Digital JOURNALISM

Get ahead in your journalism major by joining San Diego City College’s Digital Journalism program

Knowledge for the real world ...
- Gain practical knowledge you can apply in the industry
- Polish your resume with published work online and in print with our award-winning newspaper and magazine
- Build multi-platform media skills with related courses in radio, television and film

Get ready to transfer ...
- Earn an AA degree for transfer
- Take your lower-division courses

FIND OUT MORE INSIDE
ASSOCIATE IN ARTS FOR TRANSFER DEGREE

The Associate in Arts in Journalism for Transfer is intended for students who plan to complete a bachelor’s degree in Journalism or a related major in the California State University (CSU) system. It is accepted by some but not all CSU campuses. Students who complete this degree and transfer to a participating CSU campus will be required to complete no more than 60 units after transfer to earn a bachelor’s degree. It may not be appropriate preparation for students transferring to a CSU campus that does not accept the degree. Students who plan to complete this degree should consult a counselor for additional information about participating CSU campuses as well as university admission, degree and transfer requirements.

It is strongly recommended that students consult with a counselor and program faculty to determine which general education option is most appropriate for their individual educational goals. Students can also visit www.assist.org for guidance on appropriate coursework.

Degree Coursework

COURSES REQUIRED FOR THE MAJOR: UNITS
DJRN 200: Newswriting for Multimedia "Active" 3
DJRN 210: News Reporting and Editing for Publication "Active" 3

THREE UNITS (ONE COURSE) FROM THE FOLLOWING: UNITS
DJRN 205: Community Journalism for Multimedia "Active" 3
DJRN 211: Online News Concepts for Publication "Active" 3
DJRN 215: Photo Journalism and Documentary Photography "Active" 3

SIX UNITS (TWO COURSES) FROM THE FOLLOWING: UNITS
AMSL 115: American Sign Language Level I "Active" 4
AMSL 116: American Sign Language Level II "Active" 4
ARTF 100B: Beginning Graphic Design "Active" 3
COMS 103: Oral Communication "Active" 3
COMS 135: Interpersonal Communication "Active" 3
COMS 190: Argumentation "Active" 3
COMS 190: Small Group Communication "Active" 3
ECON 120: Principles of Microeconomics "Active" 3
ECON 121: Principles of Microeconomics "Active" 3
ENGL 205: Critical Thinking and Intermediate Composition "Active" 3
MATH 119: Elementary Statistics "Active" 3
PHOT 100: Basic Black-and-White Photography "Active" 3
PHOT 105: Introduction to Photography "Active" 3
PHOT 102: Directed Photo Lab Studies "Active" 1
PHIL 100: Logic and Critical Thinking "Active" 3
PHIL 101: Symbolic Logic "Active" 3
PHIL 205: Critical Thinking and Writing in Philosophy "Active" 3
POLI 102: The American Political System "Active" 3
POLI 103: Comparative Politics "Active" 3
POLI 101: Introduction to Political Science "Active" 3
RTVF 100: Introduction to Radio and Television "Active" 3
RTVF 110: Introduction to Scriptwriting "Active" 3
RTVF 140: Radio and TV Newswriting "Active" 3
RTVF 190: Introduction to Cinema "Active" 3

Total Units 18 - 20

DIGITAL JOURNALISM COURSES

DJRN 100: Mass Media in the Digital Age
Units: 3
Advisory: ENGL 101 with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent or Assessment Skill Level R6/W6 (Not open to students with previous credit for RTVC 200 or JOUR 202)
Description: This course offers a new-media approach to studying mass communication in the United States. It covers emerging technologies, history, structure, social impact, and trends in television, cinema, radio, print, and journalism. Discussion focuses on analysis of the impact of current and emerging media forms on society and culture, as well as on ways that media and social institutions shape each other. Problems and issues are examined in light of social and cultural constructs, economics, technology, law and ethics, and social issues. This course is designed for students pursuing media-related majors and for those seeking employment in the field.

DJRN 201: Feature Writing for Multimedia
Units: 3
Advisory: ENGL 101 with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent or Assessment Skill Level R6/W6 or ENGL 105 with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent or Assessment Skill Level W6/R6
Description: This course offers a new-media approach to teaching the principles of feature writing for online and print news publications. The course guides students through the process of story development through completion in accepted journalistic style. The course also covers legal and ethical issues in news media, including the unique challenges posed by emerging online formats. This course is designed for students pursuing media-related majors and for those seeking employment in the field.

DJRN 205: Community Journalism for Multimedia
Units: 3
Advisory: ENGL 101 with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent or Assessment Skill Level R6/W6 or ENGL 105 with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent or Assessment Skill Level W6/R6
Description: This course offers a new-media approach to covering public affairs for online and print news environments. The course guides students through the process of community news reporting. Topics include coverage of local and regional government, city boards, police, courts, and school boards. The course also covers legal and ethical issues in news media, including the unique challenges posed by emerging online formats. This course is designed for students pursuing media-related majors and for those seeking employment in the field.

DJRN 215: Photo Journalism and Documentary Photography
Units: 3
Prerequisite: PHOT 100 with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent or PHOT 143 with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent (Not open to students with previous credit for PHOT 215)
Description: This course offers a new-media approach to covering public affairs for online and print news environments. The course guides students through the process of community news reporting. Topics include coverage of local and regional government, city boards, police, courts, and school boards. The course also covers legal and ethical issues in news media, including the unique challenges posed by emerging online formats. This course is designed for students pursuing media-related majors and for those seeking employment in the field.

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**DIGITAL JOURNALISM LABS**

**News Website/Newspaper Production**

**DJRN 210: News Reporting and Editing for Publication**
*Units: 3*

*Advisory:* ENGL 101 with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent or Assessment Skill Level R6/W6 or ENGL 105 with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent or Assessment Skill Level W6/R6; or DJRN 200 with a grade of “C” or better or equivalent, or RTVF 140 with a grade of “C” or better or equivalent, or JOUR 200 with a grade of “C” or better or equivalent

*Description:* This course is the first of four production labs in digital journalism. It introduces students to writing and production for online and print news media. Students gain practical experience in a lab environment through producing and editing a variety of news material, and through applying concepts in media ethics, design, and business. The course is taught in a newsroom using a convergence model in which students collaborate with other student media on campus. This course is designed for students pursuing media-related majors and for those seeking employment in the field.

**DJRN 211: Online News Concepts for Publication**
*Units: 3*

*Prerequisite:* DJRN 210 with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent or JOUR 210A with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent

*Description:* This course is the second of four production labs in digital journalism. It offers ongoing refinement of concepts for online and print news media production. Students practice every stage of the online and print news production process in a lab environment. The course is taught in a newsroom using a convergence model in which students collaborate with other student media on campus. Although newswriting is a key component, the course primarily focuses on online content development and news editing practices. This course is designed for students pursuing media-related majors and for those seeking employment in the field.

**DJRN 212: News Publication Management**
*Units: 3*

*Prerequisite:* DJRN 211 with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent or JOUR 210B with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent

*Description:* This course is the third of four production labs in digital journalism. It offers students the opportunity to manage the production process for an online and print news publication. The course offers instruction in news management responsibilities, newsroom structure, deadline adherence and business practices, and further instruction in the news editing process. The course is taught in a newsroom using a convergence model in which students collaborate with other student media on campus. This course is designed for students pursuing media-related majors and for those seeking employment in the field.

**DJRN 213: Advanced News Publication Management**
*Units: 3*

*Prerequisite:* DJRN 212 with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent or JOUR 210C with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent

*Description:* This course is the final of four production labs in digital journalism. It focuses on developing advanced editorial management skills for online or print news publication. The course is taught in a newsroom using a convergence model in which students collaborate with other student media on campus. This course is designed for students pursuing media-related majors and for those seeking employment in the field.

**Magazine Production**

**DJRN 220: Reporting and Editing for Specialty Publications**
*Units: 3*

*Advisory:* ENGL 101 with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent or Assessment Skill Level R6/W6 or ENGL 105 with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent or Assessment Skill Level W6/R6; or DJRN 200 with a grade of “C” or better or equivalent, or RTVF 140 with a grade of “C” or better or equivalent, or JOUR 200 with a grade of “C” or better or equivalent, or JOUR 210A with a grade of “C” or better or equivalent

*Description:* This course introduces students to writing and production for online and print specialty publications such as magazines and niche media. Students gain practical experience in a lab environment through producing feature news material, and through applying concepts in media ethics, design, and business. The course is taught in a newsroom using a convergence model in which students collaborate with other student media on campus. This course is designed for students pursuing media-related majors and for those seeking employment in the field.

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2014 marks San Diego City College’s 100th anniversary. Yearbooks from the 1920s point to the existence of a student newspaper early in the college’s history, although no known copies exist.

City Times, the student newspaper for San Diego City College, began in 1945 as The Jay Sees, playing off the term “JC” for junior college for what was then San Diego Junior College.

First printed as a mimeographed newsletter, then later on newsprint in a tabloid-size format, the paper ran stories and photos on news, sports and features in a professional design for its day.

In 1949, the paper’s name was changed to The Fortnightly, reflecting the publication’s frequency and the college’s mascot, the Knights.

In 1956-57, San Diego City College’s journalism program became a founding member of the Journalism Association of Community Colleges. JACC’s first convention was held at the El Cortez Hotel in downtown San Diego, just a few blocks away from campus.

There were three related publications from the 1960s through the ’80s. The longest-running, according City Times archives, was Tecolote, a night school newspaper produced at the City College campus but serving all three district campuses – City, Mesa and Miramar. Tecolote was absorbed by City Times in the 1980s.

Knight Owl, published in the ’60s, was the original evening college student newspaper and eventually morphed into Tecolote. There was also a City College feature newspaper called Flicks.

In addition to these other newspapers, San Diego City College published a yearbook called Legend.

The campus newspaper was christened The City Times in 1978 as a way to update the paper’s image. “The” was dropped from the name in 1995.

In 2003, faculty and administration launched an effort to rebuild the City College journalism program. With a new adviser, the newsletter-style City Times was scrapped and replaced with a full newspaper for the first time in nearly 10 years. Memberships in JACC, ACP and professional organizations were restored.

In summer 2004, City Times won its first award in more than 10 years when it received a second-place ribbon for general excellence in the college newspaper category from the San Diego County Fair. That success was followed by several more awards in 2005, including awards for writing, photography and general excellence. The paper also received a $1,500 grant from the California Newspaper Publishers Association for new equipment. It received a $500 CNPA grant in 2008.

The new tradition of quality student journalism continued in 2006 with a first-place honor for Best Newspaper from the American Scholastic Press Association and a second-place award for Best College Newspaper from the Society of Professional Journalists’ San Diego chapter. That was followed by first-place and Best in Class awards from the San Diego County Fair. In 2008, the American Scholastic Press Association recognized City Times for outstanding community service for its coverage of the October 2007 firestorm.

2007 marked another major turning point for City Times with the hiring of the first full-time journalism professor (Roman S. Koenig) in at least 25 years. The hiring of a full-time faculty member for journalism means the development of new courses and a degree/certificate program to help current students become tomorrow’s professional journalists.

San Diego City College’s new Digital Journalism program, launched in 2013, is designed to merge the traditions of journalism and print production with a changing technological and economic landscape. The new program is also designed to develop direct collaboration with the college’s media communications department, which includes television and radio, and other programs such as photography, all of which are unique to City College within the San Diego Community College District. The launch of the program also marks the return of Legend, now in the form of a new City College student news magazine.