



Individualized Degree Program

Center for Individualized Learning

Social Documentary Major

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)
Faculty Designed IDP

The degree is offered through the Individualized Degree Program and is not yet a permanent major.

Program Description

This faculty designed IDP allows students to pursue a major with a focus on film or still photography, or a combination of the two.

The field of social documentary is a rapidly expanding one. At present, Colorado is home to more than 40 Film Festivals. In North America, there are more than 190 international film festivals, the vast majority of which include documentary as a category. In the commercial U.S. television industry, 17 television/cable networks are classified as documentary channels including the History Channel, National Geo and the Smithsonian Channel. This list does not include HBO, Showtime, ESPN or PBS, all of which feature documentary films, including programs in Spanish. The figures above do not include documentary film festivals that take place in countries outside of North America. Television networks, such as Discovery, have channels in many other countries throughout the world that feature foreign language documentaries. Additionally, many countries have both state-sponsored and private television networks that offer documentary programming in languages other than English. These markets provide more potential for students and graduates to produce and sell social documentaries that target different cultures and languages.

Faculty Liaison from Key Department:

- Dr. Christopher Jennings, Journalism & Media Production

IDP Contact:

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Recommended General Studies Coursework

All students must complete the General Studies requirements for their catalog year.

Composition/Written Communication (GT-CO, 6 credits required of all students):

- ENG 1010: Composing Arguments (3 credits)
- ENG 1020: Research & Argument Writing (3 credits)

Math/Quantitative Literacy (GT-MA, 3 credits required of all students):

- Any course that meets requirement (3 credits)

Oral Communications (3 credits required of all students)

- Any course that meets requirement (3 credits)

Historical (GT-HI, 3 credits required of all students)

- Any course that meets requirement (3 credits)

Arts and Letters/Humanities (GT-AH, 6 credits required of all students):

- Any combination of courses (6 credits) that meets requirements

Social and Behavioral Sciences (GT-SS, 6 credits required of all students):

- Any combination of courses (6 credits) that meets requirements

Natural and Physical Sciences (GT-SC, 6 credits required of all students):

- Any combination of courses (6 credits) that meets requirements

Global Diversity (3 credits)

- Students may fulfill the Global Diversity requirement by taking approved courses within one of the following categories: Arts and Humanities; Historical; Natural and Physical Sciences; Or Social and Behavioral Sciences

Total of required credits for General Studies: 33

Degree/Graduation Requirements

Ethnic Studies and Social Justice Course (3 credits)

- Students may fulfill this requirement by taking approved courses within one of the following categories:
Arts and Humanities; Historical; Natural and Physical Sciences; Or Social and Behavioral Sciences

Senior Experience (3 credits)

- JMP 4500 – Ethical and Legal Issues in Journalism (3 credits)

Recommended Coursework for IDP

Total credit hours in IDP: 45

- Core courses (21 credits)
- Elective courses (24 credits)

Highly Recommended Core Courses 21 credit hours, 1 to 4 upper division credit hours

Courses that are critical to the field of study, and which are likely to become required in an eventual curriculum proposal. **Prerequisites may exist for some courses; please check the catalog.**

- JMP 1000 – Introduction to Journalism and Mass Media (3 credits)
- JMP 1890 – Overview and History of the Documentary -new course (3 credits)
- JMP 2100 – Reporting (3 credits)
- JMP 2600 – Beginning Photojournalism (3 credits)
- JMP 4890 – Social Documentary (1 to 4 credits, suggest 3 credits)
- JMP 2400 – Basic Video Editing (3 credits)
- JMP 2420 – Basic Video Production (3 credits)

Major Elective Courses

The following are strongly recommended elective courses that are also outlined in the recommended degree plan:

- JMP 2700 – Fundamentals of Public Relations (3 credits)
- JMP 3600 – Intermediate Photojournalism (3 credits)
- JMP 3300 – Multimedia Journalism I (3 credits)
- JMP 3400 – Short-form Features (3 credits)
- JMP 4300 – Multimedia Journalism II (3 credits)
- JMP 4400 – Long-form Features (3 credits)
- JMP 4600 – Advanced Photojournalism (3 credits)
- JMP 3400 – Short-Form Feature Articles (3 credits)
- JMP 3420 – Video Production Process (3 credits)
- JMP 3440 – Scriptwriting for Video (3 credits)
- JMP 3485 – Motion Graphics (3 credits)
- JMP 3590 – Streaming Media Technologies (3 credits)
- JMP 3800 – Audio Post-Production (3 credits)
- JMP 4420 – Advanced Video Production (3 credits)
- JMP 4430 – Video Production Management (3 credits)

Total Major Credits: 45 credit hours, 21+ upper division credit hours

Total Credits to graduate: 120+ credit hours, 39 upper division credit hours