May 18, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: Thomas Kunkel  
Dean, Philip Merrill College of Journalism

FROM: Phyllis Peres  
Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs

SUBJECT: Proposal to modify admissions requirements for the Bachelor of Arts in Journalism (PCC Log No. 05055)

At its meeting on April 6, 2006, the Senate Committee on Programs, Curricula, and Courses approved your proposal to modify the method by which students demonstrate grammar competency for enrollment in JOUR201. A copy of the approved proposal is enclosed. Please accept my apologies for the delay in formal notification.

The changes are effective in Fall 2006. The College should ensure that the new requirements are fully described in the Undergraduate Catalog and in all relevant descriptive materials, and that all advisors are informed.

CWR/

Enclosure

cc: James Baeder, Chair, Senate PCC  
Sarah Bauder, Office of Student Financial Aid  
Mary Giles, University Senate  
Barbara Hope, Data Administration  
Kathy McAdams, Undergraduate Studies  
Anne Turkos, Archives  
Linda Yokoi, Records & Registrations  
Marchelle Payne-Gassaway, Philip Merrill College of Journalism
THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK
PROGRAM/CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

DIRECTIONS:
- Provide one form with original approval signatures in lines 1 - 4 for each proposed action. Keep this form to one page in length.
- Early consultation with the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning & Programs is strongly recommended if there are questions or concerns, particularly with new programs.
- Please submit the signed form to Claudia Rector, Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.
- Please email the rest of the proposal as an MSWord attachment to pcc-submissions@umd.edu.

DATE SUBMITTED_3/9/04_ PCC LOG NO. _05055_

COLLEGE/SCHOOL__Philip Merrill College of Journalism_

DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM_Journalism_

PROPOSED ACTION (A separate form for each) ADD______ DELETE______ CHANGE__X____

DESCRIPTION (Provide a succinct account of the proposed action. Details should be provided in an attachment. Provide old and new sample programs for curriculum changes.)

Modify the method by which students demonstrate grammar competency for enrollment in JOUR201. The currently used Test of Standard Written English (TSWE) will be replaced by JOUR181-Grammar for Journalists.

JUSTIFICATION/REASONS/RESOURCES (Briefly explain the reason for the proposed action. Identify the source of new resources that may be required. Details should be provided in an attachment.)

The Test of Standard Written English (TSWE) is no longer provided by the Educational Testing Service and the College must create an alternate mechanism for determining whether students have demonstrated grammar competency.

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APPROVAL SIGNATURES

1. Department Committee Chair
2. Department Chair
3. College/School PCC Chair
4. Dean
5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required)
6. Chair, Senate PCC
7. Chair of Senate
8. Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost

DATE

2/9/06
3/9/06
4/16/06
3/17/06

VPAAP 8-05
Freshman Admission and the 45-Credit Review
Most first-time entering freshmen will gain admission to the Phillip Merrill College of Journalism directly from high school as allowed by space considerations within the College. Early application is encouraged. Freshmen admitted to the program will have access to the necessary advising through their initial semesters to help them determine if journalism is an appropriate area for their interests and abilities. Academic and career advising is provided to journalism students throughout their academic career by qualified academic counselors and the College’s faculty.

Freshmen who are admitted directly to Journalism will be subject to a performance review by the time they have completed 45 credits. To meet the provisions of the review these students must complete: (1) The two first-year Fundamental Studies courses: ENGL 101 and mathematics; (2) at least nine credits of Distributive Studies coursework, selected in consultation with an advisor; (3) ENGL 101 and JOUR 201 with grades of C or higher (JOUR 100 is a pre or co-requisite of JOUR 201); and (4) a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0. Students must prove grammar skills competency through attainment of a minimum of a 2.0 in JOUR 181 prior to enrolling in JOUR 201. Students who do not meet these requirements will not be allowed to continue in the LEP and will be required to select another major. In addition, freshmen are expected to complete JOUR 200 by the end of their first year.

Transfer Admission
These requirements apply to new transfer students to the University as well as on-campus students.

Note: No more than 12 transfer credits of communications courses from an accredited journalism program may be approved by the College to be applied toward the degree. Transfer students who wish to receive credit for JOUR201 based on work done in a nonaccredited journalism program must pass a proficiency exam.

In order to be admitted to Journalism, transfer students will be required to meet the following set of gateway requirements: (1) the two first-year Fundamental Studies courses: ENGL101 and mathematics; (2) at least nine credits of Distributive Studies coursework, selected in consultation with an advisor; (3) completion of ENGL 101 and JOUR 201 with grades of C or higher; and (4) attainment of a 2.8 GPA for all college-level work attempted. Enrollment in JOUR 201 requires proof of grammar skills competency through the attainment of at least a 2.0 in JOUR 181.

The Test of Standard Written English (TSWE) was phased out at the end of the 2005-06 academic year. Students who failed to pass the TSWE (with a minimum score of 52 on their second attempt) prior to the end of the 2005-06 academic year are not eligible to take JOUR 181 to demonstrate grammar skills competency.
Effective academic year 2006-07, JOUR 181 is the only means by which students may demonstrate grammar skills competency prior to enrolling in JOUR 201.