Editors. Editors plan, coordinate, and revise material for publication in books, newspapers, magazines, or websites. Editors review story ideas and decide what material will appeal most to readers. They also review and edit digital media and drafts of books and articles, offer comments to improve the product, and suggest titles and headlines. In smaller organizations, a single editor may perform all of the editorial duties or share them with a few others. Responsibilities will vary depending on the level of the editing position.

Writers/Reporters. Writers and reporters gather information about a topic through research and interviews with sources. Journalists for print media conduct interviews and write articles to be used in newspapers, magazines, and online publications. Since most newspapers and magazines have both print and online versions, reporters typically produce content for both versions. This requires staying up to date with new developments of a story, so the online editions can be updated with the most current information. Journalists working in large cities or for large news organizations are more likely to specialize. Journalists who work in small cities, towns, or organizations may need to cover a wider range of subjects.

"The best way for you to explore the world of writing and editing is to jump in and do it. Volunteer for student government needs, academic or student club newsletters or brochures, or campus or small community newspapers. You can find media everywhere who will welcome volunteers. Volunteer for every chance you can find to report, write, and edit. Get internships every summer, if you can.

If you want to write blogs, read as many different kinds as you can. If you want to work for a music magazine, read many different kinds of music magazines to begin to get a feel for different styles and voices."

-Danita Allen Wood
Missouri Life Editor-In-Chief

Courtesy of Missouri Life magazine
WRITING & EDITING

Skills & Abilities/Typical Careers

Skills & Abilities: artistic, creative, and accurate; ability to communicate ideas and information; writing and reading comprehension; knowledge of the English language (grammar, punctuation, and style); ethical, perseverant, and organized; and able to meet deadlines.

Typical Careers: staff reporter, staff writer, columnist, copy editor, assistant editor, managing editor, digital editor, and freelance writer.

Related Majors at Mizzou

- Journalism (JOURN)
- Agricultural Journalism (CAFNR)
- English (A&S)
- Communication (A&S)

Some employers may consider many 4-year liberal arts degrees with appropriate experience.

Occupational Outlook Handbook – Editors
Occupational Outlook Handbook – Writers & Authors
Occupational Outlook Handbook – Reporters, Correspondents, and Broadcast News Analysts