

# MASTER'S PROGRAM HANDBOOK 2009-2010



PHILIP MERRILL COLLEGE OF JOURNALISM  
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND

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## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Philip Merrill College of Journalism's master's program. We're delighted to have you here, and we're excited about this new chapter in your intellectual and professional life.

The College's mission is simple: to produce the best possible journalists for the world's leading news organizations. Our master's students are immersed in an intensive 12- to 15-month program in Public Affairs Reporting, Online Journalism or Broadcast Journalism that culminates with the Capital News Service (CNS) bureau program. During your studies, you'll acquire the skills, knowledge, and experience required to succeed in the field. Furthermore, your contributions will help shape the news industry as it navigates the future.

The Philip Merrill College of Journalism abides by the regulations and policies established by the University of Maryland's Graduate School in its Graduate Handbook, available online at: <http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/catalog/>. Our handbook is a condensed version of the Graduate School's, and it details the policies and guidelines most pertinent to our students, as well as information on the specific requirements of our program. Please keep this handbook in a convenient place for the remainder of your studies.

If at any time you have questions or concerns about the program or your progress toward degree, please contact Graduate Program Coordinator Caryn Taylor or Assistant Dean Steve Crane for assistance.

## GETTING STARTED

### HEALTH INSURANCE AND IMMUNIZATIONS

All graduate students are eligible to participate in the student health insurance plan. For details, visit: [www.health.umd.edu/geninfo/insurance.html](http://www.health.umd.edu/geninfo/insurance.html).

The University of Maryland requires all new graduate students to provide documentation of measles, mumps, rubella, and tetanus/diphtheria immunizations (see "Forms"). It is a student's responsibility to provide this information to the Health Center within his or her first semester of study. The Graduate School will permit students to register for their first semester of classes prior to the submission of this form, but noncompliant students will be blocked from registering for subsequent terms until they have been cleared by the Health Center. This requirement cannot be waived.

### RESIDENCY CLASSIFICATION

An initial determination of in-state status for admission and tuition charges will be made by the University at the time a student's application for admission is under consideration. The determination made at that time and any determination made thereafter will prevail in each semester unless the determination is successfully challenged in a timely manner. Please be advised that all students who are originally classified as nonresident students when they begin their studies

## RESIDENCY CLASSIFICATION (CONT'D)

at the University retain that classification unless they file a petition for resident status with the University's Residency Classification Office (see [www.testudo.umd.edu/rco/](http://www.testudo.umd.edu/rco/)). The deadline for meeting all requirements for resident status and for submitting all documents for reclassification is the last day of late registration for the semester for which the student wishes to be classified as a resident student.

## ESTABLISHING A DIRECTORY ID

Before accessing most online resources at the university, students must establish their online identifier, or Directory ID, and an associated password for it. Once a Directory ID and password have been established, students can activate their Mail@umd e-mail accounts and other university accounts. To establish a Directory ID, please visit: [www.directory.umd.edu](http://www.directory.umd.edu).

## CREATING A UNIVERSITY EMAIL ACCOUNT

Mail@umd offers students fast, reliable e-mail, virus scanning, junk mail analysis, and a Web-based interface that allows them to view and manage messages without configuring a browser client. To create a Mail@umd account students must have a Directory ID. Students can create their mail@umd accounts at: <http://www.oit.umd.edu/new/>.

## OBTAINING A STUDENT ID

Students can obtain their student ID cards on the first floor of the Mitchell Building from 8:30am to 4:30pm, Monday - Friday. Graduate student cards should specify "Graduate Student" (and not just "Student"), as many discounts are available exclusively to graduate students at Stamp Union and participating restaurants and stores. The first card is free; replacement cards are \$20 each. Before obtaining an ID card, a student must be registered for classes and have proof of identity.

## OBTAINING A PARKING PERMIT

Campus parking at the University of Maryland is managed by the Department of Transportation Services (DOTS). Students can purchase permits by the semester or the year through their office in Regents Parking Garage or via their website ([www.transportation.umd.edu](http://www.transportation.umd.edu)). For students who aren't interested in a regular parking pass, there are some limited meter, hourly parking, and special "bundle" passes available.

Graduate students are considered "commuters" and are thus eligible for the least-expensive permit available. Graduate Assistants can opt to pay for their parking pass in monthly installments using payroll deduction. For other questions about parking, satellite parking, carpool options and more, contact DOTS at 301-314-PARK.

DOTS hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 8:15 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., excluding University holidays.

## STUDENT ACCOUNTS

Students can manage their accounts on Testudo by clicking on the “Financials” tab.

Upon registering, students incur a financial obligation to the University. E-mails will be sent by the Office of the Bursar to each student's university email address; these will have a link to the financial account log-in page. Payment is due by the specified date, regardless of whether the e-mail is received. See the billing schedule for bill dates and due dates. Failure to make payment by the specified due date will result in a late fee or finance charge and may jeopardize the student's continued enrollment.

The current cost of tuition and fees can be found on the Office of the Bursar's website at: [www.umd.edu/bursar](http://www.umd.edu/bursar). For assistance, contact the Service Center at 301-314-9000 or [bill-talk@umd.edu](mailto:bill-talk@umd.edu).

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Graduate School and College of Journalism recognize the high cost of education and make every effort to offer financial assistance to students. Admission to a graduate program is a prerequisite for the award of departmental fellowships, teaching or research assistantships, and federal loans and work-study.

### DEPARTMENTAL FELLOWSHIPS

Graduate fellowships are merit-based awards that enable the recipient to focus on graduate study, that do not have to be repaid, and that include a stipend and tuition remission. Fellowships differ from Graduate Assistantships, which carry an obligation to teach classes, to work on a research project, or to perform administrative tasks.

Only incoming students are eligible for College fellowships and scholarships. There is no separate application process for most of the awards; all accepted students are considered. The Simons, Reuters and Gridiron fellowships require resume, clips and a letter of interest.

The College awards full and partial fellowships to its students.

### GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

There are three types of assistantship positions on campus: Teaching Assistantships (TAs), Research Assistantships (RAs), and Administrative Assistantships (AAs). There are also a small number of positions available as Resident Life Counselors. A graduate assistant must be a registered graduate student enrolled in a degree program at the University of Maryland.

Finding an assistantship is, in many ways, equivalent to finding a job. Assistants are hired, paid, and supervised by the program or office that offers the appointment.

## TUITION REMISSION AND MANDATORY FEES

Graduate Assistants on a full-time appointment (20 hours/week) are eligible for 10 credits of tuition remission in the Fall and Spring semesters. GAs on a half-time appointment (10 hours/week) are eligible for 5 credits of tuition remission in the Fall and Spring. GAs on a full-time 12-month appointment are also eligible for up to 8 credits of tuition remission during Summer; and GAs on a half-time 12-month appointment are eligible for up to 4 credits during Summer.

Tuition remission is credited at the prevailing standard in-state credit hour rate at the time the class is taken. Tuition remission does not cover mandatory fees, and students are responsible for any tuition not covered by the remission. Please see the Schedule of Classes for a current schedule of mandatory fees.

## RESIDENCY CLASSIFICATION

All Graduate Assistants on a full-time or half-time appointment are billed at the in-state rate for credits taken during their appointment, including any credits taken over the tuition remission allowance. Official residency classification, however, does not change. Consequently, at any time when a graduate student is no longer supported by an assistantship—including summer months if the student is on a 9.5-month assistantship—he or she will be billed according to the official residency status that was assigned upon admission. Thus, a student may pay in-state rates during the academic year but out-of-state rates during the summer if the student is classified as out-of-state. Graduate students are urged to be aware of their official residency classification status and to address any problems immediately.

## HEALTH INSURANCE

Graduate Assistants on a full-time or half-time appointment may enroll in the university employee health benefits program. The personnel coordinator in the student's department should be able to provide appropriate forms. GAs must enroll within 60 days of their initial employment to be eligible for a health care program. GAs may enroll their spouses and children under this program.

Any graduate student who is ineligible for the employee health care program may enroll in the student health insurance program offered by the University Health Center. For more information, call the University Health Center Insurance Office at 301-314-8165.

## FEDERAL LOANS AND WORK-STUDY

Students enrolled on at least a half-time basis in a graduate program may be eligible for financial assistance in the form of federal loans or work-study. In addition to satisfying basic eligibility criteria ([www.financialaid.umd.edu/osfa/FAFSAreq.html](http://www.financialaid.umd.edu/osfa/FAFSAreq.html)), a student must demonstrate financial need and submit a FAFSA ([www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)).

It is a student's responsibility to submit his or her FAFSA in a timely manner and in accordance with published deadlines.

For assistance, contact the Office of Financial Aid at [umfinaid@umd.edu](mailto:umfinaid@umd.edu) or at 301-314-9000.

## REGISTRATION PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

Information concerning registration procedures, deadlines, late fees, and current tuition and expenses is posted on the Office of the Registrar's website ("Testudo"), at [www.testudo.umd.edu](http://www.testudo.umd.edu).

Students must use their University Directory IDs to register for courses. If you have not yet established your ID or if you have forgotten yours, please visit <https://www.directory.umd.edu/>.

Most courses offered by the College of Journalism (designated JOUR) require departmental approval prior to registering. This approval can be obtained by contacting Graduate Program Coordinator Caryn Taylor at [ctaylor@jmail.umd.edu](mailto:ctaylor@jmail.umd.edu) or 301-405-2380.

### DESIGNATION OF FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME STATUS

The Graduate School uses a unit system in making calculations to determine full-time or part-time student status. Please note that graduate units are different from credit hours. The number of graduate units per credit hour is calculated in the following manner:

- Courses in the series: 400-499 carry 4 units per credit hour.
- Courses in the series: 500-599 carry 5 units per credit hour.
- Courses in the series: 600-897 carry 6 units per credit hour.
- Master's Research course: 799 carries 12 units per credit hour.

To be certified as full time, a graduate student must be officially registered for a combination of courses equivalent to 48 units per semester. Graduate assistants holding regular appointments have full-time status if they are registered for at least 24 units in addition to the assistantship; holders of half-time assistantships are considered full-time if registered for 36 units. Audited courses do not generate graduate units and cannot be used in calculating full-time or part-time status.

To remain on track for graduation in 12-15 months, students must register for at least 9-12 credit hours each semester, excluding the summer semester for fall-starting students.

### COURSE NUMBERING SYSTEM

Graduate students can register in courses numbered 400 and above to satisfy program requirements (some exceptions may apply to 400-level courses). 500-level courses are classified as professional school courses, and the grades earned in these courses are not used to calculate a student's GPA. Courses ending with the numeral 8 or 9 are the only ones repeatable for credit.

### CONTINUOUS REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT

All graduate students must register for courses and pay associated tuition and fees each semester, not including summer and winter sessions, until the degree is awarded. A student who fails to register and who has not requested and received a waiver of registration or "Leave of Absence for Childbearing, Adoption, Illness or Dependent Care" will be notified by the Graduate School after the first day of classes that he or she must register for the current semester.

## CONTINUOUS REGISTRATION (CONT'D)

The Graduate School will also inform the Graduate Director of the graduate program that the student is in jeopardy of termination. If the student does not register, he or she will be dismissed from the Graduate School at the end of the semester for failure to comply with the continuous registration requirement.

A student who is dismissed for non-registration may appeal dismissal during a 30-day period following the end of the semester of non-registration. If the student does not appeal, or if the appeal is denied, and the student wishes to continue in the Graduate School, the student must apply for readmission. In this case, readmission does not alter the initial requirements for time to complete the degree.

## GRADING SYSTEMS

The conventional A through F grading system is used in graduate-level courses. A "Satisfactory or Failure" (S-F) grading system may be used for certain types of graduate study at the discretion of the graduate program. These include courses that require independent fieldwork, special projects, or independent study. The "Pass-Fail" grading system is not available for graduate students. Either the A-F or the S-F grading system may be used for master's thesis research (JOUR 799), as well as for courses labeled "Independent Study" or "Special Problems." Only one grading system may be used per course in a particular semester except for thesis credits. The grading system will be designated by the student's graduate program or the graduate program offering the course.

# ACADEMIC POLICIES

## SATISFACTORY PROGRESS TO DEGREE

The admission of all graduate students is continued at the discretion of the Graduate Director of the program and the Dean of the Graduate School, consistent with the policies and practices of the Graduate School and graduate program. A student must make satisfactory progress in meeting programmatic requirements, must demonstrate the ability to succeed in his or her course of studies or research, and must attain performance minimums specified by the graduate program in all or in particular courses; otherwise his or her enrollment will be terminated. Determinations of satisfactory progress occur at the graduate program level. The Graduate School requires students to maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 to remain in good academic standing. Master's degrees cannot be awarded to those who are not in good academic standing.

## GRADE CHANGES

A student may repeat a course in an effort to earn a better grade. Whether higher or lower, the most recent grade will be used in computing the grade-point average. Grades for graduate students remain as part of the student's permanent record. Changes in previously recorded grades may be made if timely (within one semester) and if the original instructor certifies that an actual mistake was made in determining or recording the grade. The change must be approved by the department chair and the Dean of the Graduate School.

## INCOMPLETE GRADES

An incomplete is a mark that an instructor may award to a student whose work in a course has been qualitatively satisfactory, but who is unable to complete some portion of the work required *because of illness or other circumstance beyond the student's control* . In awarding the mark of "I" for graduate courses other than 799 and 899, instructors must fill out an "Incomplete Contract for Graduate Students." The contract will specify the work remaining to be completed. It must be signed by the instructor and the student and maintained by the department offering the course. The student is responsible for providing a copy of the contract to the director of graduate studies in his or her program.

The mark of incomplete in 500-, 600-, 700-, and 800-level courses will not automatically roll-over to letter grades. Normally, students are expected to complete courses in which they have received an "I" by a date no more than 12 months from the beginning of the semester in which the course was taken. The mark of incomplete in 400-level courses will be governed by the rules for awarding incompletes to undergraduate students, including the provision of automatically converting an "I" to a letter grade. An "I" can remain in place on a student's transcript for a maximum of one year.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The University is an academic community. Its fundamental purpose is the pursuit of knowledge. Like all other communities, the University can function properly only if its members adhere to clearly established goals and values. Essential to the fundamental purpose of the University is the commitment to the principles of truth and academic honesty. Accordingly, the *Code of Academic Integrity* is designed to ensure that the principle of academic honesty is upheld. All members of the University are bound by this code, and students should be thoroughly familiar with the University's policies and procedures regarding academic integrity. The code can be reviewed at: [www.president.umd.edu/policies/docs/iii100a.pdf](http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/docs/iii100a.pdf). A resource guide about academic integrity can be found at: [www.lib.umd.edu/guides/honesty.html](http://www.lib.umd.edu/guides/honesty.html).

## ACADEMIC PROBATION AND DISMISSAL

A student whose cumulative grade-point average falls below 3.0 will be placed on academic probation by the Graduate School . When a student is placed on probation, the Graduate School will notify both the student and the Graduate Director of the student's program. Permission of the academic advisor and the Graduate Director will be required for a student on probation to register for courses. Probation will be lifted when the student achieves a cumulative GPA of 3.0. A student on probation who has completed fewer than 15 credits must raise the GPA to 3.0 or above by the end of the semester in which the student completes 15 credit hours or be dismissed from the Graduate School . A student who has completed 16 or more hours of course work and whose cumulative GPA falls below 3.0 will be placed on probation and will have one semester in which to raise his or her GPA to a 3.0 or be dismissed from the Graduate School .

## TIME LIMITATIONS FOR MASTER'S DEGREES

Requirements for the master's degree must be completed within a five-year period. Time taken for an approved Leave of Absence for Childbearing, Adoption, Illness or Dependent Care does not count toward this five-year limit.

## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The College of Journalism offers two types of master's degrees, the Master of Arts (M.A.) and Master of Journalism (M.J.). The M.A. requires the completion of a traditional thesis, whereas the M.J. degree does not. In lieu of a thesis, students in the M.J. program meet with committees of three faculty members at the end of their final semester to discuss and critique their journalistic portfolios and resumes.

Both degrees require the successful completion of a minimum of 30 graduate credit hours; students typically complete 36 credits because of their 500-level courses, which do not count toward the degree. Students in the M.A. program must complete no less than 6 credit hours of JOUR 799 (Master's Thesis Research) during the course of their studies. JOUR 799 may substitute for 6 elective credits for those pursuing the M.A. degree.

Regardless of which degree students pursue, they must follow one of three specializations offered by the College (excluding Returning Journalists): Public Affairs Reporting, Online Journalism or Broadcast Journalism. The course requirements for each specialization are listed below.

### PUBLIC AFFAIRS REPORTING

JOUR 501 Fundamentals of Writing and Editing  
JOUR 502 Reporting for Graduate Students  
JOUR 700 Media Law  
JOUR 772 Computer-Assisted Reporting  
JOUR 601 Theories of Journalism and Public Communication  
JOUR 620 Seminar in Public Affairs Reporting  
JOUR 762 Professional Seminar in Public Affairs Reporting  
JOUR 625 Print News Bureau  
9 elective credits (or 3 elective and 6 thesis credits for students pursuing the M.A.)

### ONLINE JOURNALISM

JOUR 501 Fundamentals of Writing and Editing  
JOUR 502 Reporting for Graduate Students  
JOUR 700 Media Law  
JOUR 772 Computer-Assisted Reporting  
JOUR 601 Theories of Journalism and Public Communication  
JOUR 652 Online Journalism  
JOUR 620 Seminar in Public Affairs Reporting  
JOUR 655 Online News Bureau  
JOUR 628G Non-Print Media for Print and Online Journalists  
6 elective credits (or 6 thesis credits for students pursuing the M.A.)

## BROADCAST JOURNALISM

JOUR 501 Fundamentals of Writing and Editing  
JOUR 503 Reporting for Broadcast News  
JOUR 700 Media Law  
JOUR 601 Theories of Journalism and Public Communication  
JOUR 772 Computer-Assisted Reporting  
JOUR 660 Seminar in Broadcast News  
JOUR 661 Television Reporting and Production  
JOUR 668B Topics in Broadcasting and Electronic Media: Broadcast Producing  
JOUR 667 Broadcast News Bureau  
6 elective credits (or 6 thesis credits for students pursuing the M.A.)

## RETURNING JOURNALISTS

Students who are admitted as Returning Journalists embark on a highly individualized course of study in the Master of Arts program. This degree requires the completion of 30 graduate credits and a thesis. Returning Journalists must complete JOUR 601 and one 3-credit Research Methods course. Additionally, they must register for a minimum of 6 credits of JOUR 799 during the course of their studies. The remaining 18 credits are comprised of elective courses, selected in conjunction with the director of the master's program, Assistant Dean Steve Crane. These courses may be taken within the College of Journalism or, with approval, in affiliated fields of study within the Graduate School or Washington Consortium.

## CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

The Capital News Service (CNS) bureau is the capstone experience of our master's program. CNS provides our students with real-life reporting experiences, such as covering a beat, developing sources, generating story ideas and writing on deadline. All students work in close consultation with a bureau chief. Although master's students are required to participate in CNS, they must submit an application prior to registering for the course. The application is comprised of an updated resume, cover letter, and portfolio; this is submitted to Assistant Dean Steve Crane.

Students in the Public Affairs specialization work in Annapolis or Washington, D.C. to provide a daily news feed to our clients, who include daily and weekly newspapers, wire services, radio, television, and online news outlets. Students in the Broadcast specialization work out of the Richard Eaton Broadcast Center to produce a live nightly newscast that transmits to over 500,000 households in suburban Washington. Students in the Online specialization are based in a working laboratory in the Journalism Building to produce an online newsmagazine, *Maryland Newsline*, which showcases original news and feature reporting, as well as work from the print and broadcast bureaus.

Students in all bureaus receive six credits for acting as full-time (35 to 40 hours a week) reporters from Tuesday through Friday.

## MASTER OF JOURNALISM/NON-THESIS REQUIREMENTS

Whereas the Master of Arts (M.A.) degree requires the completion of a traditional thesis, the Master of Journalism (M.J.) degree does not. Because our program is professionally oriented, most of our students opt to pursue the M.J. degree.

All students in the M.J. program participate in “M.J. Day” in their final semester of study. On M.J. Day, our graduating students sit down individually with a committee of three faculty members or center directors of their choosing for a critique of their Capital News Service clips or tapes and a review of their professional knowledge. The M.J. review committees evaluate where our students are as journalists and provide them with a roadmap for their futures as they leave the graduate program for the newsroom.

Students must provide each member of their M.J. committee a complete portfolio of their work, an updated resume, and a one-page cover letter analyzing their own work and discussing their short-term and long-term career goals. The packets must be delivered to the committee members no less than one week prior to M.J. Day to allow for a sufficient review of the materials. A second packet must be given to the Graduate Program Coordinator for accreditation purposes.

## MASTER OF ARTS/THESIS REQUIREMENTS

Although the M.J. program is the better choice for most of our students, some prefer the M.A. program. Because the M.J. program does not require the completion of a thesis, those who follow its requirements usually find it more manageable to graduate in 12-15 months than those pursuing the M.A. Students in the M.A. program must successfully complete a thesis, which is a critical and scholarly work, approximately 75 pages in length, produced under the close supervision of a director who is chosen by the student in consultation with Assistant Dean Steve Crane. Students in the M.A. program must complete no less than 6 credits of JOUR 799, Master’s Thesis Research.

The student must identify and secure the agreement of a faculty member to direct his or her thesis as early in his or her program as possible. To ensure timely progress to degree, a student should aim to identify and initiate communication with this faculty member no later than two semesters prior to the defense. Two additional members of the graduate faculty, chosen by the student in consultation with their director, comprise the thesis committee. The thesis committee should be finalized early in the semester prior to that in which the thesis will be presented.

In the semester prior to the defense of the thesis, the student must present a prospectus to his or her committee for approval. At this time, the committee may ask for an annotated or working bibliography. It is the student’s responsibility to arrange for a meeting of the committee to discuss the prospectus. It is also the student’s duty to meet with his or her advisor and committee members on a regular basis to chart the progress of his or her thesis. It is imperative to note that the thesis must be deemed ready for defense by the committee director before the defense is scheduled.

Before students can conduct research using human subjects, they must receive the approval of the University’s Institutional Research Board. Students who are not using human subjects must obtain a waiver from the IRB. For details visit: [www.umresearch.umd.edu/IRB/index.html](http://www.umresearch.umd.edu/IRB/index.html).

Please note that this is a legal requirement that cannot be waived.

A student who chooses the thesis option must submit to the Graduate School the Nomination of Thesis Committee form (see the section “Forms”) by the posted deadline. Students should work with their directors to schedule their defense well in advance of its anticipated occurrence. A student should also produce a defensible working version of their thesis no less than six weeks prior to the end of the semester in which he or she intends to graduate; the final thesis should be completed no less than two weeks prior to the end of the semester.

The defense runs approximately one to two hours. Typically, the defense begins with a statement by the student on the project, which is then followed with either consecutive questioning by the examiners or an open discussion. At the conclusion of the discussion, the committee assigns to the thesis a grade of “Pass,” “High Pass,” or “Fail.” Students who receive a “Pass” or “High Pass” must make final revisions at the discretion of their director; the final revision must be submitted to the director no later than the end of the semester. Students who receive the grade of “Fail” may have a second defense in a subsequent semester. A second “Fail” will disqualify the student from receiving the M.A. degree.

The approved thesis must be submitted electronically to the Graduate School in accordance with the established deadlines for the semester in which a student intends to graduate. These deadlines are posted on the Graduate School’s website at: [www.gradschool.umd.edu/deadlines/](http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/deadlines/). Information about all aspects of electronic submission of the thesis is available on the Graduate School website under the section “Thesis and Dissertation Resources” at [www.gradschool.umd.edu/current](http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/current).

## INDEPENDENT STUDY

Independent study allows students to do specialized coursework in a field where there is no regular course available in the College. Students may register for a total of 6 credits of JOUR 698 during their studies. A maximum of 3 credits of JOUR 698 may be taken in one semester.

To enroll in a section of Independent Study, a student must first select a graduate faculty member to serve as his or her director. Once a faculty member has agreed to serve in this capacity, the student and faculty member must draft and submit to the Program Coordinator an Independent Study Learning Contract (see “Forms”). This form delineates the goals, strategies, requirements, and evaluation methods of the Independent Study.

## APPLYING FOR GRADUATION

Students must be registered for at least one credit during the semester they expect to graduate. This credit can be for any course in the University. At the time students register for their final semester, they should apply for graduation through Testudo: <http://www.testudo.umd.edu/apps/candapp/>.

Please be mindful of the deadline to apply, as it is early in the semester. In addition to applying for graduation, students are required to submit several forms to Caryn Taylor, the graduate program coordinator, throughout the semester (see the section “Forms” for more details). Students are also required to complete a brief exit questionnaire; information on the questionnaire is sent out to graduating students during their final semester by a member of Student Services.

## FORMS

The Graduate School requires its students to submit a number of forms during the course of their studies. Although the Graduate Program Coordinator will send reminders to students regarding the submission of these forms in advance of the deadlines, it is the students' responsibility to familiarize themselves with the forms and their associated deadlines. The Graduate School deadlines are posted online at [www.gradschool.umd.edu/deadlines](http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/deadlines).

Required Graduate School forms can be downloaded as PDFs from:

<http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/gss/forms/>.

Upon completion, forms must be returned to the Graduate Program Coordinator for processing.

### FORMS REQUIRED OF ALL MASTER'S STUDENTS:

-Immunization Record Form (submit within the first semester)

<http://www.health.umd.edu/forms/Immufom09.pdf>

-Approved Program Form (submit at the beginning of the final semester)

[http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/gss/forms/Approved\\_Program\\_Form.pdf](http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/gss/forms/Approved_Program_Form.pdf)

-Exit Survey (submit in final semester, online form made available to graduating students only)

### FORMS REQUIRED FOR MASTER OF JOURNALISM STUDENTS:

-Certification of Master's Degree Without Thesis (submit on MJ Day, final semester)

[http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/gss/forms/Certification\\_of\\_Masters\\_Form.pdf](http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/gss/forms/Certification_of_Masters_Form.pdf)

-MJ Day Assessment Form (submit on MJ Day, not available online)

### FORMS REQUIRED FOR MASTER OF ARTS STUDENTS:

-Nomination of Thesis or Dissertation Committee (submit no later than one semester prior to graduation)

<http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/gss/forms/Nomination&Thesis.pdf>

-Electronic Publication Form (submit along with thesis)

[http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/gss/forms/Publishing\\_Your\\_ETD.pdf](http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/gss/forms/Publishing_Your_ETD.pdf)

-Report of Examining Committee Form (committee chair submits upon completion of thesis)

### OTHER COMMON FORMS:

-Independent Study Learning Contract

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## FACULTY DIRECTORY

### SANDY BANISKY, J.D., University of Baltimore; B.S., Boston University

Sandy Banisky, the College's Abell Professor in Baltimore Journalism, teaches urban affairs reporting, a class that explores issues important to cities using Baltimore as a laboratory. As deputy managing editor of *The Baltimore Sun*, she supervised metro, foreign, national, sports, and business news and developed front-page stories from every department of the paper. She also served as The Sun's national editor and national correspondent and covered state and local government and politics. She joined the college in 2008.

### MAURINE BEASLEY, Ph.D., George Washington

Professor Emerita Maurine Beasley, former education editor of the *Kansas City (Mo.) Star* and former staff writer for *The Washington Post*, is a journalism historian who specializes in women's portrayal and participation in journalism. Her particular focus is Washington women journalists, including their coverage of first ladies. She was named a Distinguished Senior Scholar by the Educational Foundation of the American Association of University Women and received a Leadership Award in 2001 from the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, of which she is a past national president. She also is a former president of the American Journalism Historians Association. She has taught journalism at Jinan University in China under a Fulbright grant.

### KEVIN BLACKISTONE, B.S. Northwestern University; M.S. Boston University

Kevin Blackistone, the College's Shirley Povich Chair in Sports Journalism, is a national columnist for AOL Sports, a panelist on ESPN's *Around the Horn*, and an occasional contributor to *The Politico* and XM Satellite Radio's Sports Nation channel. Blackistone is a former award-winning sports columnist for *The Dallas Morning News*, where he covered the Summer Olympics, Wimbledon, the World Cup, the Tour de France, the British Open, the NBA Finals, Final Four, national college football championship, NFL playoffs, Major League Baseball playoffs, world championship boxing matches, and other events over 16 years. He joined the college in 2008.

### ALICE BONNER, Ph.D., North Carolina

Alice Bonner is the former director of journalism education for The Freedom Forum. She has been a *Washington Post* reporter and editor, a *USA Today* cover stories editor, and a recruiter of journalists for Gannett newspapers. She has worked in efforts to improve scholastic journalism and newsroom diversity for a number of journalism organizations. Her research interests include journalism history, press integration, and news coverage of societal disparities.

### DAVID BRODER, M.A., Chicago

David Broder is a Pulitzer Prize-winning, nationally acclaimed political reporter and a columnist for *The Washington Post*. He has covered every presidential election since 1960. He joined the Post in 1966 after covering national politics for *The New York Times*, *Washington Star*, and *Congressional Quarterly*. He continues to cover government and politics for his twice-weekly syndicated column, which appears worldwide in more than 300 newspapers.

### KALYANI CHADHA, Ph.D., Maryland

Kalyani Chada serves as the director for the American Association of Sunday and Feature Editors (AASFE) and as a director for the Media, Self and Society and College Park Scholars programs. As a teacher and a researcher, Chadha has focused on analyzing trends in international communication as well as television programming and its impact on society. The recipient of a Ph.D. in Mass Communication from the University of Maryland, College Park, she has published articles in several communication conferences, journals, and books. She joined the Media, Self and Society program in 2000, and was recently appointed the program's director. She is presently working on a book project that examines the consumption of Hindi films by young Indian Americans. Prior to coming to the United States in 1992, she worked as a journalist in India

### IRA CHINOY, A.B., Harvard

Ira Chinoy has 24 years of experience as a journalist at four newspapers: *The Washington Post*, *The Providence (R.I.) Journal*, *The Lawrence (Mass.) Eagle-Tribune*, and *The Pine Bluff (Ark.) Commercial*. As director of computer-assisted reporting at *The Washington Post*, he was part of a team that won the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service for a 1998 series on the use of deadly force by the D.C. police. At *The Providence Journal*, where he was a reporter from 1981 to 1995, Chinoy was part of a team that won the Pulitzer Prize in Investigative Reporting for coverage of corruption and patronage in the Rhode Island courts. Chinoy has been on the faculty of the College of Journalism since 2001, first as a visiting professor and now as associate professor.

### CASSANDRA CLAYTON, B.A., Spelman College

Cassandra Clayton was hired as an NBC News correspondent in 1983, and over the next two decades she reported from its Atlanta, Chicago, New York and Washington, D.C., bureaus. She co-anchored a nightly news and talk program on CNBC called *The Real Story*, and substitute-anchored *Nightly News Weekend Edition*, *Sunrise*, and the *Today* news segment. Prior to coming to the University of Maryland, she most recently reported and anchored for MSNBC and taught broadcast journalism at Howard University.

### STEVE CRANE, B.S., Maryland

An alumnus of the College, Steve Crane now serves as the College's Assistant Dean. Previously he was Washington bureau director for the College's Capital News Service. Crane is a former deputy metro editor and statehouse reporter for *The Washington Times*. He also worked as a reporter for *The Parkersburg (W.Va.) Sentinel* and *The South Prince George's (Md.) Independent*.

### ADRIANNE FLYNN, B.A., Arizona State

Adrienne Flynn is the Washington, D.C., bureau director for the College's Capital News Service. Formerly a Washington correspondent for the *Arizona Republic*, where she covered U.S. Sen. John McCain, she also worked as a reporter for *The Washington Times*, where she covered Mayor Marion Barry's return, and for *The Dayton (Ohio) Daily News*, where she covered serial murderer Jeffrey Dahmer and the 11-day Lucasville, Ohio prison riot. She started her career at the *Mesa (AZ) Tribune*.

## JON FRANKLIN, B.S., Maryland

Jon Franklin, Philip Merrill Chair, is a literary journalist whose work frequently focuses on the human side of science and technology. In a career that has spanned more than four decades he has written five books and a variety of magazine articles and newspaper stories and series. Known for his innovations both in style and reportage, his credits include two first-in-category Pulitzer prizes (feature writing in 1979 and expository journalism in 1985). He has taught at the University of Maryland, Oregon State University, and the University of Oregon, where his duties included the directorship of the creative writing program.

## DOUGLAS GOMERY, Ph.D., Wisconsin

Professor Emeritus Douglas Gomery has written for the *Village Voice*, *Modern Maturity*, *The Wilson Quarterly*, *The Baltimore Sun*, and other newspapers. He is a former senior researcher for the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars Media Studies project, and is the author of 10 books on both the history and economics of the mass media in America. His books -- and more than 600 articles -- have been translated into eight languages. Gomery has been interviewed during the past few years on NPR and for *The Washington Post*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *The New York Times*, *The (Baltimore) Sun*, and other media outlets.

## CHRISTOPHER HANSON, Ph.D., North Carolina; M.A., Oxford; B.A., Reed

Christopher Hanson worked for 20 years as a reporter for *Time*, *The Washington Star*, Reuters, and the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, focusing on topics such as presidential politics, Congress, the environment, American diplomacy, and military affairs. Hanson was a combat correspondent in the Gulf War and covered the civil war in Rwanda. He joined the Philip Merrill College of Journalism in 1999 after earning a Ph.D. in Mass Communication from the University of North Carolina under a Freedom Forum Fellowship and an M.A. in political theory and moral philosophy in 1984 from Oxford University.

## CHRIS HARVEY, B.S., Maryland

Chris Harvey, the online bureau director for the Capital News Service, has worked as an online editor, a magazine editor, a newspaper reporter, and a journalism teacher. She left her job as managing editor at *American Journalism Review* in August 2000 to help build the online curriculum at the College. She created and now edits the College's online newsmagazine, *Maryland Newslines*, which is staffed by students. Before coming to AJR, Harvey worked as an associate Metro editor at *washingtonpost.com*. There, she led a content redesign of the Metro section and edited news and feature stories.

## DIANA HUFFMAN, J.D., Georgetown; M.S., Columbia

Diana Huffman, *Baltimore Sun* Distinguished Lecturer, has served as managing editor of *National Journal* and as editor of *Legal Times* in Washington, D.C. She also worked as a radio and TV reporter in New York City and Louisville, Ky. Huffman served as a senior aide in the U.S. Senate for 10 years. She is a member of the Board of Directors of Justice at Stake in Washington, D.C., and participated in the 2000 Presidential Appointee Initiative, a joint project of the Brookings Institution and the Council for Excellence in Government.

## HAYNES JOHNSON, M.A. Wisconsin

Haynes Johnson, the College's Knight Chair, is a best-selling author, national TV commentator, former Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist with *The Washington Post* and *The Washington Star*. He is considered one of the nation's leading political journalists. In addition to teaching and advising students, he is a contributing editor for *American Journalism Review*.

## SUE KOPEN KATCEF, B.S. Maryland

Sue Kopen Katcef is a veteran broadcast journalist who serves as director of the Capital News Service broadcast bureau, overseeing production of the student-run nightly newscast, *Maryland Newsline*. In addition, Sue was founding editor of the award-winning *Terp Weekly Edition*. She is the faculty adviser to the campus chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, and serves on the national board. Prior to coming to the College of Journalism, Katcef was a reporter and anchor for WBAL Radio news in Baltimore. She has also worked as a reporter in television with stops at Baltimore's WJZ and Maryland Public Television.

## KEVIN KLOSE, B.A., Harvard

A former editor, and national and foreign correspondent with *The Washington Post*, Dean Kevin Klose is an award-winning author and worldwide broadcasting executive. He joins the Merrill College from National Public Radio where he served as president and president emeritus. Prior to joining NPR, Klose served successively as director of U.S. international broadcasting, overseeing the U.S. Government's global radio and television news services (1997-98) and president of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL), broadcasting to Central Europe and the former Soviet Union (1994-97)

## RAFAEL LORENTE, M.A., University of Maryland; B.A., University of Miami

Rafael Lorente is the Annapolis bureau chief of Capital News Service. Lorente is a former reporter with the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* and *Miami Herald*. As a reporter in Washington for the Sun-Sentinel, Lorente covered the 2000 and 2004 presidential elections, the attacks of Sept. 11, and U.S. foreign policy toward Latin America, particularly Cuba.

## SUSAN MOELLER, Ph.D. & A.M. Harvard; B.A. Yale

Susan Moeller is the director of the International Center for Media and the Public Agenda at the University of Maryland, College Park. She is also a professor in the Philip Merrill College of Journalism at the University of Maryland and an affiliated faculty member at the School of Public Policy. An accomplished author, she is an expert in terrorism, war and conflict as it relates to the media. Moeller was formerly the director of the Journalism Program at Brandeis University, a Fulbright Professor in Pakistan and Thailand, and she has taught in the history department at Princeton.

## DEBORAH NELSON, J.D., DePaul; B.S., Northern Illinois

Deborah Nelson is a Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative journalist and author of *The War Behind Me: Vietnam Veterans Confront the Truth About U.S. War Crimes* (Basic Books, 2008). She joined the journalism college as visiting professor in 2006 after five years as the Washington investigations editor for the *Los Angeles Times*. She has reported for *The Washington Post*, *The Seattle Times*, and *The Chicago Sun-Times*.

## JOHN NEWHAGEN, Ph.D., Stanford

John Newhagen worked as a foreign correspondent in Central America and the Caribbean for nearly 10 years. He served as bureau chief in San Salvador, regional correspondent in Mexico City, and foreign editor in Washington, D.C. for United Press International during the 1980s. Newhagen's research on the effects of emotion in television and on the Internet have been published widely in a number of leading academic journals.

## GENE ROBERTS, B.A., North Carolina

Gene Roberts came to the College in 1991, following 18 years as the executive editor of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, which won 17 Pulitzer Prizes during his editorship. He took a hiatus from his university work from 1994 to 1997 to serve as managing editor of *The New York Times*. In 1998, he returned to the College, where he teaches courses on writing the complex story, the press and the civil rights movement, and newsroom management. He received the National Press Club's Fourth Estate Award for Distinguished Contributions to Journalism in 1993 and won his own Pulitzer for History in 2007 for his book *The Race Beat*.

## CAROL ROGERS, Ph.D., Maryland

Carol Rogers is the former head of the Office of Communications for the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She now serves as an editor for the journal *Science Communication*. Rogers arranges symposia and speaks at conferences in the U.S. and abroad. She is a board member of the Council for the Advancement of Science Writing, and secretary of the section on general interest in science engineering of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, of which she is a fellow.

## GEORGE SOLOMON, B.S. University of Florida

George Solomon, former AME/Sports at *The Washington Post* and ESPN Ombudsman, is the Merrill College's Shirley Povich Visiting Professor. Solomon was assistant managing editor for sports at the Post from 1975 to 2003. He was responsible for major growth in the section and for hiring and developing some of its most distinctive writers, including Thomas Boswell, Tony Kornheiser, Michael Wilbon, Sally Jenkins, and Andrew Beyer. He has written a book on Povich's columns entitled *All Those Mornings At the Post*.

## LINDA STEINER, Ph.D., University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Linda Steiner, the College's director of doctoral studies, studies how and when gender matters in news and newsrooms and how feminist groups use media. Other research areas include media ethics, journalism history, and public journalism. She is editor of *Critical Studies in Media Communication* and serves on six editorial boards. Before coming to Maryland she taught at Rutgers University, where she served as Department Chair and coordinator of the Ph.D. program's Media Studies track. She has written, co-authored, or edited several books, book chapters, and refereed articles. Steiner has chaired several task forces for the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC), an organization for which she was elected Vice President in 2009.

## CARL SESSIONS STEPP, M.A., South Carolina

Carl Sessions Stepp serves as a senior editor of *American Journalism Review*, where he reviews books each issue and writes about changes in the news profession. Stepp has served as a writing and editing coach for newspapers across North America, including *The Bergen (N.J.) Record*, *The Oregonian*, *The Tampa Tribune*, *USA TODAY*, *The Washington Post*, and *Toronto Globe and Mail*.

### LEE THORNTON, Ph.D., Northwestern

Lee Thornton holds the College's Richard Eaton Chair in Broadcast Journalism. She is a former CBS News White House correspondent and CNN program producer. As a National Public Radio show host she won the prestigious gold "Cindy." She has worked in local radio and television and is a longtime, award-winning media production consultant to government and industry. Since 1998, her students have won more than 50 regional and national citations from the Society of Professional Journalists and the Hearst Foundation. She created two award-winning shows for UMTV and the Research Channel and has been honored with outstanding teaching awards multiple times. Thornton has lectured widely on minorities in the media, women in the media, and journalism education issues.

### LESLIE WALKER, M.A., University of Virginia

A newspaper journalist and pioneer in Internet news, Leslie Walker served as vice president for news and editor of *washingtonpost.com* at WashingtonPost.Newsweek Interactive, the digital media subsidiary of the Washington Post Co. She spent 16 years writing and editing for *The Washington Post* and earlier covered state politics for the *Baltimore Evening Sun*. Her ".com" column appeared weekly in the Post for eight years, chronicling how the Internet transformed media economics and empowered readers to take a more participatory role in media. Walker also wrote a nonfiction book which became a television movie, *Sudden Fury*. She joined the Merrill College in July 2008 as the Knight Visiting Professor in Digital Innovation.

### RONALD A. YAROS, Ph.D. University of Wisconsin-Madison

After working in television and radio news for nearly 20 years, Ronald Yaros has been recognized more recently for research and teaching of multimedia journalism. He continues to build an evolving model of how users of the Web and mobile technology seek, select and interact with news. The model is gaining national recognition from publications such as Harvard's *Nieman Reports* and the book, *Journalism and Citizenship: New Agendas* (in press). His *Lab For Communicating Complexity With Multimedia* explores new ways to produce multimedia journalism. The research can be found in journals such as *Communication Research* and the 2009 published manuscript, *Communicating Complex News*.

### ERIC ZANOT, Ph.D., Illinois

Eric Zanut's professional experience includes work in public information for public television and stints in two of the nation's largest advertising agencies. Zanut's research interests focus on the regulation of false and deceptive advertising. He has co-edited a book, authored chapters and monographs, written numerous articles, and delivered many academic papers on advertising topics. The courses he teaches include Advertising in America, Persuasion in Advertising, and Advertising and Society.

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Please note that a comprehensive listing of the College's staff can be found on our homepage at: [www.journalism.umd.edu](http://www.journalism.umd.edu).

This Handbook for the Master of Journalism and Master of Arts programs (2009-2010) has been created by Caryn Taylor, Graduate Program Coordinator, Philip Merrill College of Journalism, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742-7111.