

The Sixty-Five Credit Question

What is this 65 liberal arts credit thing?!

To provide you with a **nationally accredited journalism degree**, we must certify you have been trained in a broad range of “facts, concepts, theories, laws and regulations, processes and effects.” The accrediting organization, the Association for Education in Journalism & Mass Communication, requires students to fulfill 65 of all non-journalism credits within the College Liberal Arts (CLA) or Natural Sciences (NS).

*All AUCC courses count toward this 65 credit requirement, regardless of college or department.
JTC classes do NOT count toward this 65 credit requirement.*

MY OPTION AREA/MINOR IS OUTSIDE CLA/NS (e.g., Business, CIS, Agriculture, Apparel & Merchandising, etc.)	MY OPTION AREA/MINOR IS INSIDE CLA/NS (e.g., English, Political Science, Biology, Spanish, Women’s Studies, etc.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start tracking CLA/NS courses by sophomore year with DARS (via RamPoint) • You will almost certainly need to take additional courses in CLA/NS beyond degree requirements • Use summer classes for CLA/NS • Ensure free electives are within CLA/NS • Business classes do NOT count in these 65 credits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start tracking CLA/NS courses by sophomore year with DARS (via RamPoint) • Ensure free electives are within CLA/NS • <i>Usually</i> you will not need extra classes beyond degree requirements

See your concentration check sheet or the Degree Audit Report System (DARS) via RamPoint for a full list of departments that fulfill this 65 CLA/NS requirement.

The Department of Journalism & Technical Communication at CSU is a **nationally accredited journalism program**. This program accreditation is a prestigious designation given only to those schools that fulfill strict guidelines, including, among others rigorous training in:

- Writing and research; statistical analysis
- Ethical and legal topics in journalism; journalism in society, across diverse groups
- Broad awareness: familiarity with specific information, including facts, concepts, theories, laws and regulations, processes and effects

In order for us to retain our department accreditation and provide students with the highest quality in journalism education, the accrediting organization (Association for Education in Journalism & Mass Communication) requires students to fulfill slightly over half of all credits within the liberal arts or natural sciences. (More information on accreditation can be found at www.aejmc.org.)

For this reason, JTC majors must take 65 credits **outside** journalism, but within the College of Liberal Arts (CLA) or Natural Sciences (NS). *All AUCC courses count toward this 65 credit requirement, regardless of college or department. No journalism classes count toward this requirement.*