberal Arts); GEOG (Geography – except GEOG 545 & 546); HIST (History); LASP (Latin American Studies); POLI (Political Science); PSYC (Psychology); SOCY (Sociology); SOST (Southern Studies); WGST (Women's & Gender Studies).

Program Notes:

- Courses identified as "critical" may affect time to graduation due to prerequisite requirements for subsequent required courses.
- All undergraduate students must take a 3-credit course or its equivalent with a passing grade that covers the founding documents. This course may fulfill any requirement in the program of study. Courses that meet this requirement are listed in the academic bulletin.
- Admission to the upper division is based upon a minimum 2.50 cumulative USC GPA; completion of JOUR 101 and JOUR 291 with grades of C or higher; completion of 60 or more semester hours toward the degree; completion of foreign language requirement; selection of a particular program of study within the college; and selection and approval of a minor or cognate.
- All majors within the school will be expected to pass all journalism and mass communications courses used toward the degree with a minimum grade of C. No journalism and mass communications course may be repeated more than once by any student unless formally approved by the school petition committee.
- The last 30 credit hours toward your degree must be earned in residence at the University of South Carolina-Columbia.

University Requirements: Bachelor's degree-seeking students must meet Carolina Core (general education) requirements. For more information regarding these requirements, please visit the [Carolina Core](#) page on the University website.

Codes:	
CC	Carolina Core
CC-AIU	Carolina Core-Aesthetic and Interpretive Understanding
CC-ARP	Carolina Core-Analytical Reasoning and Problem-Solving
CC-CMS	Carolina Core-Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Spoken Component
CC-CMW	Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Written Component
CC-GFL	Carolina Core-Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Foreign Language
CC-GHS	Carolina Core – Historical Thinking
CC-GSS	Carolina Core – Social Sciences
CC-INF	Carolina Core – Information Literacy
CC-INT	Carolina Core – Integrative Course
CC-SCI	Carolina Core – Scientific Literacy
CC-VSR	Carolina Core – Values, Ethics, and Social Responsibility
CR	College Requirement
MR	Major Requirement
PR	Program Requirement

Disclaimer: Major maps are only a suggested or recommended sequence of courses required in a program of study. Please contact your academic advisor for assistance in the application of specific coursework to a program of study and course selection and planning for upcoming semesters.