



*Tell The **Stories** That
Matter*



Why UCI Literary Journalism?

A unique program

- UCI's Literary Journalism Program offers the only undergraduate journalism degree in the UC system and is the only undergraduate program of its kind in the nation.

Award-winning faculty

- You will learn from, and be mentored by, award-winning writers who have been recognized with the Pulitzer Prize, the PEN USA West award for nonfiction, the *Los Angeles Times* Best Writing award, the National Book Critics Circle award, the Whiting Writers Award, the PEN Martha Albrand Non-Fiction Award, and the American Academy of Arts and Letters Rosenthal Award. Our faculty have written *Los Angeles Times* bestsellers and have been featured in *The Best American Short Stories*.

A solid foundation for writing and a nationally-ranked department

- You will gain a solid foundation in nonfiction writing and an equally solid background in areas such as literary history, which together will help make you a more informed and marketable writer.

- In addition to three intensive writing seminars, your coursework will take a comprehensive look at the theory, history and context of literary journalism. Among other forms, you will study and write narratives, memoirs, profiles, histories and personal essays, in subject areas as varied as science, politics, justice, travel, sports, food and popular culture.

- While they differ from applied journalism programs that focus primarily on newspaper writing, the literary journalism major and minor are excellent preparation for students who plan to pursue graduate study in journalism and for those who are interested in careers that require sophisticated writing skills.

- The program leverages the strengths of the Department of English, which is ranked #1 in literary criticism and theory and #17 in English in the nation by *U.S. News and World Report*.

Outstanding alumni working in diverse fields

- While many of our students have gone on to have successful careers in journalism and publishing, alumni have used the research, writing, journalism, and communications skills learned at UCI Lit J to pursue careers in fields including banking and finance, teaching, law and technology.



Engagement opportunities

- Journalists, writers, designers, web developers, publishers, scholars, students and members of the community gather on campus for one-day conferences on digital storytelling
- The program publishes an annual magazine of student work called *Kiosk*
- Students engage with some of the world's most renowned writers through master classes, the UCI Illuminations Authors Series, the Academy for the Forum and the Public, and more
- Students can participate in several campus-wide writing contests and workshops



Internships

Our students have interned with:

Local media organizations

- *Orange Coast Magazine*
- Echo Media Group
- *Entrepreneur Magazine*
- *Los Angeles Magazine*
- *The Orange County Register*
- *The Surfer's Journal*

National media organizations

- Dow Jones Newspaper Fund
- *Harper's Magazine*
- National Student News Service
- *Sierra Magazine*
- E! News
- NBCUniversal
- "Hardball with Chris Matthews"
- *Broadway World*
- *Tiger Beat & BOP Magazines*



Alumni spotlight



Social media change agent SONA PATEL '06

Sona Patel leads social media strategy and user-generated content for the *New York Times*. This includes reader-sourced reporting, crowdsourcing and audience engagement, all of which went into producing Netflix's "Diagnosis." She works with various desks across the newsroom, training journalists in New York and abroad on the latest tactics for developing long-term and lasting relationships with the *Times*' readers. She also helps shape the *Times*' strategy for incorporating online comments into their daily news reports.

Prior to joining the *Times*, Patel was the social media editor at *The Seattle Times* where she was part of the team that won the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for Breaking News Reporting.



Science storyteller WESLEY KOSEKI '12

Wesley Koseki is the marketing and communications coordinator at the UC Irvine School of Biological Sciences where he helps scientists market their research.



Virtual reality expert MICHAELA HOLLAND '16

Michaela Holland has won an Emmy for Outstanding Digital Innovation for her work on the team that created "Capturing Everest." She is currently a consultant for top institutions and media organizations.



Pop culture reporter JANELLE GRODSKY TAYLOR '09

Janelle Grodsky Taylor is currently working on a novel. She was previously an editor for *InStyle* magazine where she wrote on pop culture, film and literature.



On-camera storyteller IRENE CRUZ '13

Irene Cruz is the 10:00 p.m. anchor for News 4 San Antonio. Previously, Cruz has been an anchor for KXTV-TV ABC10 and KYMA-TV.



Representation warrior TRACI LEE '11

Traci Lee is an Annenberg Leadership Initiative Fellow at USC. Lee previously managed NBC Asian America's content and produced news for TV and the web, including for MSNBC & NPR.



Layup master BRENDAN YU '16

Winner of a Dat Winning Fellowship, Brendan Yu produced seven stories for *VICE Sports*. He is now a sports and digital media editor for the *Curry Coastal Pilot*.

"I had the privilege of studying at UCI while I worked as a reporter at the *Victor Valley Daily Press*, my hometown newspaper. As I got my feet wet in the fast-paced world of deadline-driven hard news, UCI's Literary Journalism Program challenged me to report more thoroughly and write more creatively. As promised in its program description, Lit J truly transcends the limits of daily journalism. Most of my professors were experienced journalists who offered invaluable career advice and constructive criticism. In a culture where news is consumed through predominantly visual, bite-sized segments, I believe programs like UCI's help keep quality long-form journalism alive and thriving." - **Charity Lindsey '18, marketing & public relations coordinator at Victor Valley College**

"One of my biggest takeaways during my years as an Anteater was the ability to be surrounded by academically rigorous peers and staff, while breathing in an open and nurturing environment beyond books. When I'm up at 3:00 a.m. chasing breaking news in Sin City, I know my undergraduate years at UCI were integral in helping me develop the courage and tenacity necessary for my career today." - **Nia Wong '09, evening anchor & investigative reporter for 4 News Now**

"The Literary Journalism Program at UC Irvine gave me the skills and support network I needed to succeed and become a better writer." - **Monica Luhar '11, creative copywriter for Absolute Web, former NBCNews digital journalist**

"As a literary journalism major at UC Irvine, I not only learned the ins and outs of reporting, journalism ethics, and crafting narratives, but also completed an internship at the publication where I have fledged and flown for nearly eight years. I feel so lucky to be on the other side of that internship program today, helping current Anteaters gain real-world experience in this industry." - **Astgik Khachatryan '11, senior editor at Orange Coast Magazine**

"My time at the UCI School of Humanities in the Literary Journalism Program helped shape me as a writer, storyteller and creative communications professional. I gained valuable insight and guidance from faculty and staff who always went above and beyond to help me succeed in my academic and professional endeavors. Whether it was writing me a letter of recommendation for a journalism internship or offering advice as I navigated through the communications profession as an alum, the UCI community has made a huge impact on my life and my career. I'm incredibly proud to now work for an institution that cares so much for its students!" - **Anna Iliff '12, digital content specialist for UC Irvine School of Law**

What our alumni say

Connect with us

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