Program Description

Degree Awarded: PHD Journalism and Mass Communication

This PhD program in journalism and mass communication is designed to be small, student-centered and scholarly research-oriented. It is based on the following priorities:

- a journalism and mass communication focus
- a transdisciplinary approach that requires coursework outside of the journalism school
- one-on-one faculty-student mentoring
- program flexibility

The emphasis of this degree program is the creation of scholarly, peer-reviewed articles and presentations based on journalism and mass communication philosophy, theory and methods. The program prepares students for research-oriented careers in journalism and mass communication education and related fields.

At a Glance

- College/School: Walter Cronkite School of Journalism & Mass Comm
- Location: Downtown Phoenix campus

Degree Requirements

84 credit hours, a written comprehensive exam, an oral comprehensive exam, a prospectus and a dissertation

Required Core (18 credit hours)

Electives (18 credit hours)

Other Requirements (24 credit hours)

previous master's degree or additional hours approved by the supervisory committee (24)
Research (12 credit hours)

Dissertation (12 credit hours)

Additional Curriculum Information
Students should see the academic unit for an approved course list.

Students entering the program with a master's degree in journalism or mass communication, or a related field, must complete 60 credit hours of coursework. Students who are admitted to the program without a master's degree will be required to complete an additional 24 credit hours of coursework.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree, in any field, from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

Applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. test scores on the quantitative and verbal sections of the GRE, with the verbal score being particularly important to the Cronkite School's graduate committee
4. three letters of recommendation
5. personal statement of interest (350 to 500 words in length)
6. resume
7. samples of scholarly work
8. proof of English proficiency

An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency. TOEFL scores must be at least 600 for the paper-based examination and 100 for the Internet-based.

Students should see the program website for application deadlines and admission terms. Applicants must meet all deadlines and application requirements to be considered.
The Cronkite School’s doctoral committee reviews complete and on-time applications. Recommendations for admission are made to Graduate Admission Services, where the final admission decisions are made.

**Contact Information**

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