

JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATIONS, PH.D.

Admissions Requirements

An applicant for admission to the doctoral program will be evaluated on a combination of factors: applicant's academic record (especially work done at the master's level), performance on the GRE, English proficiency scores (TOEFL or IELTS if international applicant), resume showing professional experience, recommendations, writing sample(s), and the applicant's personal statement outlining reasons for applying for doctoral study and career hopes and expectations.

Preference is given to applicants with at least 3.0 GPA for undergraduate and graduate work, at least one year of experience as journalism and mass communications professionals. A GRE combined score of 300 (153 Verbal and 147 Quantitative) and a 4.0 or higher on the Analytical Writing is expected, though exceptions are occasionally made for applicants with unusually strong professional backgrounds or other evidence of outstanding professional and intellectual promise. International applicants, in addition to the above, must present a score of at least 100 on the TOEFL exam or 7.0 on IELTS. Those with a degree from an English-speaking institution are eligible for an exemption from this requirement. More information is available in the Academic Programs section of the College of Information and Communications Website.

Doctoral students normally must have completed, or be in the final stages of, a master's degree. In exceptional circumstances, a student with a baccalaureate degree may be admitted directly into the doctoral program, with the understanding that the student will first complete the usual requirements for the master's degree while studying for the doctorate. In such cases, the usual doctoral requirements of 45 hours of course work beyond the master's plus a dissertation will apply. A prior master's degree needs not be in journalism/mass communications, although a student whose master's degree is in another field may need additional course work.