

EDU GUIDE

CHOOSING JOURNALISM as a Major

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The process of choosing a major constitutes a challenging endeavour in its own right. Determining the subject that resonates with an individual's vision and mission frequently presents itself as a formidable undertaking. Majoring in journalism is unique due to its potential to empower individuals as informed and influential voices within a rapidly changing global media landscape. I chose to major in this subject because of its broad scope, providing insights into a wide range of themes, and the dynamic features of media.

The common question I get from my peers and relatives is, "Do you want to be a reporter?" Pursuing a bachelor's in Mass Communication and Journalism does not restrict a person to only newspaper jobs, this is a common misconception. Graduates can excel in print, internet, and broadcast media platforms as reporters, journalists, editors, and broadcasters. They can also thrive in public relations, corporate communication, and content development roles for firms and organisations. Media production, scriptwriting, documentary filmmaking, advertising, and social media management are other feasible alternatives. This adaptable degree prepares individuals for success in



PHOTO: ORCHID CHAKMA

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the fast-paced world of media and communication by providing them with excellent communication skills, critical thinking, research talents, and a comprehensive awareness of media ethics.

The variety of courses available in journalism departments is commendable. Students who have recently transferred are offered introductory courses to expose them to the world of media and communication. Private universities offer both elective and required courses, allowing students to choose their own curriculum, while public colleges have a pre-selected set of courses for their students. The fundamental principles and philosophies of

communication and journalism are covered in these courses. Each semester includes communication and journalism courses as some students prefer communication and others prefer journalism.

The curriculum of the journalism courses encompasses a comprehensive array of subjects including advanced English and Bengali writing, effective news-gathering techniques, reporting skills, meticulous editing practices, a profound understanding of media laws and ethics, page layout and composition, comprehensive insights into broadcasting, proficient video production techniques, photojournalism, specialised training in economic and business journalism, in-depth comprehension of online journalism, honing skills in broadcast presentation, and a range of other essential courses that collectively form an integral foundation for individuals aspiring to pursue a career in journalism.

Communication courses encompass a range of subjects, including but not limited to interpersonal and group communication, research methodologies, gender-focused communication, graphic communication, development communication,

strategic communication, business and corporate communication, economic communication, and a variety of other diverse courses are offered.

Additional, yet significant, courses are offered with the purpose of enhancing students' critical thinking abilities. Detailed discussions cover a range of topics, spanning from critical films to ongoing global events, aiming to maintain a strong connection with the current state of the world. Valuable insights can be gained, encompassing subjects such as the governance techniques imparted by Chanakya and Frantz Fanon's perspectives on the decolonisation of the mind. These learning opportunities are substantial and profound.

Choosing journalism represents a dedication to uncovering and communicating stories that change the world, making it a distinct and influential professional path. It is a good option if you are a risk-taker and want to have an active role as a changemaker in society.

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