

Bachelor of Arts in Investigative Journalism - Minor in Christian Investigative Reporting

HBI University

Course Duration: 3 years

Credit Hours: 135 (including minor)



Program Description

The Bachelor of Arts in Investigative Journalism at HBI University equips students with the skills and techniques required for deep investigative reporting. This program focuses on research methodologies, fact-checking, ethical considerations, and multimedia storytelling. Students will gain hands-on experience in data journalism, public records research, and digital investigations.

The Minor in Christian Investigative Reporting enhances the program by integrating faith-based ethical principles into journalism. Students will explore how to report on religious and social issues, apply biblical values to investigative storytelling, and develop media strategies that align with Christian principles of truth-seeking.

Admissions Requirements

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Minimum GPA of 2.5
- Personal statement outlining career goals and interest in investigative journalism
- Two letters of recommendation

- Resume (if applicable)
- SAT/ACT scores (if applicable)

General Education Courses (30 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
GEN 101	English Composition I	3
GEN 102	English Composition II	3
GEN 103	College Algebra	3
GEN 104	Introduction to Philosophy	3
GEN 105	Introduction to World Religions	3
GEN 106	Public Speaking and Communication	3
GEN 107	Ethics and Critical Thinking	3
GEN 108	Research Methods	3
GEN 109	Leadership and Team Development	3
GEN 110	Cross-Cultural Communication	3

Core Investigative Journalism Courses (45 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
IJ 201	Introduction to Investigative Journalism	3
IJ 202	Advanced News Writing and Editing	3
IJ 203	Media Law and Ethics	3
IJ 204	Data Journalism and Research Methods	3
IJ 205	Public Affairs and Political Reporting	3
IJ 206	Crime and Justice Reporting	3
IJ 207	Digital Journalism and Open-Source Investigations	3
IJ 208	Interviewing Techniques for Investigative Reporting	3
IJ 209	Business and Financial Investigations	3
IJ 210	Social Media Analysis and Digital Tracking	3
IJ 211	Ethical Decision Making in Investigative Journalism	3
IJ 212	International Journalism and Global Issues	3

IJ 213	Fact-Checking and Disinformation Prevention	3
IJ 214	Narrative Journalism and Long-Form Storytelling	3
IJ 215	Entrepreneurial Journalism and Independent Reporting	3

Elective Courses (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
ELEC 301	Investigating Corruption and Political Scandals	3
ELEC 302	Environmental and Climate Change Reporting	3
ELEC 303	Human Rights and Advocacy Journalism	3
ELEC 304	Investigating the Role of Religion in Society	3
ELEC 305	Faith-Based Documentary Journalism	3

Minor in Christian Investigative Reporting (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
CIR 401	Principles of Christian Investigative Journalism	3
CIR 402	Faith-Based Ethics in Investigative Reporting	3
CIR 403	Investigating Religious and Social Issues	3
CIR 404	Christian Journalism in Modern Media	3
CIR 405	Storytelling and Truth-Seeking in Faith-Based Journalism	3

Capstone Project (15 Credit Hours)

The capstone project in investigative journalism serves as a culminating experience where students apply their research and reporting skills to an in-depth investigation. Students will:

- Conduct a long-form investigative report on a religious or ethical issue.
- Create a multimedia documentary on faith-based justice reporting.
- Utilize open-source intelligence and public records for investigative reporting.
- Present their findings through a digital or print publication and academic research paper.

Program Outcomes

Graduates of this program will:

- Master investigative techniques, data-driven reporting, and long-form journalism.
- Apply ethical principles in faith-based and secular investigative media.
- Utilize open-source tools and research methodologies for reporting.
- Develop compelling narratives that uncover truth and inspire change.
- Engage in responsible journalism that aligns with Christian values.

Career Outcomes and Potential Pay Scale

Career Path	Average Salary (Annual)
Investigative Journalist	\$55,000 - \$120,000
Ethics and Media Analyst	\$50,000 - \$105,000
Religious Affairs Correspondent	\$50,000 - \$95,000
Christian Media Watchdog Reporter	\$45,000 - \$90,000
Independent Investigative Journalist	\$60,000 - \$125,000