



**Bachelor of Science**

**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	
SGR #1	Written Communication	p. Placement	3		
SGR #4	Arts and Humanities	MCOM 151 suggested; SGR #4 satisfied by coursework from 2 different disciplines	3		
SGR #6	Natural Sciences		3		
General Electives			3		
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>			14		

**Spring**

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
MCOM 210	Basic Media Writing	p. ENGL 101	3	F/S	
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		
SGR #6	Natural Sciences		3		
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>			15		

**SECOND YEAR**

**Fall**

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
MCOM 220	Introduction to Digital Media		3	F/S	
MCOM Elective	Select an approved major elective: MCOM 266, MCOM 331, 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 <sup>nd</sup> Major Course			3		
Natural Science Course		See AHSS Natural Science list in catalog	3		
SGR #1	Written Communication	p. ENGL 101	3		
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>			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 <sup>nd</sup> Major Course			3		
SGR #3	Social Sciences	SGR #3 satisfied by coursework from 2 different disciplines.	3		
SGR #4	Arts and Humanities	SGR #4 satisfied by coursework from 2 different disciplines	3		
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>			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		

Information subject to change. This is not a contract.

p. = Course Prerequisite  
Semester: F = Fall, S = Spring, SU = Summer



Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semeste	Grade
MCOM Elective	Select an approved major elective: MCOM 266, MCOM 331, 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 <sup>nd</sup> Major Course			3-6		
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>			15		

**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 Elective	Select an approved major elective: MCOM 266, MCOM 331, 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)		3-6		
MCOM 495	Practicum	Two credits required (take 1 credit per semester); Instructor Permission Required	1		
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>			15		

**Summer**

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

**FOURTH YEAR**

**Fall**

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
MCOM 416	Mass Media in Society		3	F	
Minor/2 <sup>nd</sup> Major Course or General Electives			3-12		
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>			12-15		

**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	
General Elective		Taken as needed to reach 120 credits	6-9		
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>			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
- Natural Sciences Coursework: 10+ credits in any two lab sciences; must include two prefixes.

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

- Earn a minimum major GPA of 2.50 within major courses 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.