

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Summary

Course Classification	Credit Hours Required for JOUR	Credit Hours Required for DPST
Core	23	29
Major	30	24
Arts and Sciences Core	36	36
Language	6	6
General Electives (Excluding the MBRSC courses)	30	30
Total	125	125

Continued Enrollment

Students must successfully complete all the Curriculum Core courses (total 23 and 29 credit hours respectively for JOUR and DPST) with a cumulative GPA for those courses of 2.3 prior to entering into the third year of the program. A student failing to achieve such a CGPA is required to repeat courses. Failure to do so will cancel their degree candidacy within the Mohammed Bin Rashid School for Communication. In such cases, the student may choose to pursue studies at AUD in a discipline outside the Mohammed Bin Rashid School for Communication, contingent upon admission into the new program. The university does not assume any responsibility for loss of credit due to the student's change from the B.C.I.S. to another program. In-house AUD students who wish to transfer to the MBRSC should be in good academic standing and have a CGPA of 2.5 or more.

Curriculum/Courses

Language and Literature		Credit Hours
Arabic Track		
MEST 301	Arabic Proficiency I (Req.)	3
MEST 302	Arabic Proficiency II (Req.)	3
English Track		
ENGL 210	Creative Writing (Req.)	3
ENGL 211	British Literature I	3
ENGL 212	British Literature II	3
ENGL 221	American Literature I	3
ENGL 222	American Literature II	3
ENGL 231	World Literature I	3
ENGL 232	World Literature II	3
ENGL 2715	Special Topics in Literature	3
ENGL 305	The Epic	3
ENGL 311	World Mythology	3
ENGL 312	Bibliography/Autobiography	3
ENGL 313	Children's Literature	3
ENGL 314	Coming-Of-Age Novels	3
ENGL 315	Contemporary Female Authors	3
ENGL 316	Prize-Winning Authors	3
ENGL 475	Special Topics in Literature	3
Total Language and Literature Requirements		6

Core for Both Majors

COMM 101	Introduction to Global Media	3
COMM 103*	Media, Culture and Society	3
COMM 201	Media Economics and Research	3
COMM 202	Ethical and Legal Responsibilities in the Mass Media	3

Core for Digital Production and Storytelling

COMM 105	Drama and Non-Fiction TV Formats Analysis	2
COMM 106	The Language of Film	3
COMM 223*	Screenwriting Fundamentals	3
COMM 230	Video Editing and Sound Design	3
COMM 232	Cinematography	3
COMM 241*	Introduction to Production	3

Total Core Requirements for Digital Production and Storytelling **29**

Core for Journalism

COMM 104	Introduction to Non-Fiction TV Formats	2
COMM 221*	Media Writing Skills	3
COMM 222*	Multiplatform Storytelling	3
COMM 243	Introduction to Production for Journalism	3

Total Core Requirements for Journalism **23**

* Courses offered in English and Arabic

Major Option: Digital Production and Storytelling

DPST 302	Media and Public Service	3
DPST 323*	Screenwriting and Producing for TV and the Web	3
DPST 340*	Producing and Directing the Scene	3
DPST 361	Online Communities	3
DPST/JOUR 441*	The Documentary	3
DPST 422*	Capstone Storytelling	3
DPST 444*	Capstone Production	3
DPST 461	Internship	3

Total Digital Production and Storytelling Major Requirements **24**

* Courses offered in English and Arabic

Major Option: Journalism

Major Core

JOUR 301	Visualizing News	3
JOUR 302	Newsroom Management and Decision Making	3
JOUR 321*	Reporting	3
JOUR 322*	Advanced Reporting	3
JOUR 324*	Broadcast Journalism	3
JOUR/DPST 441*	The Documentary	3
JOUR 461	Media and Politics in the Middle-East	3
JOUR 462*	Capstone Project	3
JOUR 463	Internship	3
Total Journalism Core Requirements		27

Major Elective

Students must complete three credits from the following courses:

JOUR 209	Selected Topics in Journalism	3
JOUR 323	Editorial and Critical Writing	3
JOUR 401	Current Issues in Journalism	3
JOUR 402	Contemporary Perspectives in Journalism	3
Total Journalism Electives		3

Total Journalism Major Requirements **30**

** Courses offered in English and Arabic*

General Electives

Any course from the university listing exclusive of the MBRSC courses and with the following restrictions:

MEST*	minimum of	6
ARTS	maximum of	6
ENGL	maximum of	6
BUSI	BUSI 101 and any other courses from the School of Business Administration minimum of	6
Language	Maximum of	12
ANY	Courses at a 300 level or higher minimum of	6
Total General Electives Requirements		30

** Students are highly encouraged to pursue the Certificate in Middle Eastern Studies*

Arts and Sciences Core

Note that all degree candidates in Communication and Information Studies must take ARTS 200 (History of Art I) to fulfill the Core requirement in Humanities, and MATH 101 (Mathematics for the Arts) or MATH 200 (Mathematics with Business Applications) to fulfill the Core requirement for Mathematics.

Total Arts and Sciences Core Requirements **36**

JOUR and DPST Electives for Minors*

DPST 209	Selected Topics in Digital Production and Storytelling	3
JOUR 209**	Selected Topics in Journalism	3

JOUR 323**	Editorial and Critical Writing	3
JOUR 401**	Current Issues in Journalism	3
JOUR 402**	Contemporary Perspectives in Journalism	3

* Open to students minoring in Communication, JOUR, and DPST

** Also open to JOUR major students as part of major elective

TOTAL B.C.I.S. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS **125**

COURSE SEQUENCING

B.C.I.S. in Digital Production And Storytelling Course Sequencing

All candidates for the B.C.I.S. in Digital Production and Storytelling degree, Arabic track, should adhere to the following course sequencing:

	Fall	Spring
Year I	COMM 101	COMM 103
	COMM 105	COMM 106
	COMP 101	ENGL 102
	ENGL 101	MATH 101 or MATH 200
	MEST 301	MEST 302
	UNIV 100	
Year II	COMM 201	COMM 202
	COMM 223	COMM 232
	COMM 230	COMM 241
	ENGL 103	BUSI 101
	PSPK 101	SSCI ELE
	WLDC 201	WLDC 202
Year III	ARTS 200	DPST 302
	DPST 340	DPST 323
	DPST 361	MEST ELE
	GEN ELE	SBA ELE
	ISST ELE	SCIE ELE
	MEST ELE	GEN ELE
Year IV	GEN ELE	DPST 444
	DPST 422	DPST 461
	DPST 441	GEN ELE
	GEN ELE (300 level or above)	GEN ELE (300 level or above)

All candidates for the B.C.I.S. in Digital Production and Storytelling degree, English track, should adhere to the following course sequencing:

	Fall	Spring
Year I	COMM 101	COMM 103
	COMM 105	COMM 106
	COMP 101	ENGL 102
	ENGL 101	MATH 101 or MATH 200
	BUSI 101	SCIE ELE
	UNIV 100	
Year II	COMM 201	COMM 202
	COMM 223	COMM 232
	COMM 230	COMM 241
	ENGL 103	ENGL 210

	PSPK 101	SSCI ELE
	WLDC 201	WLDC 202
	ARTS 200	DPST 302
	DPST 340	DPST 323
Year III	DPST 361	MEST ELE
	GEN ELE	SBA ELE
	ISST ELE	Language & Literature
	MEST ELE	ELE
	GEN ELE	DPST 444
Year IV	DPST 422	DPST 461
	DPST 441	GEN ELE
	GEN ELE (300 level or above)	GEN ELE (300 level or above)

B.C.I.S. In Journalism Course Sequencing

All candidates for the B.C.I.S. in Journalism degree, Arabic track, should adhere to the following course sequencing:

	Fall	Spring
Year I	COMM 101	COMM 103
	COMP 101	COMM 104
	ENGL 101	ENGL 102
	MEST 301	MATH 101 or MATH 200
	BUSI 101	MEST 302
Year II	UNIV 100	ARTS 200
	COMM 201	COMM 202
	COMM 221	COMM 222
	COMM 243	ISST ELE
	ENGL 103	SSCI ELE
Year III	PSPK 101	WLDC 202
	WLDC 201	MEST ELE
	GEN ELE	SBA ELE
	GEN ELE	JOUR 302
	JOUR 301	JOUR 322
Year IV	JOUR 321	SCIE ELE
	JOUR 324	GEN ELE (300 level or above)
	MEST ELE	GEN ELE
	GEN ELE (300 level or above)	GEN ELE
	JOUR ELE	JOUR 462
	JOUR 441	JOUR 463
	JOUR 461	

All candidates for the B.C.I.S. in Journalism degree, English track, should adhere to the following course sequencing:

	Fall	Spring
Year I	COMM 101	COMM 103
	COMP 101	COMM 104
	ENGL 101	ENGL 102
	GEN ELE	MATH 101 or MATH 200
	BUSI 101	SCIE ELE
Year II	UNIV 100	ARTS 200
	COMM 201	COMM 202
	COMM 221	COMM 222
	COMM 243	ENGL 210
	ENGL 103	

Year III	PSPK 101	SSCI ELE
	WLDC 201	WLDC 202
	ISST ELE	MEST ELE
	GEN ELE	SBA ELE
	JOUR 301	JOUR 302
	JOUR 321	JOUR 322
	JOUR 324	Language & Literature
Year IV	MEST ELE	GEN ELE (300 level or above)
	GEN ELE (300 level or above)	GEN ELE
	JOUR ELE	GEN ELE
	JOUR 441	JOUR 462
	JOUR 461	JOUR 463

Legend:

GEN ELE: General Elective

ISST: Islamic Studies

SCIE: Science

SSCI: Social Sciences

SBA: School of Business Administration

MEST: Middle Eastern Studies

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COMM 101 | INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL MEDIA (3-0-3)

Corequisite: ENGL 101 / F, S

The course provides an overview of the history of mass communication and the events responsible for the globalization of mass media. It offers an introduction to the theories and practices of globalized media, with particular emphasis on the rise of digital media.

COMM 103 | MEDIA, CULTURE AND SOCIETY (3-0-3)

Prerequisite: COMM 101, Corequisite: ENGL 102 or MEST 302 / F, S

This course offers more in-depth examination of topics addressed in COMM 101, Introduction to Global Media. It adopts a critical approach while examining the relationship between the media and the larger society, encompassing related cultural and political issues. It provides knowledge and understanding of the dominant theories and current research in media effects.

COMM 104 | INTRODUCTION TO NON-FICTION TV FORMATS (1-2-2)

Corequisite: ENGL 101 / S

The course will examine the major formats and non-fiction TV shows that have been successful internationally and on Arab TV channels in the last ten years. It will cover all the basic genres of non-scripted TV including reality, game and talent shows.

COMM 105 | DRAMA AND NON-FICTION TV FORMATS ANALYSIS (1-2-2)

Corequisite: ENGL 101 / F

The students will learn about the elements of TV drama including story development, character analysis, production values, and stylistic choices. They will analyze as well the major non-fiction TV shows including reality, game and talent shows.

COMM 106 | THE LANGUAGE OF FILM (2-2-3)

Corequisite: ENGL 102 / F, S

The course will cover all the basic elements of film including cinematography, mise en scene, montage, sound, drama, and narrative structure. Through the lectures, assigned readings and film screenings, students will sharpen their observational skills and develop a better understanding of the art of the film.

COMM 201 | MEDIA ECONOMICS AND RESEARCH (3-0-3)

Prerequisites: ENGL 102, MATH 101/160 / F

Students will gain a basic understanding of media economics, including for profit media owned by private companies/individuals and nonprofit government owned or subsidized media. They will learn the basic research methods and statistical tools used to measure readers/viewers. Students will also learn how to assess the influences of the economic model on decision-making for news, entertainment and other media industries.

COMM 202 | ETHICAL AND LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE MASS MEDIA (3-0-3)

Prerequisite: COMM 103 / S

Using a case study approach, this course provides students with an understanding of the traditions of media-related law that might be used as paradigms in countries with evolving media systems. It explores the ethical duties that accompany journalism, entertainment, advertising, and public relations.

COMM 221 | MEDIA WRITING SKILLS (3-0-3)

Prerequisite: ENGL 102 / F

This course introduces the basics of writing techniques for print, broadcast, and online media. The print section will focus on sharpening students' writing, reporting, news judgment and critical thinking. The broadcast and online sections will focus on writing in a clear, concise and conversational style for television, radio and film, and the evolving principles of writing, editing and presentation for the Web. The course also covers journalistic ethics and professional standards related to writing.

COMM 222 | MULTIPLATFORM STORYTELLING (2-2-3)

Prerequisite: COMM 221, COMM 243 (for JOUR students), or COMM 241 (for DPST students), or VCDM 221 and VCDM 222 (for VC students) / S

Different media require different storytelling skills. Continuing the themes of COMM 221, this course provides training in writing for multiple media platforms, ranging from ink on paper to multimedia venues. The course also emphasizes new media technologies.

COMM 223 | SCREENWRITING FUNDAMENTALS (3-0-3) (2-2-3)

Prerequisite: ENGL 102 / F

This course allows students to explore the fundamental elements of screenwriting through writing exercises, writing short scripts, and discussing students' work and the work of fellow screenwriters. In the process, students begin to find their own voices as writers and discover what stories they want to tell.

COMM 232 | CINEMATOGRAPHY (2-2-3)

Prerequisites: COMM 106 & Corequisite: COMM 223 / F COMM 230 / S

The course aims to develop a discerning eye for the qualities of the moving image and the skillset required to create moving images that express the intent of the storyteller. It reinforces a fundamental understanding of composition as a storytelling act, rather than simply an aesthetic choice. It then combines that with lighting to build character and create mood.

COMM 241 | INTRODUCTION TO PRODUCTION (2-2-3)

Prerequisites: COMM 223, COMM 230 (for DPST students), or COMM 243 (for JOUR students), or VCDM 221 and VCDM 222 (for VC students) / S

This course introduces the most important aspect of narrative filmmaking – the roles of the actor and the director in forming the story through developing an understanding of character. Students will explore the use of blocking, subtext, story refinement and acting/performance. Students will also gain an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of each crew position on a large-scale production by working as crew members on advanced projects.

COMM 230 | VIDEO EDITING AND SOUND DESIGN (2-2-3)

Prerequisites: COMM 106, Corequisite: COMM 223 / F

The course gives a comprehensive introduction into the aesthetics of motion picture editing and sound design through hands-on application of recording and editing rules, techniques and practices. Students learn how timing, pacing, sound, and other dramatic aesthetics affect viewer's perceptions and the success of the sequence.

COMM 243 | INTRODUCTION TO PRODUCTION FOR JOURNALISM (2-2-3)

Prerequisites: COMM 104 | F

The course allows the students to have their initial experience with production and post-production equipment by teaching them the fundamentals of camera composition and lighting as a storytelling act and giving them a comprehensive introduction into the aesthetics of non-linear motion picture editing and sound design. Through hands-on application of cinematography, sound recording and video editing techniques, students will learn how timing, pacing, sound, and other dramatics aesthetics affect viewers' perceptions and the success of the sequence.

DPST 209 | SELECTED TOPICS IN DIGITAL PRODUCTION AND STORYTELLING (2-2-3)

Prerequisite: approval of the Dean | Upon demand

The course aims at presenting various topics in Digital Production and Storytelling that are of interest to the students and the instructor. The course intends to widen and deepen the students' understanding of various issues related to the broadcast industry.

DPST 302 | MEDIA AND PUBLIC SERVICE (3-0-3)

Prerequisites: COMM 241 or COMM 222 | S

This course explores the role of media in promoting health, education, public safety, and issues of public concern. A case study approach will involve students in research and planning media campaigns in these fields.

DPST 323 | SCREENWRITING & PRODUCING FOR TV & THE WEB (2-2-3)

Prerequisite: DPST 340 COMM 241 and COMM 230 | F S

Students study the formats of series for television and the web. They create and develop a "show bible" for an original web series. In groups, students participate in the pre-production, production, and post-production of the pilot episode. Students will create and develop the "show bible" of a web series (short). They will write as well a pilot episode for their web series and will individually choose one scene to direct in class. In groups, students will participate in the pre-production of the pilot, which they will film in the course that follows DPST 340, Producing and Directing the Scene.

DPST 340 | PRODUCING & DIRECTING THE SCENE (2-2-3)

Prerequisite: COMM 241, COMM 232 (for DPST students), or COMM 243 (for JOUR students), or VCDM 221 and VCDM 222 (for Students) | S

This course expands the student's practical experience in production, enhances their understanding of the set protocol, and helps them develop their storytelling skills. In groups, students produce a short fiction film, a free form video production and an EFP (Electronic Field Production) multi-camera short program. By rotating different crew positions, students get to participate in producing, directing actors, cinematography, sound recording and editing and studio management.

DPST 361 | ONLINE COMMUNITIES (2-2-3)

Prerequisite: ENGL 103, COMM 103 | F

This course examines the establishment, workings, and effects of online communities. It explores the development of Web 1.0 to Web 2.0 along with virtual communities. The students will scrutinize such online tools as blogs, social networks, business networking, virtual worlds, and other online communities.

DPST 422 | CAPSTONE STORYTELLING (2-2-3)

Prerequisite: DPST 340 / F

The purpose of this course is to expand student's development in the narrative conventions of advanced screenwriting including theme, plot, structure and characters. In this course, students will pitch ideas of a short fiction film individually. In writing groups, they later will develop the selected ideas to a finalized screenplay. The course will expose the students to the language of cinematic screenwriting and three-act screenplay structure for the short film made for television, which they can employ in other audio-visual media platforms.

DPST 441/JOUR 441 | THE DOCUMENTARY (2-2-3)

Prerequisite: DPST 340 (for DPST students), JOUR 322 (for JOUR students) / F

This course provides an overview of the history, theory, and genres of documentary films. Students learn to analyze and critique a variety of historical and contemporary documentaries, while developing and producing short documentaries through team work.

DPST 444 | CAPSTONE PRODUCTION (2-2-3)

Prerequisite: DPST 422 / S

The short fiction scripts that had been written in DPST 422 are produced in this course. In groups, students will put their cumulative experience in preproduction, production, and post-production to produce a well-crafted short film at an advanced level.

DPST 461 | INTERNSHIP (0-15-3)

Prerequisite: Senior Status

A carefully supervised internship with a media organization approved by the faculty supervisor. Students are required to submit a detailed ongoing journal and a final report as defined by the faculty supervisor.

JOUR 209 | SELECTED TOPICS IN JOURNALISM (2-2-3)

Prerequisite: Approval of the department head / Upon demand

This course aims at presenting various topics in Journalism that are of interest to the students and the instructor. The course intends to widen and deepen the students' understanding of various issues related to nontraditional means of reporting.

JOUR 301 | VISUALIZING NEWS (2-2-3)

Prerequisite: COMM 222 / F

This course introduces students to basic design elements used to make a news story visually effective. Imagery such as still photography, television video, and video designed specifically for the web will also be explored. The course will follow a typical production workflow, including layout and design, the use of typography and color, preparing images and graphic elements for print, the web, and other media platforms.

JOUR 302 | NEWSROOM MANAGEMENT AND DECISION MAKING (3-0-3)

Prerequisite: COMM 222 / S

This course requires students to examine decision-making in the newsroom, explore illustrative case studies and develop their own assessments of what constitutes a good decision and how to make one. More often than not, there are no absolutely right answers, but the goal is making a better decision through thoughtful discussions of the type that take place

daily in professional newsrooms.

JOUR 321 | REPORTING (2-2-3)

Prerequisite: COMM 222 / F

This course is an introduction to the practice and craft of gathering and writing information for news media. Students will develop sound news judgment and writing skills that will enable them to produce and edit content across multiple platforms. As much as possible, the course will be responsive to actual news, both local and international.

JOUR 322 | ADVANCED REPORTING (3-0-3)

Prerequisite: JOUR 321 / S

This course covers advanced concepts of news gathering, interviewing and writing. Each student will choose a topic to cover, and develop a news story and long-form writing project on that topic. In addition, students will produce a video or print story on a separate, local topic.

JOUR 323 | EDITORIAL AND CRITICAL WRITING (3-0-3)

Prerequisites: COMM 222, ENGL 103 / Upon demand

This course provides students with an intensive evaluation of their opinion writing, including editorials, op-ed columns, arts and entertainment criticism, and opinion pieces related to sports, business, politics, and other realms of journalistic writing.

JOUR 324 | Broadcast Journalism (2-2-3)

Corequisite: JOUR 321 / F

This class prepares students to become broadcast journalists. The course teaches students to produce reports and packages specifically destined for broadcast on TV, radio or online. The course builds on the previously acquired reporting, newswriting and production skills to teach students to produce packages specifically designed for TV, radio or online. Students will research, investigate, and present news and current affairs for the broadcast media.

JOUR 401 | CURRENT ISSUES IN JOURNALISM (3-0-3)

Prerequisite: Senior Status / Upon demand

Examines a range of topics not covered or covered only briefly in other courses. These may include coverage of business, environmental issues, sports, conflict, and other matters with which graduating students should have some familiarity.

JOUR 402 | CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVES IN JOURNALISM (3-0-3)

Prerequisite: Senior Status / Upon demand

A seminar course in which students analyze and discuss in a sophisticated way critical issues in the news business, ranging from media economics to the impact of news coverage on societal institutions. This course provides students the opportunity to design and carry out an independent venture, such as an extensive research paper, or another extended journalism project under faculty supervision.

JOUR 441/DPST 441 | THE DOCUMENTARY (2-2-3)

Prerequisite: DPST 340 (for DPST students) or JOUR 322 (for JOUR students) / F

This course provides an overview of the history, theory, and genres of documentary films. Students learn to analyze and critique a variety of historical and contemporary documentaries, while developing and producing short documentaries through team work.

JOUR 461 | MEDIA AND POLITICS IN THE MIDDLEEAST (2-2-3)

Prerequisite: ENGL 103, COMM 103, and Junior Status / F

This course examines the role of the international media in the politics of the Middle East. The course surveys how the international media chooses to cover local conflicts. It addresses questions concerning the interplay between national interests and objectivity in news coverage, and the role of media in shaping the course of events and judging their outcomes in the region.

JOUR 462 | CAPSTONE PROJECT (2-2-3)

Prerequisite: JOUR 322 / S

This course provides individual or small groups of students working with a faculty advisor the opportunity to design and carry out an independent venture, such as an extensive research paper, an online magazine article, or other complex journalism project.

JOUR 463 | INTERNSHIP (0-15-3)

Prerequisite: Senior Status / S

A carefully supervised internship with a media organization approved by the faculty supervisor. Students are required to submit a detailed ongoing journal and a final report as defined by the faculty supervisor.