Skills and Competencies

As in most other fields, strong interpersonal communication and organizational skills are a must for any professional. Some other valuable skills and competencies specific to a profession in the electronic journalism area include technical skills, problem solving and quick thinking.

Career Development

The sooner you begin your resume-building process, the better. NMU offers a number of services to assist you with this important task. The Academic and Career Advisement Center offers (among other related services) career planning advice and testing. Career Services can help you fine tune your resume and direct you to useful job-hunting resources. The faculty in the CAPS department can link you with internship/apprentice programs and other opportunities that will help you gain valuable hands-on experience in your area of interest. Performance in academics is important as well, so be sure to maintain a high grade point average.

Additional Resources and Info

For Career Planning and Opportunities:

Academic & Career Advisement Center
3302 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2971
www.nmu.edu/acac

Communication and Performance Studies
(CAPS) Dept
203 Thomas Fine Arts
906-227-2045
www.nmu.edu/caps

For Job Search, Resume and Career Information:

Career Services
3502 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2800
www.nmu.edu/careers

For Information about NMU Student Organizations Associated with this Major Contact:

Center for Student Enrichment
1206 University Center
906-227-2439
www.nmu.edu/cse

Internet Resource Links:

www.careers.org
www.careerresource.net
www.bls.gov/oco Occupational Outlook Handbook

For Career Information with National Organizations:

www.nab.org: National Association of Broadcasters

www.entertainmentcareers.net
Entertainment Jobs, Internships and Career Information in the Entertainment Industry

Current as of Fall 2009
Provided by:

The Academic & Career Advisement Center

What To Do With A Major In....

Electronic Journalism

Northern Michigan University

Electronic Journalism

Are you interested in broadcasting? Have you worked with school or local papers or news stations? Are you a good public speaker? Would you like to be a reporter? Maybe you should look into NMU's electronic journalism major.

The electronic journalism major at NMU is designed for students seeking careers in the news industry. Students are taught how to research, write, shoot, edit and produce news stories for electronic media (radio, TV and the Internet). Students are also taught leadership and responsibility through study of communication ethics and law. The course work is integrated with "live" student-produced newscasts.

Introductory courses of interest: SP 110 Interpersonal Communication, BC 265 Writing and Announcing for Broadcast and EN 206 Survey of Journalism.

Potential Careers

NMU's Electronic Journalism Program prepares students for employment in the following careers:

Occupations

- Broadcaster
- Announcer
- Cinematographer
- Commentators
- Editor
- Magazine Writer
- Newscaster
- Sportscaster
- Reporter
- Web Journalism

Additional Considerations

Experience in specific fields greatly increases chances of employment. Take advantage of any hands-on work and internships. Any opportunities, even if unpaid, will benefit your portfolio in looking for future work.

These jobs will require you to express your ideas clearly and logically. A true passion for writing is a must, and any familiarity of electronic instruments is helpful.

Job Outlook

Starting salaries are contingent upon geographic location and the individual applicant's work experience and initiative, and usually range from $20,000 to $50,000. The growth of this field is expected to be as fast as average, with growth around 10%.