



**Weekend M.A. in Interactive Journalism, Cohort 12  
(Degree Requirements, effective as of Academic Year- 2009-2011)**

The program comprises 30 credit hours of coursework including:

<p><b>COMM-652: Web Studio</b> In this course you will learn how to construct a web site from the ground up, including site planning, basic HTML code, graphics creation, optimization, and publishing. Graphic development tools such as Macromedia Fireworks and the web editing tool Dreamweaver are used to turn ideas into fully functional web sites. Students also study the web site development process and how to build and assess site usability.</p>	<p><b>Fall 2009</b> (Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24)</p>	
<p><b>COMM-535: Writing for Converged Media</b> The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the writing and reporting skills necessary to work in a converged newsroom. Traditional news writing styles are not the only skills needed for today's Web and multimedia environment. This course explores writing styles and techniques used in online journalism and alternative methods of online reporting and writing, including blogs, citizen journalism, chats, forums and non-linear storytelling. This is a writing class, not a Web design course.</p>	<p><b>Fall 2009</b> (Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 5, 12, 19)</p>	
<p><b>COMM-535: Digital Storytelling</b> This course explores digital storytelling. Students learn how to leverage the strengths of the Web to serve readers in new ways using discussions, exercises, and case studies of multimedia projects. Students write and adapt stories for an online audience using non-linear storytelling methods, and discuss how audio, video, and interactive elements can complement and enhance news for the online reader. May include slide shows, audio, blogging.</p>	<p><b>Spring 2010</b> (Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 13, 20, 27)</p>	
<p><b>COMM-710: Seminar in Public Affairs</b> This Seminar will examine vital issues in contemporary journalism in the United States and abroad, and will encourage you to confront and challenge assumptions about the news media and their influence. Students consider the nature and characteristics of professional journalists and confront prominent myths and misconceptions associated with the news media. <b>(Must earn "B" (3.0) or better)</b></p>	<p><b>Spring 2010</b> (March 13, 20, 27, April 17, 24, May 1) * April 10 Jour Comps other class</p>	
<p><b>COMM-601: Legal Aspects of Communication</b> Students will gain a working understanding of the American system of freedom of expression, a firm grasp of substantive mass communication law, working knowledge of the structure of the judicial system, a familiarity with legal reasoning and the skills needed to conduct fundamental legal research online. This course will focus on the U.S. Supreme Court's rulings and the reasoning the justices apply to expand or limit the expressive rights of the press in the conventional mass media as well as the internet.</p>	<p><b>Summer 2010</b> (May 15, 22, June 5, 12, 19, 26)</p>	
<p><b>COMM 721: Backpack Video Journalism (former Broadcast News I)</b> Instruction in backpack journalism with production of a short documentary. Students will do hands-on visual storytelling using digital video cameras and editing with Final Cut. Discussion of current industry trends, ethics.</p>	<p><b>Summer 2010</b> (July 10, 17, 24, 31, Aug. 7, 14)</p>	
<p><b>COMM-535: Multimedia Journalism (new course replaced Broadcast News II)</b> Storytelling using tools such as Macromedia Flash to add animation and interactivity to web pages. Case studies of successful multimedia sites. Planning and executing a Flash journalism package. Other development of rich Internet applications may include use of Fireworks, Audacity and Dreamweaver. Creation of a multimedia web site that showcases a personal and class project.</p>	<p><b>Fall 2010</b></p>	
<p><b>COMM-535: Interactive Journalism Skills (replaced former Digital Skills)</b> Interactive presentation and delivery of content for the Web. Multi-dimensional storytelling with elements that allow readers to move, click, comment upon, decide, help, navigate and share content.</p>	<p><b>Fall 2010</b></p>	
<p><b>COMM-720 Seminar in Journalism</b> This conclusive seminar provides a high-overview capstone of your master's experience, synthesizing and gelling your understanding of the online landscape. Past projects have included a personal online space (blog or site) and a class project that showcases your ability to recognize online excellence... <b>(Must earn "B" (3.0) or better)</b></p>	<p><b>Spring 2011</b></p>	
<p><b>COMM-621: Online News Production (former Advanced Editing)</b> Writing and editing the online news publication, The American Observer. During this live lab, students are improving grammar, learning AP style, editing, headline writing, good news judgment, story and visual selection, discussing legal and ethical issues and trends in news coverage and audiences. May include use of Word Press, Photoshop, Fireworks, Flash, Slideshow, and QuickTime</p>	<p><b>Spring 2011</b></p>	

**Comprehensive Exam:** All students must take and pass the Comprehensive Exam.

**\*\*The requirements and schedule for this program are subject to change\*\***

**Spring 2011**