

## ACFJ

The Konrad Adenauer Asian Center for Journalism at the Ateneo de Manila University (ACFJ) seeks to help reporters and editors meet time-honored standards of good journalism, develop an Asian perspective and face up to the challenges posed by a global and technologically sophisticated environment.

ACFJ's programs, aimed primarily at working journalists, include the Master of Arts in Journalism and short-term diploma and certificate programs. A wide range of knowledge areas and journalism competencies are covered including advanced reporting skills such as investigative reporting; journalism principles, law and ethics; reporting on specialized fields such as information technology and religions; and newsroom management.

The programs uniquely suit journalism professionals as most courses are taught using interactive online methods that allow maximum flexibility in schedules.

ACFJ was founded in June 2000 by the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung and the Ateneo de Manila University.



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Konrad Adenauer  
Asian Center for Journalism  
at the Ateneo de Manila University

## The Program

The Master of Arts major in Journalism (M.A. Journalism) is an innovative distance learning program designed for working journalists who seek to develop the Asian perspective in their work, to broaden knowledge, and to hone competencies and values they need to excel in the profession. Most courses are taught using interactive online methods.

ACFJ has developed the program and runs it under the Department of Communication of the Ateneo de Manila University.



## Coursework

### 3 Core Courses

to reinforce the students' awareness of the social context and consequences of journalism and foster adherence to its ideals.

- Advanced Reporting and Writing
- Media Ethics
- Media Law

### 5 Elective Courses

to give students the chance to learn specialized fields of reporting and dwell on issues in greater depth. The offerings vary every semester and are drawn from the following:

- Advanced Computer-assisted Reporting
- Creative Writing
- Editorial and Opinion Writing
- Investigative Journalism
- Issues in Broadcast Journalism
- Leadership in the Newsroom
- Media Economics
- Media and Politics
- Newsroom Management
- Online Journalism
- Photojournalism



### 3 Cognate Courses

to equip students with the broad knowledge essential to critical and intelligent reports. They choose any three graduate-level courses in the following fields:

- Humanities
- Social Sciences
- Management
- Natural sciences
- Engineering

### Master's Project

A story on an issue with regional implications, written under the guidance of an adviser, serves as capstone.

## Interactive Online Instruction

Core courses are taught using a fusion of online and on-campus methods while elective courses are taken purely online. Cognate courses are held on-site at the Ateneo de Manila University's Loyola Campus. Guidance for the Master's Project also takes place online. With this mix of methods, students congregate on campus only on two brief periods during the two-year program: for two weeks in August and for the six-week summer semester running from April to May.

## Admission

The M.A. in Journalism program primarily seeks out working journalists in Asia. Admission is competitive and limited to 15 students per semester. To qualify, an applicant must meet the following basic criteria:

- Bachelor's degree or its equivalent
- At least one year experience as a journalist
- General undergraduate average of B or 85 per cent
- Proficiency in English

A highly qualified applicant without journalism experience may be admitted on a probationary status.

Aspiring journalists and professionals from advertising, public relations and other allied fields, and those from

the Pacific Islands and other countries may be admitted depending on their qualification and the available slots.

Application forms and the list of required documents can be obtained from the Ateneo Office of Graduate Services (OGS), or from [www.ateneo.edu/depts/comm](http://www.ateneo.edu/depts/comm). Each year, applications are due in April for admission to the first semester which starts in June, and in August, for the second semester. Please refer to the ACFJ or Ateneo website for the exact dates.

## Foreign Language Requirement

The medium of instruction is English. Non-Filipino applicants must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and arrange for the results to be mailed directly to:

Director of Graduate Services  
Ateneo de Manila University - Loyola Schools  
Ground Floor, Xavier Hall, Katipunan Avenue,  
Loyola Heights, Quezon City  
1108 Philippines

## Fees

Tuition and miscellaneous fees for the entire course total approximately US\$ 2,000.--. For the two periods of stay in the Philippines, the living costs amount to about US\$ 300 for the two-week on-campus part of the core courses, and about US\$ 900 for the six-week summer semester when cognate courses may be taken.

## Fellowships

ACFJ is dedicated to the formation of outstanding journalists. To this end it has set up the ACFJ Fellowships for M.A. Journalism to sponsor Asian journalists with excellent backgrounds and leadership potentials. A grant covers tuition, international and domestic travel, and living and book allowances. Fifteen fellows are chosen yearly. Applications are due in January. Forms and the list of requirements can be downloaded from <http://acfj.ateneo.edu>.

## Academic Calendar

The academic calendar consists of two regular semesters and one summer semester. The first semester begins in June and ends in September of the same calendar year. The second semester starts in November and ends in March of the following year. The summer session runs from April to May.