

# Department of Radio, Television and Film

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**C. Melinda Levin, Chair**

## Faculty

*Professors* Albarran, Craig, B. Levin. *Associate Professors* Benshoff, Goplerud, C. M. Levin, Sauls. *Assistant Professors* Liu, Park. *Lecturers* Campbell, Cook, Larke-Walsh, Slocum, Watkins.

## Introduction

Electronic media and motion pictures play an increasingly important role in the lives of many people. Most Americans spend a great deal of time listening to the radio, watching television and going to the movies. Many report that these media provide their chief source of entertainment, news and information. For this reason, radio, television and film production constitute important areas of study. Whether a student plans a career in the media industries or simply wishes to have a more meaningful understanding of the cultural impact of these media products, a liberal arts education is required. The major in radio, television and film provides a comprehensive background, along with a focused study of electronic media and film.

Many students' first thought when considering an RTVF major is the area of production. Although production is an important and necessary part of the degree program, students will also study the history of the media, the structure and economic basis of the industry, writing in the particular forms required by the media, and other topics. Essential for the well-educated RTVF major is the development of a keen understanding of how the media industries work, how their products are created, and the cultural impact these products have both on our own society and those of other countries.

## Programs of Study

The department offers undergraduate and graduate programs in the following areas:

- Bachelor of Arts,
- Master of Arts,
- Master of Science, and
- Master of Fine Arts, all with a major in radio/television/film;
- Bachelor of Arts with a major in electronic news (offered in conjunction with the Department of Journalism).

## Admission to the Major

Only active RTVF pre-majors (PRTF) and RTVF majors (including electronic news majors) can take RTVF courses. Entering freshmen and transfer students will be listed as PCAS (Pre Arts and Sciences) prior to active pre-major status and will be advised by the RTVF department. Admission to the university or to pre-major status does not guarantee admission to the RTVF or electronic news major. To be classified as an active pre-major (PRTF):

- a. Entering freshmen with no college credit must successfully complete at least 12 hours of university core requirements with a UNT GPA of 2.5 or better. (Electronic news majors must first pass the GSP [Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation] exam and have a UNT GPA of 2.75 or better.) Upon completion of this requirement, a student may apply to the RTVF department to activate pre-major status and become eligible to enroll in pre-major RTVF courses.
- b. Transfer students with college credit must transfer a minimum of 12 university core hours accepted by UNT with a grade of 2.5 or better. (Electronic news majors must first pass the GSP [Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation] exam and have a UNT GPA of 2.75 or better). Students who do not meet this requirement must take at least enough core-required courses at UNT that, when added to the transferred hours, will meet the minimum of 12 hours with a GPA of 2.5 or better. (2.75 for the major in electronic news) Upon completion of this requirement, a student may apply to the RTVF department to activate pre-major status and become eligible to enroll in required pre-major RTVF courses.

The RTVF department has a pre-major requirement, which must be fulfilled before a student can apply for RTVF/electronic news major status. Before applying for RTVF major status, a pre-major must first:

1. Complete at least 45 hours of college courses including:
  - a. the RTVF computer requirement;

- b. the BA English composition requirement with a grade of C or better;
- c. the College of Arts and Sciences math requirement (at least 3 credits of approved course work above College Algebra, except MATH 1350);
- d. the foreign language requirement at least through the 1020 level (or the placement equivalent); and
- e. RTVF courses 1310, 1320 and 2210 with a grade of C or better (Electronic news major: RTVF 1310 or JOUR 1210; RTVF 2210; JOUR 2310 with a grade of C or better). Students earning less than a C in any one of the RTVF or JOUR courses will be allowed to repeat that course only once. Students failing to earn a C or better on the second attempt will not be allowed to repeat RTVF 1310, RTVF 1320, RTVF 2210, JOUR 1210, or JOUR 2310 for a third time and will lose their PRTF status in the department.

2. RTVF/electronic news majors must maintain a UNT GPA of 2.5. Electronic news majors must maintain a UNT GPA of 2.75. Students whose GPAs fall below these standards will be informed of their status by the RTVF department and will not be able to take any classes in the RTVF department until they return their UNT GPA to the applicable standard.

Admission to the RTVF or electronic news major is on a space-available basis and is highly competitive. A student may apply for RTVF or electronic news major status during the semester that he or she will complete the RTVF/electronic news major requirements. The number of new majors admitted each semester is limited by available resources and not all pre-majors who apply will be awarded RTVF or electronic news major status. Admission to the RTVF or electronic news major is based on review of a candidate's formal application by the RTVF Admission Committee. Students who wish to become RTVF/electronic news majors should contact the RTVF department office prior to each semester's deadline to obtain an application. The deadline for application will be announced each semester. Applications are reviewed soon after the deadline by the RTVF Admissions Committee, and those students admitted to the major will be allowed to register for major courses for the following semester. A holistic review by the RTVF Admissions Committee of applications for RTVF or electronic news major status will include:

- Overall UNT GPA.
- Grades in RTVF pre-major courses.
- Previous paid or volunteer work related to RTVF.
- Maturity, leadership and creative talent as demonstrated in class.

- Other circumstances.

**Note:** Pre-majors will not be able to register for any upper-level RTVF courses until active full-major status is attained. RTVF majors must maintain a UNT GPA of 2.5 to graduate. Electronic news majors must maintain a UNT GPA of 2.75 to graduate.

## Bachelor of Arts with a major in Radio, Television and Film

### Degree Requirements

1. **Hours Required and General/College Requirements:** A minimum of 120 semester hours, of which 42 must be advanced, and fulfillment of degree requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree as specified in the "General University Requirements" in the Academics section of this catalog and the College of Arts and Sciences requirements.

Students interested in a major in RTVF must apply to the department after successfully completing the pre-major requirements specified under "Admission to the RTVF Major," above.

2. **Major Requirements:** Students must complete 45 hours (at least 33 advanced) in the major, including RTVF 1310, 1320 and 2210; 3 hours credit in RTVF writing course, RTVF 2010; 6 hours of advanced credit in production and performance courses selected from RTVF 3210, 3220, 3230, 3300, 3330, 3340, 3350, 3440, 3482, 3483, 3501, 3502, 3650, 3750, 4140, 4411, 4412, 4413, 4740, 4750, 4760, 4810 or 4820; 6 hours of advanced credit in industry studies courses selected from RTVF 3325, 3430, 4320, 4420, 4430, 4440, 4450, 4455, 4510, 4670 or 4850; 6 hours of advanced credit in history or criticism courses selected from RTVF 3450, 3470, 3475, 3610, 4110, 4120, 4200, 4340, 4410, 4415, 4550 or 4660; and 15 hours of advanced RTVF electives. No more than 6 hours of RTVF practicum, internship or special problem courses may be applied to the 45 hours of RTVF courses required for the degree. All RTVF major students must take RTVF 2010, Introduction to RTVF Writing, to fulfill the writing requirement.

3. **Other Course Requirements:** All prospective RTVF majors must complete at least 3 hours of college-level computer course work. This requirement may be met by satisfactory completion of any of the following: CSCE 1010, Introduction to Computer Science, or any other 3 hour CSCE course; LTEC 1100, Computer Applications; BCIS 2610, Introduction to Computers in Business; or by transfer of a similar college-level computer course approved by the department.

4. **Minor:** Optional.

5. **Electives:** See four-year plan.

6. **Other Requirements:** Only 12 hours of RTVF courses taken at other institutions may be applied toward the 45-hour requirement.

Students majoring in radio/television/film are required to have a minimum grade of C in all RTVF courses to receive RTVF credit. Students may have only two attempts for a grade of C or better for each required RTVF course.

Students must observe prerequisites for each RTVF course. If a student has not completed prerequisites for a course with a grade of C or better, the student is subject to administrative drop from the course without notice. Prerequisites are listed with individual course descriptions.

Because of the high demand for many RTVF courses, students who miss the first class without consent of the instructor are subject to be dropped from the course so that other students may be added. Students who must miss the first day of class because of illness or some other acceptable excuse should notify the department office the day of the absence.

Students may register for only one section of a course at a time. Students registered for more than one section of a course will be dropped from all sections of that course without notice. The policy does not apply to courses such as special topics, which may bear the same course number but are different courses.

Aural competency in distinguishing discrete sounds, and visual competency in distinguishing shapes, forms, colors and movements are required to complete RTVF critical studies courses. Additional visual competency to utilize studio and location equipment and manual dexterity to operate equipment are required to complete RTVF production courses. Articulation competency to achieve broadcast industry standards may be required. Specific competency and departmental approval for internship, seminar and special problems courses are required.

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### BA with a Major in Radio/Television/Film

*The following four-year plan is one example of a variety of ways in which you can complete your chosen degree in four years, and will serve as guide for you to design your pathway to degree completion. Variations will depend on whether you need to take prerequisites or have college credit from exams or dual enrollment.*

*The College of Arts and Sciences expects you to have completed the State recommended high school program and be ready to enroll for Language 2040 or a mathematics course above college algebra. If you are not prepared for this level, the necessary prerequisites will either replace electives or increase the hours required for the degree.*

#### FRESHMAN YEAR

FALL	HOURS
CSCS 1010, Introduction to Computer Science, or LTEC 1100, Computer Applications, or BCIS 2610, Introduction to Computers in Business	3
ENGL 1310, College Writing I, or ENGL 1313, Computer Assisted College Writing I*	3
LANG 2040, Foreign Language (intermediate, may be used to satisfy a portion of the Understanding the Human Community requirement)**	3
RTVF 1310, Perspectives on Radio and Television	3
Visual and Performing Arts*	<u>3</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>

SPRING	HOURS
ENGL 1320, College Writing II, or ENGL 1323, Computer Assisted College Writing II*	3
LANG 2050, Foreign Language (intermediate, may be used to satisfy a portion of the Understanding the Human Community requirement)**	3
MATH (above College Algebra, except 1350)**	3
RTVF 1320, Introduction to Film Studies	3
Social and Behavioral Sciences*	<u>3</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>

#### SOPHOMORE YEAR

FALL	HOURS
HIST 2610, United States History to 1865*	3
RTVF 2210, Introduction to RTVF Production	3
Elective	3
Humanities*	3
Natural Sciences**	<u>3</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>

SPRING	HOURS
HIST 2620, United States History Since 1865*	3

RTVF 2010, Introduction to RTVF Writing	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
Physical Science**	<u>3</u>
Total	15
<b>JUNIOR YEAR</b>	
<b>FALL</b>	
PSCI 1040, American Government*	3
RTVF Industry Studies (advanced)	3
RTVF Production/Performance (advanced)	3
Elective	3
Elective	<u>3</u>
Total	15
<b>SPRING</b>	
PSCI 1050, American Government*	3
RTVF Industry Studies (advanced)	3
RTVF History/Criticism (advanced)	3
Elective	3
Laboratory Sciences**	<u>3</u>
Total	15
<b>SENIOR YEAR</b>	
<b>FALL</b>	
RTVF Elective (advanced)	3
RTVF Elective (advanced)	3
RTVF History/Criticism (advanced)	3
RTVF Production/Performance (advanced)	3
Elective (advanced)	<u>3</u>
Total	15
<b>SPRING</b>	
RTVF Elective (advanced)	3
RTVF Elective (advanced)	3
RTVF Elective (advanced)	3
Elective (advanced)	3
Elective (advanced)	<u>3</u>
Total	15

\*See the University Core Curriculum section of this catalog for approved list of course options.

\*\* See Arts and Sciences degree requirements section of this catalog for approved list of course options.

Actual degree audits may vary depending on availability of courses in a given semester.

Some courses may require prerequisites not listed. Students may wish to use opportunities for electives to complete a minor of their choice.

## Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Electronic News

Electronic news is a new major, shared between the Department of Journalism and the Department of Radio, Television and Film. The new major prepares UNT students for professional careers in television, radio and Internet-based news operations

on the local, national and international levels, plus careers in corporate and multi-channel television.

The major integrates a broad and thorough overview of the ever-changing electronic news media, with intermediate and advanced courses in writing and reporting for radio, television and the Internet; interviewing and performance; shooting and editing for television; television and radio news producing; news media analysis; electronic news management; plus classes in legal and ethical issues and covering cross-cultural communities. Students further develop their skills through NTTV, KNTU-FM, NT Daily and their web sites. An optional certificate in television news producing is also available within the major.

To qualify, students must successfully complete the GSP (Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation test), and must complete at least 45 hours of college courses before applying for major status (see "Admission to the Major" above). Pre-major courses must be completed with a minimum 2.75 GPA before applying for major status. Students must have and maintain a minimum 2.75 GPA in all university courses to complete this major.

### Degree Requirements

1. **Hours Required and General/College Requirements:** A minimum of 120 semester hours, of which 42 must be advanced, and fulfillment of degree requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree as specified in the "General University Requirements" in the Academics section of this catalog and the College of Arts and Sciences requirements.

Students interested in the major in electronic news must apply to the department after successfully completing the following pre-major requirements: 9 hours from RTVF 1310 or JOUR 1210; RTVF 2210; JOUR 2310.

2. **Major Requirements:** Students must complete 36 hours in the major, including 18 hours of RTVF 3560, 4455; JOUR 2340, 3325, 3340, 3430; and 9 additional hours of electives selected from the following: RTVF 3330, 3482, 3501, 3502, 4130, 4320, 4430, 4445, 4450, 4480, 4850; JOUR 4210, 4250.

3. **Other Course Requirements:** All prospective electronic news majors must complete at least 3 hours of college-level computer course work. This requirement may be met by satisfactory completion of any of the following: CSCE 1010, Introduction to Computer Science, or any other 3 hour CSCE course; LTEC 1100, Computer Applications; BCIS 2610, Introduction to Computers in Business; or by transfer of a similar college-level computer course approved by the department.

4. **Minor:** Optional.

5. **Electives:** See four-year plan.

6. **Other Requirements:** Only 12 hours of RTVF/JOUR courses taken at other institutions may be applied toward the major.

Students majoring in radio/television/film are required to have a minimum grade of C in all RTVF/JOUR courses to graduate. Students may have only two attempts for a grade of C or better for each RTVF/JOUR course.

Students must observe prerequisites for each RTVF/JOUR course. If a student has not completed prerequisites for a course with a grade of C or better, the student is subject to administrative drop from the course without notice. Prerequisites are listed with individual course descriptions.

Because of the high demand for many RTVF/JOUR courses, students who miss the first class without consent of the instructor are subject to be dropped from the course so that other students may be added. Students who must miss the first day of class because of illness or some other acceptable excuse should notify the department office the day of the absence.

Students may register for only one section of a course at a time. Students registered for more than one section of a course will be dropped from all sections of that course without notice. The policy does not apply to courses such as special topics, which may bear the same course number but are different courses.

Specific competency and departmental approval for internship, seminar and special problems courses are required.

### BA with a Major in Electronic News

*The following four-year plan is one example of a variety of ways in which you can complete your chosen degree in four years, and will serve as guide for you to design your pathway to degree completion. Variations will depend on whether you need to take prerequisites or have college credit from exams or dual enrollment.*

*The College of Arts and Sciences expects you to have completed the State recommended high school program and be ready to enroll for Language 2040 or a mathematics course above college algebra. If you are not prepared for this level, the necessary prerequisites will either replace electives or increase the hours required for the degree.*

#### FRESHMAN YEAR

FALL	HOURS
ENGL 1310, College Writing I, or ENGL 1313, Computer Assisted College Writing I*	3
LANG 2040, Foreign Language (intermediate, may be used to satisfy a portion of Understanding the Human Community requirement)**	3

PSCI 1040, American Government*	3
RTVF 1310, Perspectives on Radio and Television, or JOUR 1210, Mass Communication and Society	3
MATH (above College Algebra, except 1350)**	3
Total	15

#### SPRING HOURS

CSCE 1010, Introduction to Computer Science, or LTEC 1100, Computer Applications, or BCIS 2610, Introduction to Computers in Business	3
ENGL 1320, College Writing II, or ENGL 1323, Computer Assisted College Writing II*	3
JOUR 2310, Introduction to Media Writing	4
LANG 2050, Foreign Language (intermediate, may be used to satisfy a portion of the Understanding the Human Community requirement)**	3
PSCI 1050, American Government*	3
Total	16

#### SOPHOMORE YEAR

##### FALL HOURS

RTVF 2210, Introduction to RTVF Production	3
Elective	2
Humanities*	3
Natural Sciences**	3
Social and Behavioral Sciences*	3
Total	14

##### SPRING HOURS

HIST 2610, United States History to 1865*	3
JOUR 2340, Writing for Electronic News Media	3
Elective	3
Physical Science**	3
Visual and Performing Arts*	3
Total	15

#### JUNIOR YEAR

##### FALL HOURS

HIST 2620, U.S. History Since 1865*	3
JOUR 3325, Advanced Electronic Writing and Reporting	3
JOUR 3430, Electronic News Gathering	3
RTVF/JOUR Elective (advanced)	3
Elective	3
Total	15

##### SPRING HOURS

RTVF 3560, Interviewing and Performance for Electronic News	3
RTVF/JOUR Elective (advanced)	3
Elective (advanced)	3
Elective	3
Laboratory Science**	3
Total	15



**SENIOR YEAR**

<b>FALL</b>	<b>HOURS</b>
JOUR 3340, Online Journalism	3
RTVF/JOUR Elective (advanced)	3
Elective (advanced)	3
Elective (advanced)	3
Elective	<u>3</u>
Total	15
<b>SPRING</b>	<b>HOURS</b>
RTVF 4455, Ethical Decision-Making in the Media	3
Elective (advanced)	3
Elective (advanced)	3
Elective (advanced)	3
Elective	<u>3</u>
Total	15

*\*See the University Core Curriculum section of this catalog for approved list of course options.*

*\*\* See Arts and Sciences degree requirements section of this catalog for approved list of course options.*

*Actual degree audits may vary depending on availability of courses in a given semester.*

*Some courses may require prerequisites not listed. Students may wish to use opportunities for electives to complete a minor of their choice.*

### **Suggested Minors for BA with a Major in Radio/Television/Film**

Students majoring in radio/television/film may choose a minor field of study. Suggested minors coordinated with student career goals are art/photography (for career in film), business (broadcast advertising, marketing, sales and management), drama (production/performance), education (instructional media), journalism (broadcast news and documentary) and social sciences (general).

### **Television News Producing Certificate**

This interdepartmental certificate program is open to students majoring in RTVF, journalism or electronic news. Interested students must apply and be admitted into the restricted television news producing certificate program. Students must complete 15 hours in RTVF and journalism (JOUR 2340, 3325; RTVF 1310, 2210 and 4850) plus one 3 hour elective course (from RTVF 4320, 4430; JOUR 3340 or 3430) for a total of 18 credit hours. Both departments recommend an internship in a professional news operation (radio, television, web, etc.) to supplement the program, although the internship is not required for completion of the certificate.

### **Certificate in Media Management**

This certificate is designed to provide students interested in non-production careers a credential that will be useful in seeking entry-level employment in the electronic media industry. Required courses are RTVF 4430 and 4670; plus two courses selected from a list of approved courses: RTVF 4320, 4410 (when taught as “Radio in Britain”), 4420, 4450 (when taught as “Television in Britain”) and 4460.

### **Certificate in Spanish Language Media**

This certificate program provides students with a basic understanding of Spanish language history, culture, politics, language and media. The certificate requires 15 hours. An optional internship is recommended. Eligible students for this certificate are those majoring in RTVF or electronic news and are taking Spanish to fulfill their language requirement. Required courses are RTVF 4450, SPAN 3040, 3150, or 3160. Students also choose two electives from the following: ANTH 3100 (when taught as “Latin America” or “MesoAmerica”), ANTH 4610 (when taught as “Migrants and Refugees”); ENGL 3922; HIST 3150, 4150, 4160, 4172, 4190; PSCI 3700 (when taught as “Latin America”), PSCI 3810; or WMST 4240.

### **Graduate Degrees**

The department offers degree programs leading to the Master of Fine Arts, Master of Arts and Master of Science. For information, consult the *Graduate Catalog*.

### **KNTU-FM**

Radio station KNTU-FM, broadcasting at 100,000 watts on 88.1 MHz, serves the McKinney–Denton–Dallas–Fort Worth area daily from 6 a.m. to midnight with educational, information and entertainment programming. All students at UNT are eligible to work at KNTU, where they can learn skills in radio production, programming and station administration. More information is available at [www.kntu.fm](http://www.kntu.fm).

### **North Texas Television**

North Texas Television (NTTV) is a student operated cable television channel where students learn to produce video programs on a wide range of topics and formats including news, sports, public affairs and entertainment. All students at UNT are eligible to work at NTTV.

## Organizations

The department participates actively as an institutional member of the Broadcast Education Association, the University Film and Video Association, the Texas Association of Broadcast Educators, and the Radio Television News Directors Association (RTNDA) student chapter.

## Scholarships

The Department of Radio, Television and Film scholarships are awarded each year in the spring semester. Information for applications is posted in early March. Scholarship money is applied toward tuition in the fall term/semester.

**Cindy Coyle Memorial Scholarship** is an academic scholarship for a student in the Department of Radio, Television and Film who has expressed a career interest specifically in radio.

**Edwin L. Glick Scholarship** is an academic scholarship award to recognize demonstrated excellence and promise in the study of broadcasting and cable at the University of North Texas.

**First Broadcasting RTVF Scholarship** is an academic scholarship for a student in the Department of Radio, Television and Film who has demonstrated an interest in radio broadcasting as a career through participation with either KNTU or off-campus internships.

**Kathleen Woodby Scholarship** is a scholarship for undergraduate students in the Department of Radio, Television and Film.

**Mark Rybczyk Scholarship** is a fund to support undergraduate students in the Department of Radio, Television and Film who have demonstrated merit, motivation and talent with the means to complete their education at the University of North Texas.

**Paramount Pictures Undergraduate Scholarship** is an academic scholarship award to recognize demonstrated excellence and promise in the study and production of electronic media and film at the University of North Texas.

**Staples Graduate Scholarship** is an academic scholarship awarded to a graduate student in the Department of Radio, Television and Film.

**Westcott Foundation Scholarship** is a fund to support undergraduate students in the Department of Radio, Television and Film who have demonstrated merit, motivation and talent with the means to complete their education at the University of North Texas.

## Requirements

1. Meet minimum entrance and academic performance standards of the College of Arts and Sciences and the Department of Radio, Television and Film.
2. Students must be enrolled for at least 12 hours of study in both the spring and fall terms/semesters.
3. Enroll as full-time undergraduate major in the Department of Radio, Television and Film.
4. Minimum of 60 hours of course work toward a degree completed at the time of application.
5. Minimum GPA of 3.0 for courses taken at UNT.

## Application

Applications are accepted in the spring term/semester after the call for applications is posted. An application must include the student's name, ID number, hours completed through fall of the previous year, UNT GPA, overall GPA and name of an RTVF faculty familiar with your work. The following questions need to be addressed in a typed letter of application:

1. What are your professional goals upon graduation from UNT?
2. How have you prepared to accomplish these goals through your education and outside activities?
3. How will this award help you accomplish your goals?

## Elizabeth L. and Russell F. Hallberg Foundation Scholarship

This fund provides scholarships for Jarvis Christian College students attending the university under a joint degree program with the College of Arts and Sciences departments of journalism and radio, television and film.

## Requirements

1. Meet minimum entrance and academic performance standards of Jarvis Christian College, the University of North Texas College of Arts and Sciences and the departments of journalism and radio, television and film.
2. Students must be enrolled for at least 12 hours of study in both the spring and fall terms/semesters.
3. Enroll as full-time undergraduate major in the Department of Radio, Television and Film.
4. Minimum of 60 hours of course work toward a degree completed at the time of application.
5. Minimum UNT GPA of 3.0.

## Courses of Instruction

All Courses of Instruction are located in one section at the back of this catalog.