

JOHN CURLEY CENTER FOR SPORTS JOURNALISM

Through the Center (JCCSJ), the Department of Journalism offers courses for the emphasis in sports journalism.

Students must meet the following requirements:

- 1) Be accepted into the emphasis via application to the Center for Sports Journalism (see admission overview). There is an informational session each fall. Applications are available at the information session or online, and they are accepted once a year by the deadline listed on the application.
- 2) Complete the mandatory major credit hours required for B.A. in Communications. Most applicants are Journalism or Public Relations majors.
- 3) Also complete two of the three classes offered in sports journalism with a grade of C or higher:

_____ COMM 476 SPORTS WRITING AND REPORTING (3): Reporting and writing sports news and feature stories for newspapers, magazines and online media outlets, legal and ethical issues of reporting. (Prerequisite: COMM 260W)

_____ COMM 477 SPORTS BROADCASTING (3): Reporting, writing and producing sports programs for radio; legal and ethical issues of reporting. (Prerequisite :COMM 260W, COMM 360)

_____ COMM 478 SPORTS INFORMATION (3): Writing and distributing sports news and information for use by the media. (Prerequisite: COMM 260W)

- 4) Complete an off-campus internship and/or on-campus co-curricular experience in sports journalism/media.

Other options to complement your degree and Sports Journalism emphasis:

_____ COMM 170 INTRO TO SPORTS INDUSTRY (3) This course provides a basic understanding of how the principles of business apply in the industry of sports.

_____ COMM 412 SPORTS, MEDIA AND SOCIETY (3): (Prerequisite: 5TH semester) The role sports and media play in society at all levels (high school, college and professional). This course may be used in the theory line in your major with advisor approval.

_____ COMM 498 SPORTS & PUBLIC POLICY (3): (Prerequisite: 7TH semester) Special subject course in Sports Law and cross-referenced with the Dickinson School of Law at University Park. This course requires special permission through the College and may be used in the theory line in your major with advisor approval

NOTE: All journalism majors must complete a minor outside of communications. Common minors for students in the Center include business, kinesiology, foreign language, labor & employment relations, sociology, or psychology.

ADMISSIONS OVERVIEW

All students with an interest in sports journalism/media are encouraged to apply. Before being approved to complete the sports journalism courses a student must be accepted into the program and have successfully completed COMM 260w (print) and COMM 360 (broadcast).

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

In addition to the application cover sheet, please include the following materials in your application packet. **All application materials should be single-sided.** Also, be sure to return the packet to the proper address, as listed on the cover sheet

1. Résumé

Please submit a résumé that includes the following information: current *and* permanent address and phone number, email address, student number, education, work experience, computer experience or other specialized skills, honors and activities.

2. Unofficial Transcript

Transcripts can be obtained at your department's advising office on campus, or you can go on eLion and print a copy. An official transcript is not necessary.

3. Essay/Writing Sample

Submit your answer to the essay question listed below. Spend some time on this; your answers should be clear, thoughtful and carefully prepared

- a. In five-hundred (500) words describe your objectives in applying to this program, and explain what you hope to gain from an emphasis in sports journalism. Please discuss sports-journalism internships and on-campus experiences in sports journalism that you would be interested in, *emphasizing type rather than a specific organization*. The essay should be 500 words, single-line spaced.
- b. Submit one short writing sample (800-1200 words) from a professional skills journalism course you have taken recently or a two-minute published clip or broadcast tape.

PENN STATE
JOHN CURLEY CENTER FOR SPORTS JOURNALISM
EMPHASIS IN SPORTS JOURNALISM

Courses Internships On-Campus Media Experience

2013 Application Cover Sheet

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Phone: (___) ___-____ PSU Email: _____

PSU ID #: _____ GPA: _____

Expected semester you are graduating: _____

Communication Course Prerequisites for Sports Journalism: All applicants must have completed or currently be taking COMM 260w this semester to apply. Review of the application will not be done until a grade for COMM 260w is posted. (Students not having this reqmt can submit the cover page so we can track you for next year)

Prerequisite for: Course: Semester taken/to be taken: If completed, Grade earned:

For all students COMM 260w: _____ _____

For broadcasting COMM 360: _____
(Prerequisite for COMM 360 is COMM 260w)

COURSE PREFERENCES FOR SPORTS JOURNALISM

Please rank course preferences: (1= 1st choice, 2= 2nd and 3 = 3rd)

- ___ COMM 476 SPORTS WRITING AND REPORTING (prerequisite COMM 260w)
- ___ COMM 477 SPORTS BROADCASTING (prerequisites COMM 260w & COMM 360)
- ___ COMM 478 SPORTS INFORMATION (prerequisite COMM 260w)

List all sports-related activities you are involved in and/or completed sports-based internships:

RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:

Application Deadline is Friday, October 11, 2013

Brenda Johnson
Academic Services
204 Carnegie Building
University Park, PA 16802
Fax # 814-863-8044