

East Central College

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East Central College is accredited by the Higher
Learning Commission and a participant in the
Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP)

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THE CAREER

According to the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism, "The central purpose of journalism is to provide citizens with accurate and reliable information they need to function in a free society." Journalists work in a myriad of fields, and this degree offers possibilities far beyond the traditional newsroom.

Today's journalism students go on to work in online media, print, film, radio, television and public relations. In addition, this degree gives students a strong foundation for many career paths with its focus on research, writing, law, ethics, record-keeping and technology.

PROFESSIONAL TRAITS

Those pursuing a career in this field should:

- Demonstrate journalistic skill and objectivity
- Be socially and ethically responsible
- Be curious and inquisitive
- Possess strong verbal, written and interpersonal communication skills
- Have the ability to work with a diverse group of people
- Be detail-oriented

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Journalists can find employment in many occupations including:

- ✓ Radio, television or newspaper reporter
- ✓ Editor
- ✓ Producer
- ✓ Copywriter
- ✓ Media planner
- ✓ Designer
- ✓ Photojournalist
- ✓ Sports reporter
- ✓ Art director
- ✓ Entrepreneur
- ✓ Public relations specialist
- ✓ Watchdog journalist
- ✓ Magazine writer
- ✓ Multimedia producer
- ✓ Documentary film maker
- ✓ Arts & culture critic

TRANSFER OPTIONS

Many of the credits, particularly the general education electives earned with this degree, are accepted as transfer credits by four-year colleges and/or universities. Please note that transferring credit is decided by the bachelor degree-granting institution.

Students seeking to transfer should communicate often with their faculty advisors and the East Central College transfer advisor. They should also make early contact with the four-year institution of their choice regarding the transferability of ECC credits and coursework.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

East Central College requires each transfer student complete a 42 hour general education block. General education at ECC is organized around the institution's common learning objectives and coursework. A student is required to demonstrate skills in each of the following three areas:

- **Communicating:** Improve written and oral communication skills; adapt and apply communication to academic and professional purposes, audiences and contexts; demonstrate the use of technology to analyze and communicate information; and use active listening and reading skills.
- **Creative/Critical Thinking:** Improve the application of relevant knowledge and theory to new ideas, positions or solutions; assess and analyze concepts and data; formulate meaningful questions; and interpret and evaluate evidence and arguments.
- **Ethics and Social Responsibility:** Develop cross cultural awareness and an understanding of global interconnectedness; apply multiple worldviews, analyze ethical choices and consequences; and understand the core values and accountability of citizenship in a democratic society.

THE PROGRAM

The East Central College Associate of Arts in Journalism is a viable transfer program which prepares students to pursue their Bachelor of Arts in Journalism degree. Assuming appropriate placement scores, it is a two-year program, with flexibility to customize it toward the student's chosen career.

ECC's journalism degree consists of the 42-credit hour general education core required of all transfer programs plus foundational courses in mass media, issues of diversity in the media and journalistic writing. This curriculum has been specifically articulated with the Missouri School of Journalism at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Students also develop their skills in the hands-on applied journalism classes, which produce the school newspaper, the *Cornerstone*. For at least a semester, students in the program are expected to work on the school paper by interviewing, reporting, photographing and designing. During their tenure at ECC, journalism students also have the opportunity to travel to various professional conventions and participate in the ECC Film and Lecture Series.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

Students must have completed:

- ✓ High school diploma or the equivalent (documentation must be sent to the registration office)
- ✓ Application for admission
- ✓ A placement test as specified by the college (some coursework requires minimum placement results)

PROGRAM OF STUDY

AA program 67 hours

This program of study is for a full-time student; part-time study is also available. Please contact an academic advisor for full course options. All academic schedules are subject to change. For the most current schedule visit www.eastcentral.edu.

YEAR 1

FALL SEMESTER

COURSE	HOURS
FS 1000 Campus Orientation/ FS 1001 Foundation Seminar	1
EN 1223 English Comp I or EN 1233 Honors English Comp I**	3
SP 1104 Elementary Spanish I*	4
SO 1103 General Sociology	3
MT 1403 College Algebra	3
JR 1101 Applied Journalism	1
Total Hours	15

SPRING SEMESTER

COURSE	HOURS
EN 1333/ English Comp II or EN 1343 Honors English Comp II **	3
SP 1204 Elementary Spanish II	4
HI 1000 Constitutions Study Module PS 1000	0
HI 1103/ U.S. History to 1865 or HI 1203 U.S. History 1865-1945	3
MT 2103 Statistics	3
COM 1033 Intro to Mass Media Communication	3
Total Hours	16

SUMMER SEMESTER

CT 1003/ Oral Communications or CT 1103 Public Speaking	3
PS 1103/ Intro to Political Science or PS 1203 U.S. Government-Nation and State	3
Total Hours	6

YEAR 2

FALL SEMESTER

COURSE	HOURS
SP 2124 Intermediate Spanish II	4
JR 2033 Diversity in the Media	3
EC 2103 Principles of Macroeconomics	3
SC 1000 Laboratory Safety for Students Life or Physical Science Requirement***	0 3-5
Total Hours	13-15

SPRING SEMESTER

COURSE	HOURS
JR 2013 News Writing	3
EC 2203 Principles of Microeconomics Life or Physical Science Requirement***	3 3-5
Program Elective	3
Program Elective	3
Total Hours	15-17

*Students who take four years of a single foreign language in high school are exempt from the foreign language requirement.

**Students taking Honors Comp I and II will take all 6 credits in the fall semester.

***Either the Life Science or Physical Science requirement must contain a lab