

Magazines

PROGRAM OVERVIEW The magazine major prepares students to be magazine writers, editors, designers and creative directors. As part of their coursework, students:

- Write magazine articles for consumer, trade and organization magazines;
- Work as staff members for the nationally award-winning 515 Magazine and other titles and Web sites published through the E.T. Meredith Center for Magazine Studies;
- Produce a business plan and design for a magazine of their own.

In recent years, students have also produced magazines for the Annie E. Casey Foundation on the Making Connections initiative in Des Moines and on the issue of Prisoner Re-Entry in Iowa.

Drake is one of the few private, liberal arts colleges to provide a full four-year sequence for magazines. Many magazine majors also work outside of classes on the nationally award-winning Drake Magazine.

Accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, Drake is among 109 accredited programs nationwide. To win accreditation, schools meet 12 standards, which address such issues as class size, diversity within the faculty and curriculum. Accreditation reviews occur every six years. Drake's program has been continuously accredited, most recently in 2004.

FACULTY

Lori Blachford worked in a variety of positions at newspapers and magazines, including as managing editor of Meredith Corporation's Country Home magazine. She received her B.A. from University of North Dakota and her M.A. from Drake.

Jeff Inman has extensive experience as a writer for such magazines as Better Homes and Gardens, Billboard and Rolling Stone, and as an arts and entertainment editor. He received his B.S. from Iowa State University and his M.A. from Drake.

ACADEMIC PREPARATION No specific courses are required; however, students are encouraged to take writing courses in high school. Writing and editing are important skills for all journalism majors.

REQUIREMENTS FOR MAJOR The magazine major requires 31 journalism credit hours with six journalism elective hours (optional) and three non-journalism courses.

DRAKE CURRICULUM The Drake Curriculum, required of all undergraduates, is designed to help students meet personal and professional goals as they acquire fundamental knowledge and abilities in ten Areas of Inquiry, including communication, critical thinking, artistic experience, historical consciousness, information and technology literacy, international and multicultural experiences, scientific and quantitative literacy, values and ethics and engaged citizenship. Students work closely with their academic advisers to craft a program of

study in general education that prepares students for civic and professional leadership.

The Drake Curriculum also requires first-year seminars, which foster development of critical thinking and written and oral communication skills through a topical focus; and a Senior Capstone, in which students demonstrate the capacity to bring information, skills and ideas to bear on one project.

INTERNSHIPS & OPPORTUNITIES Magazine students have held internships through the American Society of Magazine Editors (ASME), the Business Press Educational Foundation, Meredith Corporation, National Geographic, the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation, and Rodale Publishing. In Des Moines, students have multiple opportunities to intern with Meredith Corporation, one of the world's largest publishing houses, which produces Better Homes and Gardens, Midwest Living, Ladies' Home Journal, Country Home, and many other special interest publications. August Home publishing, which produces Cuisine, Woodsmith and Garden Gate magazines, also offers magazine internships.

High-level apprenticeships are offered to 5 or 6 junior magazine majors every year for two semesters of work with Meredith Corporation. These are highly competitive and entail 15 to 20 hours of work per week plus coursework for two hours credit each semester. All apprenticeships are paid.

CAREER OPTIONS Graduates of the magazine program obtain jobs writing, editing and designing for magazines and other publications around the country. In addition, there are an increasing number of jobs available working for Web-based publications.

HONORS Kappa Tau Alpha membership for qualifying top 10 percent of seniors (some juniors) who meet all requirements for membership.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

- Drake Magazine: Award-winning student magazine and Web site
- 515 Magazine: Award-winning senior capstone magazine and Web site
- THINK: Award-winning senior capstone news magazine and Web site
- Times-Delphic: Award-winning student newspaper
- Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ): Student chapter

Drake student-produced magazines frequently win awards and certificates of excellence from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA), The Associated Collegiate Press (ACP), the Society for Professional Journalists (SPJ) and the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC).

HOW TO REACH US

WRITE

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