

Master of Arts in Journalism - Minor in Christian Media

HBI University

Course Duration: 2 years

Credit Hours: 69 (including 15 credit hours for minor)



Program Description

The Master of Arts in Journalism at HBI University is designed to prepare students for careers in investigative reporting, digital media, print journalism, and broadcast storytelling. The program integrates media ethics, research methodologies, and modern storytelling techniques to produce journalists who can engage audiences with meaningful, well-researched content.

The Minor in Christian Media provides students with a specialized focus on faith-based journalism, religious broadcasting, and Christian storytelling. Students will explore how journalism intersects with ministry, faith-based news reporting, and ethical storytelling within Christian media organizations.

This 69-credit hour program includes 30 credit hours of foundational journalism courses, 24 credit hours of core investigative and multimedia storytelling courses, 15 credit hours in Christian Media, elective coursework, a supervised practicum, and a research-based master's thesis.

Admissions Requirements

- Bachelor's degree in business, management, or a related field
- Minimum GPA of 3.0
- Two letters of recommendation from faculty or business professionals
- Statement of purpose outlining career goals in business, project management, and faith-based leadership
- Resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Interview with faculty committee (if required)

Practicum Requirement

Students must complete a 300-hour supervised practicum in news agencies, Christian media outlets, or faith-based publishing houses. Practicum placements include newspapers, TV networks, digital journalism platforms, and faith-based media organizations.

Master's Thesis

Students are required to complete a research-based master's thesis exploring ethical reporting, faith-based media analysis, or the role of journalism in Christian communities. The thesis may include an investigative report, a long-form documentary, or an analysis of faith-based media trends.

Program Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

- Develop investigative reporting and storytelling techniques.
- Analyze and apply media ethics from a Christian perspective.
- Utilize digital platforms and multimedia to create engaging journalistic content.
- Report on issues relevant to faith communities and religious organizations.
- Critically assess media trends in both secular and Christian journalism.

Career Outcomes & Potential Salary

- Investigative Journalist – \$50,000 - \$120,000
- Editor for Faith-Based Media Organizations – \$55,000 - \$110,000
- Christian News Reporter – \$45,000 - \$95,000
- Digital Media Specialist for Ministries – \$50,000 - \$105,000
- Faith-Based Documentary Producer – \$60,000 - \$130,000

Advocacy and Professional Development

Students are encouraged to join journalism and media organizations such as:

- Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ)
- National Religious Broadcasters (NRB)
- Christian Media Association
- Investigative Reporters & Editors (IRE)

Participation in journalism summits, media ethics workshops, and digital storytelling conferences is highly recommended..

Course Breakdown (Total: 69 Credit Hours)

A. Foundational Journalism Courses (30 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
JOUR-801	Introduction to News Writing & Reporting	3
JOUR-802	Media Law & Ethics	3
JOUR-803	Research Methods in Journalism	3
JOUR-804	Investigative Reporting Techniques	3
JOUR-805	Feature Writing & Storytelling	3
JOUR-806	Data Journalism & Analytics	3
JOUR-807	Multimedia Reporting & Podcasting	3
JOUR-808	Digital Journalism & Social Media	3
JOUR-809	Photojournalism & Visual Storytelling	3
JOUR-810	Editing & News Production	3

B. Core Investigative & Multimedia Storytelling Courses (24 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
JOUR-811	Public Affairs & Political Reporting	3
JOUR-812	Business & Economic Journalism	3
JOUR-813	Science, Health & Religion Reporting	3
JOUR-814	Documentary & Long-Form Journalism	3
JOUR-815	Crisis & Conflict Reporting	3

JOUR-816	Cross-Cultural Journalism & Ethics	3
JOUR-817	Faith-Based News & Ministry Media	3
JOUR-818	Supervised Journalism Practicum	3

C. Christian Media Minor (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
CM-901	Christian Ethics in Journalism	3
CM-902	Storytelling for Faith-Based Media	3
CM-903	Religion & Media: A Cultural Perspective	3
CM-904	Ministry Journalism & Church Media Production	3
CM-905	Faith-Based Media & Digital Evangelism	3

D. Electives (9 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
ELEC-961	Writing & Publishing for Christian Audiences	3
ELEC-962	Digital Marketing for Faith-Based Media	3
ELEC-963	Investigative Journalism in Religious Contexts	3