



Bachelor of Arts

Major: Journalism

2024-2025 Sample 4-Year Plan

Total Degree Requirements: 120 credits

Student _____ Student ID# _____ Student Phone # _____

Advisor _____ Minimum GPA 2.00 overall (2.50 major) Minor/Career Interest(s) _____

Students are not limited to this plan; it is meant to be used as a guide for planning purposes in consultation with your advisor. The sample schedule is one possible path to completing your degree within four years. For official program requirements, please refer to the [Undergraduate Catalog](#).

FIRST YEAR

Fall

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
MCOM 119	First-Year Seminar in Communication and Journalism		2	F	
Modern Foreign Language Course	Students must complete through the 202 level in an approved Modern Language (SGR #4).	Placement testing is required to determine proficiency level	4		
SGR #1	Written Composition	p. Placement	3		
SGR #3	Social Sciences	SGR #3 satisfied by coursework from 2 different disciplines	3		
General Elective			3		
Total Credit Hours			15		

Spring

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
MCOM 210	Basic Media Writing	p. ENGL 101	3	F/S	
Modern Foreign Language Course	Students must complete through the 202 level in an approved Modern Language (SGR #4).	p. 101	4		
SGR #2	Oral Communication		3		
SGR #3	Social Sciences	SGR #3 satisfied by coursework from 2 different disciplines	3		
SGR #5	Mathematics	p. Placement	3		
Total Credit Hours			16		

SECOND YEAR

Fall

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
MCOM 220	Introduction to Digital Media		3	F/S	
Minor/2 nd Major Course			3		
Modern Foreign Language Course	Students must complete through the 202 level in an approved Modern Language.	p. 102	3		
SGR #1	Written Communication	p. ENGL 101	3		
SGR #6	Natural Sciences		3		
Total Credit Hours			15		

Spring

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
MCOM 219	Social Media Strategies	MCOM 210 recommended preparation	3	F/S	
MCOM 270	Data Analysis in Communication		3	F/S	
Minor/2 nd Major Course			3		
Modern Foreign Language Course	Students must complete through the 202 level in an approved Modern Language.	p. 201	3		
SGR #6	Natural Sciences		3		
Total Credit Hours			15		

THIRD YEAR

Fall

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
MCOM 265	Basic Photography		3	F/S	
MCOM 317	Multimedia Reporting	p. MCOM 210	3		
MCOM 495	Practicum	Two credits required (take 1 credit per semester); Instructor Permission Required	1		



Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
MCOM Elective	Select an approved major elective: MCOM 266, MCOM 331, MCOM 410, MCOM 413, MCOM 438, MCOM 474, PUBR 243 OR PUBR 345, MCOM 495 (limited to 1 credit as an elective beyond the 2 required credits)		3		
Minor/2 nd Major Course			3-6		
Total Credit Hours			15-16		

Spring

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
MCOM 311	News Editing	p. MCOM 210	3	S	
MCOM 333	Broadcast News Reporting	p. MCOM 210	3		
MCOM 495	Practicum	Two credits required (take 1 credit per semester); Instructor Permission Required	1		
Minor/2 nd Major Course			3-9		
Total Credit Hours			15-16		

Summer

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
MCOM 394 or MCOM 494	Internship	Instructor Permission Required	3		
Total Credit Hours			3		

FOURTH YEAR

Fall

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
MCOM 416			3	F	
MCOM Elective	Select an approved major elective: MCOM 266, MCOM 331, MCOM 410, MCOM 413, MCOM 438, MCOM 474, PUBR 243 OR PUBR 345, MCOM 495 (limited to 1 credit as an elective beyond the 2 required credits)		3		
Minor/2 nd Major Course or General Elective		Taken as needed to reach 120 credits	3-9		
Total Credit Hours			14-15		

Spring

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
MCOM 434	Advanced Multiplatform Storytelling	p. MCOM 265, 331, 333 or 334	3	S	
MCOM 430	Media Law		3	S	
Major Elective or General Elective		Taken as needed to reach 120 credits	3-9		
Total Credit Hours			12-15		

COMMENTS/NOTES

Students from all academic majors can pursue graduation with Fishback Honors College distinction. View the [Honors program requirements](#).

As part of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, students in this program must complete/earn:

- a minimum of 33 upper division credits (300-400 level courses)
- a capstone course in the major
- a minor, second major, or teaching specialization
- 6+ credits of Modern Foreign Language coursework, including completion of the 202-Level

As part of the Journalism and Mass Communication program, students must:

- Earn a minimum major GPA of 2.50 and a minimum course grade of “C” or better in all major courses

Testing into a higher-level language course may reduce time to graduation. To begin coursework above the 101 level, take the free modern language placement test at <https://www.sdstate.edu/modern-languages-global-studies/mfl-placement-information>. Students with any modern language experience are strongly encouraged to complete the placement test.