

# PROGRAM PLANNING WORKSHEET

## JOURNALISM AND DIGITAL MEDIA

This information is provided to act as a guide for your course selection throughout your degree, and takes into account course prerequisites. Your order of courses is ultimately determined by prerequisites and course scheduling. Please note JOUR courses are only offered once per year.

### YEAR 1

#### FALL SEMESTER

- ☐ COMM 2501 - Media History and Contemporary Issues
- ☐ JOUR 1707 - Journalism Foundations I
- ☐ JOUR 1727 - Digital Storytelling I
- ☐ GNED 11XX - Foundation Cluster 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ GNED 12XX - Foundation Cluster 2 \_\_\_\_\_

#### WINTER SEMESTER

- ☐ COMM 2410 - Media Ethics and Law
- ☐ JOUR 1709 - Journalism Foundations II
- ☐ JOUR 1728 - Digital Storytelling II
- ☐ GNED 13XX - Foundation Cluster 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ GNED 14XX - Foundation Cluster 4 \_\_\_\_\_

### YEAR 2

#### FALL SEMESTER

- ☐ COMM 2500 - Introduction to Communication Studies
- ☐ JOUR 2707 - News Reporting I
- ☐ JOUR 2720 - Digital Visualization
- ☐ JOUR 2727 - Podcasting Workshop
- ☐ JOUR 4790 - Journalism Workplace Issues & Prep Seminar
- ☐ GNED Tier 2, Cluster 1 \_\_\_\_\_

#### WINTER SEMESTER

- ☐ JOUR 2709 - News Reporting II
  - ☐ JOUR 2718 - Community-centred Journalism
  - ☐ JOUR 2740 - Visual Journalism I
  - ☐ GNED Tier 2 \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☐ GNED Tier 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- } Must select from two of Clusters 2, 3 or 4

### YEAR 3

#### FALL SEMESTER

- ☐ COMM 3738 - Research Design and Methodology
  - ☐ JOUR 3729 - Digital Reporting Techniques
  - ☐ JOUR 3747 - Visual Journalism II
  - ☐ GNED Tier 3 \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☐ GNED Tier 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- } Must select from two different clusters

#### WINTER SEMESTER

- ☐ COMM 3500 - Media, Culture and Communication Theory
- ☐ JOUR 3730 - Investigative Techniques
- ☐ JOUR 3777 - Project and Content Development
- ☐ GNED Tier 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Elective #1 \_\_\_\_\_

**JOUR 4791 - Journalism Work Experience I (Spring semester between Year 3 and Year 4)**

### YEAR 4

#### FALL SEMESTER

- ☐ COMM 4501 - Roles and Practices in Contemporary Comms
- ☐ JOUR Editorial Board - take one (1) of: JOUR 4705 - Digital News Reporting and Publishing or JOUR 4707 - Magazine Reporting and Publishing \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ JOUR Option #1 \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Elective #2 \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Elective #3 \_\_\_\_\_

#### WINTER SEMESTER

- ☐ COMM 4403 - Media Entrepreneurship
- ☐ JOUR Option #2 \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Elective #4 \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Elective #5 \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Elective #6 \_\_\_\_\_

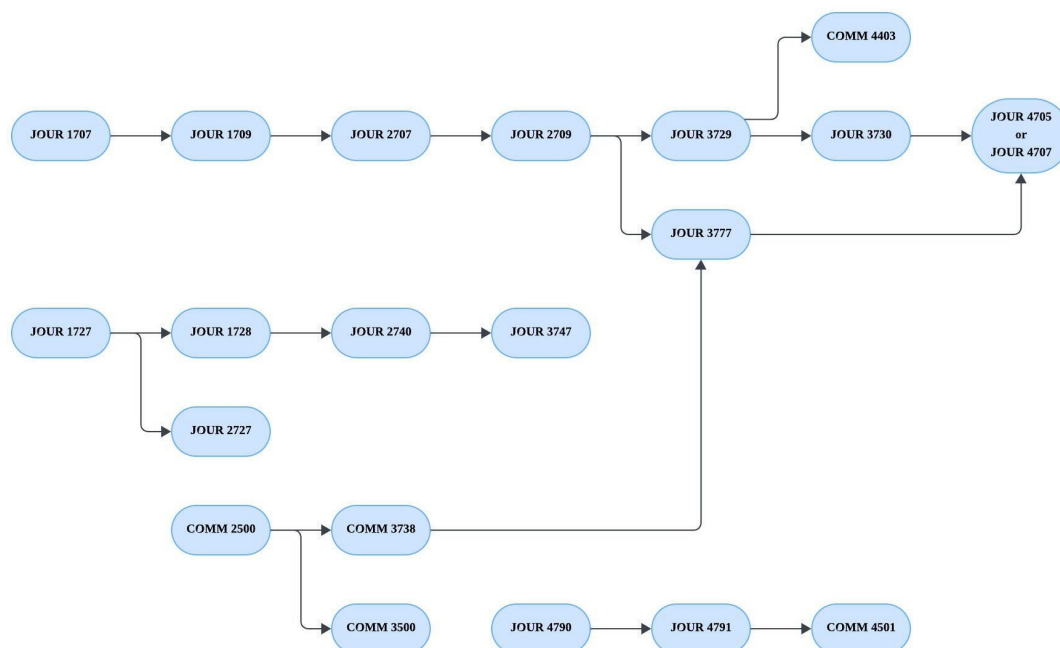
\*JOUR Options include any two of the following: COMM 3797, COMM 3799, JOUR 4705, JOUR 4707, JOUR 4709, JOUR 4727, JOUR 4729, or JOUR 4747

Please note: Many courses have prerequisites. All students are responsible to ensure that they have the appropriate prerequisites before enrolling in their courses. Please refer to the Mount Royal University Calendar for prerequisite listings. Every effort is made to ensure this document is up-to-date, but in the event of a discrepancy between this degree checklist and the academic calendar, the academic calendar is deemed correct.

**2026-27 CALENDAR YEAR**



## Planning your Journalism and Digital Media coursework



## BCMM Terminology

The BCMM is made up of:

- **24 major** courses (these distinguish your major from others at MRU)
- **10 General Education** courses (the breadth of your degree)
- **6 elective** courses (courses of your choice, but could include minor or Honours coursework, exploratory coursework to help you choose your major, further coursework in your intended field, international exchange courses, and field school opportunities)
- **2 non-credit** courses (your work term and work term prep seminar)

What are...

**Prerequisites** - courses that must successfully be completed *PRIOR* to taking a higher-level course (i.e. JOUR 1707 is a pre-requisite for JOUR 1709).

**Recommended preparation** - where having prior coursework in the subject may prove beneficial to students, but is not required for higher-level courses.

## Advice from your Advisors

- Consider a balanced approach when picking your courses
  - \* Take major, general education and elective courses each semester.
  - \* Consider your personal strengths and weaknesses when picking courses to achieve a reasonable courseload and workload.
  - \* Keep in mind your commitments outside of the classroom (work, student clubs, volunteering, etc.) when determining your schedule of courses.
- Communicate any difficulties that you are having with your professor - the earlier you identify any issues, the earlier you can address them!
- The majority of your major requirements are only offered once per year in the Fall and Winter. Some of your COMM courses (e.g., COMM 2500 and COMM 2501) are offered more regularly, so plan ahead for each semester! Consult with your Advisor if you have questions.

## Outside the Classroom - Things to Consider

### FIRST YEAR



Courses include introductory / foundational requirements for your major and General Education courses

- Familiarize yourself with your major
- Attend Career Services workshops
- Attend Student Learning Services workshops
- Take advantage of a free MRU Recreation membership

### SECOND YEAR



Courses expand on foundations and takes on more specialized coursework within your discipline. Begin exploring potential minors to complement your degree

- Declare a minor
- Explore BCMM Honours program
- Join SAMRU clubs
- Meet with your Academic Advisor
- Use mruGradU8 to stay on track
- Explore international exchange, field school and summer exchange opportunities

### THIRD YEAR



Courses focus on advanced-level discipline specific material and alongside GNEDs and electives

- Prepare for your work term
- Go to workshops, panel discussions and conferences
- Explore mentorship opportunities
- Apply for BCMM Honours program
- Check in with your Academic Advisor to make sure you're on track

### FOURTH YEAR



Courses include capstone major specific requirements, requiring students to apply the knowledge they've gained at throughout their studies at MRU

- Apply to graduate
- Explore graduate degree and post-graduate opportunities
- Request a critique of your resume with Career Services via email
- Consider various research opportunities, including taking a directed readings course