

JOURNALISM, B.A.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park

Suggested Academic Plan

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2026-27 academic year. To access previous years' suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/>) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition.

Broadcast Option: Journalism, B.A. at University Park Campus and Commonwealth Campuses

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 160 [*]	1 COMM 205 [*]	3
COMM 271 [*]	3 General Education Course (GN)	3
ENGL 15 or 30H [†]	3 General Education Course (GS)	3
General Education Course (GN)	3 General Education Course (Inter-Domain)	3
World Language	4 World Language	4
PSU 9	1	
	15	16

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 260W ^{*1}	3 COMM 360 ^{*2}	3
General Education Course (Inter-Domain)	3 Minor Course [*]	3
General Education Course (Exploration)	3 General Education Course (GQ) [‡]	3
World Cultures	3 General Education Course (GA)	3
World Language	4 BA Knowledge Domain	3
	16	15

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 465 [*]	3 COMM 180, 205, 401, 405, 410, 411, 412, 419, 496, or 499 [*]	3
COMM 403 or 409 [*]	3 Minor Course [*]	3
Minor Course [*]	3 CAS 100A, 100B, or 100C [‡]	3

General Education Course (GQ) [‡]	3 General Education Course (Exploration)	3
BA Knowledge Domain (IL Cultures)	3 BA Knowledge Domain	3
	15	15
Fourth Year		
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 403 or 409 [*]	3 COMM 362, 364, 400, 402, 466, 480, 481, or 495 [*]	3
COMM 362, 364, 400, 402, 466, 480, 481, or 495 [*]	3 Minor Course [*]	3
Minor Course [*]	3 Minor Course [*]	3
ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D [‡]	3 General Education Course (GH)	3
General Education Course (GHW)	1.5 General Education Course (GHW)	1.5
Elective	1	
	14.5	13.5

Total Credits 120

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

¹ Students studying at any of the commonwealth campuses that do not offer COMM 260W will take the course upon arrival to University Park fifth semester. CAS 100A, CAS 100B, or CAS 100C should be taken third semester in place of COMM 260W.

² Students studying at any of the commonwealth campuses will take COMM 360 at University Park in the sixth semester. ENGL 202A/ENGL 202B/ENGL 202C/ENGL 202D should be taken fourth semester in place of COMM 360. COMM 465 can move to seventh semester.

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Bachelor of Arts Requirements:

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/>) of this Bulletin.

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in World Cultures. See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as World Cultures courses (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-world-cultures/>).

Digital and Print Option: Journalism, B.A. at University Park Campus and Commonwealth Campuses

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First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 160*	1 COMM 205*	3
COMM 271*	3 General Education Course (GN)	3
ENGL 15 or 30H [†]	3 General Education Course (GS)	3
General Education Course (GN)	3 General Education Course (Inter-Domain)	3
World Language	4 World Language	4
PSU 9	1	
	15	16

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 260W ^{*1}	3 Minor Course*	3
General Education Course (Inter-Domain)	3 General Education Course (GQ) [‡]	3
General Education Course (Exploration)	3 General Education Course (GA)	3
World Cultures*	3 BA Knowledge Domain	3
World Language	4 BA Knowledge Domain	3
	16	15

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 460W*	3 COMM 467*	3
COMM 403 or 409*	3 COMM 180, 205, 401, 405, 410, 411, 412, 419, 496, or 499*	3
Minor Course*	3 Minor Course*	3
General Education Course (GQ) [‡]	3 CAS 100A, 100B, or 100C [‡]	3
BA Knowledge Domain (IL Cultures)	3 General Education Course (Exploration)	3
	15	15

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 403 or 409*	3 COMM 269, 362, 364, 402, 461, 462, 463, 464W, 474, 481, or 495*	3
COMM 269, 362, 364, 402, 461, 462, 463, 464W, 474, 481, or 495*	3 Minor Course*	3
Minor Course*	3 Minor Course*	3
ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D [‡]	3 General Education Course (GH)	3

General Education Course (GHW)	1.5 General Education Course (GHW)	1.5
Elective	1	
	14.5	13.5

Total Credits 120

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¹ Students studying at any of the commonwealth campuses that do not offer COMM 260W will take the course upon arrival to University Park fifth semester. CAS 100A, CAS 100B, or CAS 100C should be taken third semester in place of COMM 260W. COMM 460W will move to sixth semester.

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General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Bachelor of Arts Requirements:

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/>) of this Bulletin.

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Photojournalism Option: Journalism, B.A. at University Park Campus and Commonwealth Campuses

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First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 160*	1 COMM 205*	3
COMM 271*	3 General Education Course (GN)	3
ENGL 15 or 30H [†]	3 General Education Course (GS)	3
General Education Course (GN)	3 General Education Course (Inter-Domain)	3
World Language	4 World Language	4
PSU 9	1	
	15	16

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 260W ^{*1}	3 COMM 269 ^{*2}	3
General Education Course (Inter-Domain)	3 Minor Course*	3
General Education Course (Exploration)	3 General Education Course (GQ) [†]	3
World Cultures	3 General Education Course (GA)	3
World Language	4 BA Knowledge Domain	3
	16	15

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 180, 205, 401, 405, 410, 411, 412, 419, 496, or 499*	3 COMM 469*	3
COMM 403 or 409*	3 Minor Course*	3
Minor Course*	3 CAS 100A, 100B, or 100C [‡]	3
General Education Course (GQ) [†]	3 General Education Course (Exploration)	3
BA Knowledge Domain (IL Cultures)	3 BA Knowledge Domain	3
	15	15

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 403 or 409*	3 COMM 362, 364, 402, 463, 467, 468, 481, or 495*	3
COMM 362, 364, 402, 463, 467, 468, 481, or 495*	3 Minor Course*	3
Minor Course*	3 Minor Course*	3
ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D [†]	3 General Education Course (GH)	3

General Education Course (GHW)	1.5 General Education Course (GHW)	1.5
Elective	1	
	14.5	13.5

Total Credits 120

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Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

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² Students studying at any of the commonwealth campuses that do not offer will take COMM 269 at University Park in the sixth semester. ENGL 202A/ENGL 202B/ENGL 202C/ENGL 202D should be taken fourth semester in place of COMM 269. COMM TXX can move to sixth semester.

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