



Media Fellows Honors Program

Media Fellows is an honors program that combines analytical and critical study with hands-on media experience. It is intended for the student who plans a career in media and also for the student who wants to know how media operate to help them perform effectively in other careers. The Media Fellows Program was established in 1992, one year after the opening of the Center for Contemporary Media (now the Eugene S. Pulliam Center for Contemporary Media, renamed in Spring 2000), with its first two members graduating in 1995.

Program Requirements

I. Academic

The first-year seminar lays a philosophical base for media study and an introduction to media in their various forms (newspaper, magazine, radio, TV, video, advertising, internet/web media, etc.). The first semester seminar emphasizes media theory. The second semester seminar puts the media theory into practice. Each student must take both semesters of the first year seminar. Throughout the sophomore year, Media Fellows attend a luncheon discussion series with on-campus faculty and senior Media Fellows. During the junior year, Media Fellows take part in a semester-long, two-credit professional internship in a media setting such as a television network, radio station, newspaper bureau, public relations office or entertainment program. Students will receive a third credit by taking a Media Fellows readings course or through classes offered by an off-campus program. In the senior year, Media Fellows take part in a capstone seminar that includes media projects and extensive reading and discussion.

The remaining course requirements are two full-credit courses, one emphasizing the process side of media, the other analytical. One course must be selected from each of the categories listed below. Only one of the two courses can be in a declared major. In addition, since each course is not offered each semester, other media-related courses may be approved by petition to the Media Fellows Governing Board as a substitute. None of these classes may be taken pass/fail.

Process courses

Arts 160: Digital Art I
Arts 163, 263, 363: Photography I, II, III
Arts 165, 265, 365: Video I, II, III
Comm 235: Broadcast Journalism
Comm 236: TV Production
Comm 319: Writing for Stage, Screen & TV
Eng 201: Creative Writing
Eng 209: Advanced Expository Writing
Eng 232: News Writing and Editing
Eng 321, 322: Creative Writing II: Nonfiction
Eng 331, 332: Creative Writing II: Adv. Report.
Eng 342: Creative Writing II: Screen Writing

Analysis courses

Arth 131: Art History
Comm 233: Media, Culture and Society
Comm 291: Tps: Modes of Film Comm
Comm 332: Telecommunications Management
Comm 334: Media Criticism
Comm 335: Mass Communication Law
Phil 206: Tps: Bioethics and the Media
Phil 207: Ethics and Business
Phil 213: Ethical Theory
Phil 214: Philosophy of Art
Pols 450: Tps: Democracy and the Media
Psy 320: Consumer Psychology
Univ 390: Tps: Covering Politics

Media Fellows have three semesters to achieve a 3.1 grade point average which must be maintained to remain in good academic standing in the program. Students who fail to meet academic requirements will be placed on probation the following semester. While on probation, a Media Fellow is required to meet all the academic and involvement requirements. If they do not achieve the minimum requirements while on probation, they will be removed from the program. To graduate as a Media Fellow, students must have a 3.2 grade point average at graduation.

II. Involvement

Throughout the four years, Media Fellows students are expected to complete four semesters of work in one of the student media. Their involvement must earn them group six credit or the equivalent with faculty approval (an "S" on their transcript), to meet the Media Fellows Program requirement. Media Fellows are required to have at least 2 semesters of student media involvement before going on their off-campus media internship.

With the approval of the director, a student has the option to substitute a media-related research project for media involvement. The independent research project must have a faculty sponsor and receive at least 1/4-1/2 course credit. Students may not use projects or papers from other courses as an independent media research project.

As part of the Media Fellows Speakers Series, each semester Media Fellows are required to attend at least four special lectures, luncheons, and/or seminars featuring media experts sponsored by the Media Fellows Program and the Pulliam Center for Contemporary Media. Students who do not attend the minimum Speaker Series requirement within two semesters will be placed on probation and removed from the program if they do not meet their requirement the following semester.

Admission Procedure

To be considered for the Media Fellows Program prospective a student must complete a special application in addition to the application for admission to DePauw University. Decisions on admission to the program are made on the quality of the application, which consists of three essay questions, SAT or ACT scores, GPA, class rank, and a personal interview with a member of the Media Fellows Governing Board. The interviews are very important and will be scheduled in the spring after all written applications are received. Because the program admits approximately 25 students per class, admission is very competitive.

A smaller number of current DePauw first-year students may be admitted to the current or upcoming class of Media Fellows through lateral entry. To apply, students must fill out a lateral application form, have achieved at least a 3.2 cumulative grade point average, and submit a transcript of their grades. Lateral applications are accepted by May 1st each spring semester with decisions made by the following fall semester.