(NEW GRADUATE INITIATIVES)

PROPOSAL PROCEDURES CHECKLIST

Academic units should adhere to the following procedures when requesting new curricular initiatives (degrees, concentrations or certificates).

☐ Obtain the required approval from the Office of the Provost to move the initiative forward for internal ASU governance reviews/approvals.

  - Establishment of new curricular initiative requests; degrees, concentrations, or certificates
  - Rename requests; existing degrees, concentrations or certificates
  - Disestablishment requests; existing degrees, concentrations or certificates

☐ Submit any new courses that will be required for the new curricular program to the Curriculum Changemaker online course approval system for review and approval.

  - Additional information can be found at the Provost’s Office Curriculum Development website: Courses link
  - For questions regarding proposing new courses, send an email to: courses@asu.edu

☐ Prepare the applicable proposal template and operational appendix for the proposed initiative.

  - New degree, concentration and certificate templates (contain proposal template and operational appendix) can be found at the Provost’s Office Curriculum Development website: Academic Programs link

☐ Obtain letters or memos of support or collaboration. (if applicable)

  - When resources (faculty or courses) from another academic unit will be utilized
  - When other academic units may be impacted by the proposed program request

☐ Obtain the internal reviews/approvals of the academic unit.

  - Internal faculty governance review committee(s)
  - Academic unit head (e.g. Department Chair or School Director)
  - Academic unit Dean (will submit approved proposal to the curriculumplanning@asu.edu email account for further ASU internal governance reviews (as applicable, University Graduate Council, CAPC and Senate)

Additional Recommendations - All new graduate programs require specific processes and procedures to maintain a successful degree program. Below are items that Graduate Education strongly recommends that academic units establish after the program is approved for implementation.

☐ Set-up a Graduate Faculty Roster for new PhD Programs – This roster will include the faculty eligible to mentor, co-chair or chair dissertations. For more information, please go to http://graduate.asu.edu/graduate_faculty_initiative.

☐ Establish Satisfactory Academic Progress Policies, Processes and Guidelines – Check within the proposing academic unit and/or college to see if there are existing academic progress policies and processes in place. If none have been established, please go to http://graduate.asu.edu/faculty_staff/policies and scroll down to the academic progress review and remediation processes (for faculty and staff) section to locate the reference tool and samples for establishing these procedures.

☐ Establish a Graduate Student Handbook for the New Degree Program – Students need to know the specific requirements and milestones they must meet throughout their degree program. A Graduate Student Handbook provided to students when they are admitted to the degree program and published on the website for the new degree gives students this information. Include in the handbook the unit/college satisfactory academic progress policies, current degree program requirements (outlined in the approved proposal) and provide a link to the Graduate Policies and Procedures website. Please go to http://graduate.asu.edu/faculty_staff/policies to access Graduate Policies and Procedures.

Check Box Directions – To place an “X” in the check box, place the cursor on the left-side of the box, right click to open the drop down menu, select Properties, under Default value, select Checked and then select Ok.
This template is to be used only by programs that have received specific written approval from the University Provost’s Office to proceed with internal proposal development and review. A separate proposal must be submitted for each individual new degree program.

### DEGREE PROGRAM

**College/School(s) offering this degree:** Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication

**Unit(s) within college/school responsible for program:** NA

- **Proposed Degree Name:** Master of Arts (MA) in Sports Journalism
- **Master’s Degree Type:** Master of Arts
- **Proposed title of major:** Sports Journalism

**Is a program fee required?** Yes ☒ No ☐ The Cronkite School has already received approval for a program fee for all of its degrees.

**Is the unit willing and able to implement the program if the fee is denied?** Yes ☒ No ☐ (Please see note above)

**Requested effective term:** Fall and Year: 2015
(The first semester and year for which students may begin applying to the program)

### PROPOSAL CONTACT INFORMATION

(Person to contact regarding this proposal)

**Name:** Marianne Barrett  
**Phone:** 602-496-6612  
**Title:** Senior Associate Dean  
**email:** marianne@asu.edu

### DEAN APPROVAL

This proposal has been approved by all necessary unit and College/School levels of review, and the College/School(s) has the resources to offer this degree program. I recommend implementation of the proposed degree program. *(Note: An electronic signature, an email from the dean or dean’s designee, or a PDF of the signed signature page is acceptable.)*

**College Dean name:** Christopher Callahan

**College Dean Signature**  
**Date:** 9/2/2014
DEGREE PROGRAM INFORMATION

Master's Type: MA

Proposed title of major: Sports Journalism

1. PURPOSE AND NATURE OF PROGRAM:

   A. Brief program description –

   Sports journalism is the fastest-growing sector of the news media industry, with continued growth on all platforms—specialty magazines, multimedia outlets and TV channels and networks. The Cronkite School’s Master of Arts in Sports Journalism will give students unparalleled preparation for careers in sports media and communications through in-depth, hands-on multimedia writing and reporting courses. Students also will learn the values and principles embodied by Walter Cronkite in classes that focus on sports journalism ethics and the challenges faced by the industry. Students will complete their program with a capstone experience in the school’s Los Angeles Sports Bureau or its Phoenix Sports Bureau.

   B. Will concentrations be established under this degree program? ☑ Yes ☒ No

2. PROGRAM NEED - Explain why the university should offer this program (include data and discussion of the target audience and market).

   In the last several years student interest in sports and sports journalism has increased significantly. This is reinforced in conversations with prospective students who indicate sports journalism is their career path. In 2014, more than 20 percent of applicants and almost 40 percent of those enrolled in the Cronkite School’s program indicated they were interested in pursuing sports journalism. Student demand is matched by industry need. Further, almost all of the Cronkite School’s competitors have sports journalism programs, specializations and/or centers; none offer a degree in sports journalism. We believe sports journalism is an important strategic area that can become a major national recruitment vehicle. We anticipate this program will lead to measurable enrollment growth for the Cronkite School and for ASU overall.

3. IMPACT ON OTHER PROGRAMS - Attach any letters of collaboration/support from impacted programs. (see Checklist coversheet)

   NA
4. PROJECTED ENROLLMENT - How many new students do you anticipate enrolling in this program each year for the next five years? Please note, The Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) requires nine masters and six doctoral degrees be awarded every three years. Thus, the projected enrollment numbers must account for this ABOR requirement.

The proposed program is designed to be completed in 12-15 months with a new cohort entering each fall and graduating by the end of the following fall semester. Enrollment projections are based on the assumption all students will complete their degrees in no more than 15 months.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5-YEAR PROJECTED ANNUAL ENROLLMENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Please utilize the following tabular format.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Students Majoring (Headcount)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESMENT:
A. List the knowledge, competencies, and skills students should have attained by graduation from the proposed degree program. (You can find examples of program Learning Outcomes at [http://www.asu.edu/oue/assessment.html](http://www.asu.edu/oue/assessment.html)).

When they graduate from the Cronkite School's Sports Journalism degree program students will have satisfied the following learning outcomes:

1. Be able to write correctly and clearly in forms and styles appropriate to the communications professions in which they work. Specifically, students will be able to write a sports news story that adheres to accepted journalistic standards and practices.
2. Be prepared for entry-level positions at media outlets by demonstrating the ability to apply current tools and technologies appropriate for the communications professions in which they work, and to understand the digital world.

B. Describe the plans and methods to assess whether students have achieved the knowledge, competencies and skills identified in the Learning Outcomes. (You can find examples of assessment methods at [http://www.asu.edu/oue/assessment.html](http://www.asu.edu/oue/assessment.html)).

The school uses the following methods to assess whether students have achieved the knowledge, competencies and skills identified in the Learning Outcomes:

**Measure 1.1:** Students will complete an in-depth story in MCO 502 Journalism Skills
**Performance Criterion 1.1:** 90 percent of students will earn at least an 80 percent on the in-depth story.

**Measure 1.2:** Students will complete a series of sports-related breaking news stories in MCO 502 Journalism Skills.
**Performance Criterion 1.2:** 90 percent of students will earn at least an 80 percent on the series of breaking sports news stories in MCO 502 Journalism Skills.
Measure 2.1: A sample of student portfolios from MCO 570 Sports Santa Monica and MCO 570 Sports Bureau Phoenix will be evaluated by a panel of media professionals to determine whether the work reflects the level of skill necessary to obtain an entry-level position.  
Performance Criterion 2.1: Using the following scale: exemplary, proficient, acceptable and unacceptable, at least 50 percent of the student portfolios reviewed by the panel of media professionals will be graded “acceptable” or better.  

Measure 2.2: Students will complete a nine-credit capstone experience in MCO 570 Sports Santa Monica or MCO 570 Sports Bureau Phoenix. In the course they will complete a series of stories that will be submitted for publication and included on the Cronkite News web site. Students will be evaluated on their portfolio of work from the course.  
Performance Criterion 2.2: 95 percent of students will earn at least a B in MCO 570. 

Additionally, instructors for the six required courses in the Cronkite School’s sports journalism master’s program will review a sample of student work produced in their classes and complete an assessment matrix that indicates the degree to which the work demonstrates student achievement on each of the ACEJMC professional values and competencies.

B. Describe the plans and methods to assess whether students have achieved the knowledge, competencies and skills identified in the Learning Outcomes. (You can find examples of assessment methods at [http://www.asu.edu/oue/assessment.html](http://www.asu.edu/oue/assessment.html)).  

The Cronkite School is accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (ACEJMC) and is required to assess student performance on a series of professional values and competencies. The school uses the following methods to meet that requirement:

Outcome 1: Students will be able to write a sports news story that adheres to accepted journalistic standards and practices.  

Measure 1.1: Students will complete an in-depth story in MCO 502 Journalism Skills  
Performance Criterion 1:1: 90 percent of students will earn at least an 80 percent on the in-depth story.  

Measure 1:2: Students will complete a series of breaking sports news stories in MCO 502 Journalism Skills.  
Performance Criterion 1:2: 90 percent of students will earn at least an 80 percent on the series of breaking sports news stories in MCO 502 Journalism Skills. 

Outcome 2: Upon graduation students will be prepared for entry-level positions at media outlets.  

Measure 2.1: A sample of student portfolios from MCO 570 Sports Santa Monica and MCO 570 Sports Bureau Phoenix will be evaluated by a panel of media professionals to determine whether the work reflects the level of skill necessary to obtain an entry-level position.  
Performance Criterion 2.1: Using the following scale: exemplary, proficient, acceptable and unacceptable, at least 50 percent of the student portfolios reviewed by the panel of media professionals will be graded “acceptable” or better.  

Measure 2.2: Students will complete a nine-credit capstone experience in MCO 570 Sports Santa Monica or MCO 570 Sports Bureau Phoenix. In the course they will complete a series of stories that will be submitted for publication and included on the Cronkite News web site. Students will be evaluated on their portfolio of work from the course.  
Performance Criterion 2:2: 95 percent of students will earn at least a B in MCO 570.
Additionally, instructors for the six required courses in the Cronkite School's sports journalism master's program will review a sample of student work produced in their classes and complete an assessment matrix that indicates the degree to which the work demonstrates student achievement on each of the ACEJMC professional values and competencies.

The school's course evaluation form includes questions on the knowledge, competencies and skills listed above and asks students to indicate the degree to which they learned each of them in the class.

6. ACCREDITATION OR LICENSING REQUIREMENTS (if applicable): Provide the names of the external agencies for accreditation, professional licensing, etc. that guide your curriculum for this program, if any. Describe any requirements for accreditation or licensing.

Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. Every six years the journalism accrediting body evaluates professional journalism programs on nine standards: Mission, Governance and Administration, Curriculum and Instruction, Diversity and Inclusiveness, Full-time and Part-time Faculty, Scholarship, Student Services, Resources, Facilities and Equipment, Professional and Public Service and Assessment of Learning Outcomes.

7. FACULTY, STAFF, AND RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS:
   A. Faculty
      i. Current Faculty - List the name, rank, highest degree, area of specialization/expertise and estimate of the level of involvement of all current faculty members who will teach in the program.

         - Douglas Anderson, Research Professor, Ph.D. sports reporting and ethics 20 percent
         - Jim Jacoby, Lecturer, BA, news production, 30 percent
         - Tom Feuer, Professor of Practice, BA, sports production, 100 percent
         - Mark Lodato, Assistant Dean and Professor of Practice, BA, broadcast news, 30 percent
         - Tim McGuire, Frank Russell Chair in the Business of Journalism and Professor, JD, media entrepreneurship, 25 percent
         - Joseph Russomanno, Associate Professor, Ph.D., media law, 25 percent

      ii. New Faculty - Describe the new faculty hiring needed during the next three years to sustain the program. List the anticipated hiring schedule and financial sources for supporting the addition of these faculty members.

         Director and Professor of Practice, Cronkite Sports, Phoenix, Fall 2014 for Spring 2015; support from the provost
         Assistant Professor of Sports Journalism--Fall 2014 for Fall 2015; support from the provost

      iii. Administration of the program - Explain how the program will be administered for the purposes of admissions, advising, course offerings, etc. Discuss the available staff support.

         The Cronkite School is a college without departments with a single administrative structure. The program will be administered by the dean's office which includes the dean, the senior associate dean, the associate dean and the assistant dean. Admissions, advising, course offerings, etc. are administered by the school's dean's office. The available support includes a Director of Outreach, four full-time undergraduate advisers and an Academic Operations Coordinator.

   B. Resource requirements needed to launch and sustain the program: Describe any new resources required for this program’s success such as new staff, new facilities, new library resources, new technology resources, etc.
8. COURSES:
A. Course Prefix(es): Provide the following information for the proposed graduate program.
   i. Will a new course prefix(es) be required for this degree program?
      Yes ☐ No ☑
   ii. If yes, complete the Course Prefixes / Subjects Form for each new prefix and submit it as part of this proposal submission.

B. New Courses Required for Proposed Degree Program: Provide course prefix, number, title, and credit hours and description for any new courses required for this degree program.

   MCO 526 Advanced Issues in 21st Century Sports and Media
   Through critical analyses of major contemporary issues in sports and media, this course provides students with the tools and information they need to more fully engage in and become fluent with the main conversations about the business, technology and the future of sports journalism.

   MCO 529 Ethics and Diversity in Sports Journalism
   This course explores the connection between sports media, journalism and society in an ethical and issue-oriented context. Students will gain an understanding of the issues and ethics of the sports journalism profession, while becoming better and more informed consumers of sports media. At the end of the class students will have a better understanding of the importance of sports in our society and how that is reflected in coverage by local and national media outlets.

   MCO 540 Sports Reporting
   This course trains students in sports reporting, writing, scriptwriting, and video production. It is fast-paced and demanding. Students are expected to report and write/produce professional-level, clear, well-reported, accurate stories and video packages about athletes and sports stories newsworthy in the Valley and beyond.
APPENDIX
OPERATIONAL INFORMATION FOR GRADUATE PROGRAMS
(This information is used to populate the Graduate Programs Search/catalog website.)

1. **Provide a brief** (catalog type - no more than 150 words) _program description._

   Sports journalism is the fastest-growing sector of the news media industry, with continued growth on all platforms—specialty magazines, multimedia outlets and TV channels and networks. The Cronkite School’s Master of Arts in Sports Journalism will give students unparalleled preparation for careers in sports media and communications through in-depth, hands-on multimedia writing and reporting courses. Students also will learn the values and principles embodied by Walter Cronkite in classes that focus on sports journalism ethics and the challenges faced by the industry. Students will complete their program with a capstone experience in the school’s Los Angeles Sports Bureau or its Phoenix Sports Bureau.

2. **Campus(es) where program will be offered:**
   *(Please note that Office of the Provost approval is needed for ASU Online campus options.)*
   - [ ] ASU Online only (all courses online)
   - All other campus options (please select all that apply):
     - [x] Downtown
     - [ ] Polytechnic
     - [ ] Tempe
     - [ ] West
     - [ ] Both on-campus and [ ] ASU Online (*) - (Check applicable campus from options listed.)

   (*) Please note: Once students elect a campus option, students will not be able to move back and forth between the on-campus (in-person) or hybrid options and the ASU Online campus option.

3. **Admission Requirements:**

   **Degree:** Minimum of a bachelor’s or master’s degree, or a closely related field from a regionally accredited College or University. Minimum of a bachelor’s or master’s degree or equivalent if the applicant is an international student.

   **GPA:** Minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.0=A) in the last 60 hours of a student’s first bachelor’s degree program. Minimum of 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.0 = A) in the applicable Master’s degree.

   **English Proficiency Requirement for International Applicants:** The English proficiency requirements are the same as the Graduate Education requirement. (see Graduate Education requirement http://graduate.asu.edu/admissions/international/english_proficiency):

   - [ ] Yes [x] No

   If applicable, list any English proficiency requirements that are supplementary to the Graduate Education requirement.

   International students must achieve a score of at least 100 (internet) or 600 (paper-based) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). There are no exceptions. The test must have been taken after the date listed on the ASU Graduate Education proficiency page for the desired admission term in order to be valid. Official scores must be submitted to the ASU Cronkite School by using institution code 4007.
Additional application materials:
- A resume and/or biographical sketch
- A 350- to 500-word personal statement that serves as a writing sample. In the personal statement, the applicant should detail his/her reasons for pursuing the MA in Sports Journalism degree in the Cronkite School.

Foreign Language Exam:
Foreign Language Examination(s) required? □ Yes ☑ No

Required Admission Examinations: ☑GRE □GMAT □Millers Analogies □ None required
(Select all that apply.)

Letters of Recommendation: ☑Yes □No

4. Application Review Terms (if applicable Session): Indicate all terms for which applications for Admissions are accepted and the corresponding application deadline dates, if any:

☑ Fall (regular) Deadline (month/year): Feb. 1 of each year.

5. Curricular Requirements:

5A. Will concentrations be established under this degree program? □ Yes ☑ No

5B. Curricular Structure:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Core Courses for the Degree</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Prefix &amp; Number)</td>
<td>(Course Title)</td>
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<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCO 502</td>
<td>Journalism Skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCO 503</td>
<td>Media Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCO 510</td>
<td>Data Journalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCO 526</td>
<td>Advanced Issues in 21st Century Sports and Media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCO 529</td>
<td>Ethics and Diversity in Sports Journalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCO 540</td>
<td>Sports Reporting</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elective or Research Courses</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(as deemed necessary by supervisory committee)</td>
<td>(Insert Section Sub-total)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Prefix &amp; Number)</td>
<td>(Course Title)</td>
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<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Skills</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Courses Vary- See sample courses listed below</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MCO 505</td>
<td>Depth Reporting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCO 515</td>
<td>Advanced Online Media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCO 531</td>
<td>Advanced Broadcast Reporting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### MCO 553
Reporting on Business and Economy
No
3

### MCO 555
Digital Media Entrepreneurship
No
3

### MCO 598
Special Topics
No
3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Culminating Experience</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>E.g. -</strong> Capstone course, applied project, <strong>thesis (masters only)</strong> – 6 credit hours or <strong>dissertation (doctoral only)</strong> – 12 credit hours as applicable</td>
<td><strong>(Insert Section Sub-total)</strong> 9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Capstone Course:
MCO 570 Sports Journalism Santa Monica or MCO 570 Sports Bureau Phoenix
9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Requirements</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>E.g. -</strong> Internships, clinical requirements, field studies as applicable</td>
<td><strong>(Insert Section Sub-total)</strong> 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MCO 598 Lab Observation
1

Total required credit hours
36

- List all required core courses and total credit hours for the core (required courses other than internships, thesis, dissertation, capstone course, etc.).
- Omnibus numbered courses cannot be used as core courses.
- Permanent numbers must be requested by submitting a course proposal to Curriculum ChangeMaker for approval. Courses that are new, but do not yet have a new number can be designated with the prefix, level of the course and X's (e.g. ENG 5XX or ENG 6XX).

### 6. Comprehensive Exams:

**Master's Comprehensive Exam (when applicable), please select the appropriate box.**

(Written comprehensive exam is required) N/A

☐ Oral comprehensive exam is required – in addition to written exam

☒ No oral comprehensive exam required - no written exam is required

### 7. Allow 400-level courses:

☒ Yes ☐ No (No more that 6-credit hours of 400-level coursework can be included on a graduate student plan of study.)

### 8. Committee:

Required Number of Thesis or Dissertation Committee Members (must be at least 3 including chair or co-chairs): 1

### 9. Keywords
(List all keywords that could be used to search for this program. Keywords should be specific to the proposed program.)

Sports journalism, sports broadcasting, sports and media, sports ethics, sports reporting, sports photography, sports videography, sports writing, sports bureau, Santa Monica sports bureau, spring training, sports degree, social media, sports communication, sports public relations.
10. Area(s) of Interest

A. Select one (1) primary area of interest from the list below that applies to this program.

- [ ] Architecture & Construction
- [ ] Arts
- [x] Business
- [ ] Communication & Media
- [ ] Education & Teaching
- [ ] Engineering & Technology
- [ ] Entrepreneurship
- [ ] Health & Wellness
- [ ] Humanities
- [ ] Interdisciplinary Studies
- [ ] Law & Justice
- [ ] Mathematics
- [ ] Psychology
- [ ] STEM
- [ ] Science
- [ ] Social and Behavioral Sciences
- [ ] Sustainability

B. Select one (1) secondary area of interest from the list below that applies to this program.

- [ ] Architecture & Construction
- [ ] Arts
- [x] Business
- [ ] Communications & Media
- [ ] Education & Teaching
- [ ] Engineering & Technology
- [ ] Entrepreneurship
- [ ] Health & Wellness
- [ ] Humanities
- [ ] Interdisciplinary Studies
- [ ] Law & Justice
- [ ] Mathematics
- [ ] Psychology
- [ ] STEM
- [ ] Science
- [ ] Social and Behavioral Sciences
- [ ] Sustainability
Attached please find the Cronkite School’s proposal for a Master of Arts in Sports Journalism. Please let me know if additional information is needed.

Best,

Marianne

Marianne Barrett, Ph.D.
Senior Associate Dean and
Louise Solheim Professor
Walter Cronkite School of Journalism
and Mass Communication
Arizona State University