

# Literary Journalism, B.A.

This major was created to meet the needs of a growing number of students who wish to read, study, and write nonfiction prose that has transcended the limits of daily journalism. This is prose that has evolved into a distinct branch of literature, prose that adopts the aims and techniques of the finest fiction. The program provides majors with a solid foundation in nonfiction writing and an equally solid background in areas such as literary history, which together will help make students more informed writers. A Literary Journalism minor is also offered.

Literary Journalism majors take three intensive writing seminars, and are expected to develop a portfolio of work by graduation which they can present as evidence of their skill for purposes of employment or future education. At the same time, majors are asked to take a comprehensive look at the theory, history, and context of literary journalism. Among other forms, they study and write narratives, memoirs, profiles, histories, and personal essays, in subject areas as varied as science, politics, justice, travel, sports, food, and popular culture.

While it differs from an applied journalism major that focuses primarily on newspaper writing, the major in Literary Journalism is excellent preparation for students planning to enter graduate programs in journalism, as well as for those interested in the many careers requiring sophisticated writing and communication skills.

**All students must meet the University Requirements** (<http://catalogue.uci.edu/informationforadmittedstudents/requirementsforabachelorsdegree/>).

**All students must meet the School Requirements** (<http://catalogue.uci.edu/schoolofhumanities/#schoolrequirementstext>).

A. Complete:

LIT JRN 20	Introduction to Literary Journalism
LIT JRN 21	Reporting for Literary Journalism
LIT JRN 100	Advanced Reporting

B. Select one course from the following: <sup>1</sup>

ENGLISH 8	Multicultural American Literature
ENGLISH 9	Shakespeare
ENGLISH 10	Topics in English and American Literature
ENGLISH 11	Society, Law, and Literature
ENGLISH 12	Young Adult Fiction
ENGLISH 15	Introductory Seminar in English: Topics in Literary Studies
ENGLISH 16	The Craft of Poetry
ENGLISH 17	The Craft of Fiction

C. Complete:

ENGLISH 105	Multicultural Topics in Literatures in English
-------------	--

D. Complete:

LIT JRN 101A	Studies in the History, Theory, and Ethics of Literary Journalism
LIT JRN 101BW	Literary Journalism Core Writing Workshop (three times, on various topics)

E. Select at least three more Departmental (English, Literary Journalism, Writing) courses numbered 102 or above (excluding ENGLISH 150, LIT JRN 197, LIT JRN 198, LIT JRN 199, WRITING 139W, and WRITING 197). An upper-division course in a foreign literature in the original language or in translation may be substituted for one of the three courses.

F. Two upper-division History courses in a single regional or thematic focus area.

<sup>1</sup> Students can substitute COM LIT 60A or COM LIT 60C for the lower-division English course requirement.

**Residence Requirement for the Literary Journalism Major:** LIT JRN 20, LIT JRN 21, LIT JRN 100, LIT JRN 101A, and three LIT JRN 101BW courses must be completed successfully at UCI.

Students should plan coherent programs of study with their faculty advisors, including undergraduate seminars, workshops and seminars in writing (for students choosing a Literary Journalism major or Creative Writing minor), and courses in allied areas outside the Department. It is possible to combine a cluster of courses in literature with other majors in the sciences and social sciences, and to use an English or Literary Journalism major as preprofessional training in government, law, or medicine. Students who wish advice in planning such programs should consult both the Department and people in their prospective professional areas.

A student who intends to continue with graduate work is urged to study a second foreign language before graduation.

Students are also encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity to study abroad through the UC Education Abroad Program. Visit the Study Abroad Center website (<http://www.studyabroad.uci.edu/>) or an academic counselor for additional information.

The study of literature helps students express their ideas clearly, do independent research, and think analytically and imaginatively. These capabilities will help qualify majors for careers in education, law, technical writing, communications, journalism, public relations, business, marketing, and management. Departmental advisors encourage their students to investigate various career options before completing their undergraduate educations.

The Division of Career Pathways provides services to students and alumni including career counseling, information about job opportunities, a career library, and workshops on resume preparation, job search, and interview techniques. See the Division of Career Pathways website (<http://career.uci.edu/>) for additional information.