

James B. Steele Fellowship

in Investigative Business Journalism

Every year, up to three individuals are awarded the James B. Steele Fellowship in Investigative Business Journalism by the Reynolds Center for Business Journalism to complete a master's degree at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication. The fellowship includes full tuition, health care, a bi-weekly stipend, and placement in a funded summer internship.

Fellows spend a full academic year working part-time at the Center creating and producing content that aligns with their scholarly pursuits, including articles, podcast episodes, videos, and more. They receive 1-on-1 mentorship and are offered additional opportunities to network in the industry.

“After this experience, I think business journalism is for everyone.”

-Alessandra De Zubeldia, Class of 2024-2025

Why business journalism?

- Business journalism is critical in keeping corporations accountable, exposing them when they aren't, and providing the public with the information they need to make good economic decisions.
- Business journalists follow the money in a wide range of beats, from agriculture to technology allowing students to pursue their individual passions and career goals while exposing corporate wrongdoing and protecting the vulnerable.
- As a bonus, business journalists, on average, earn at least 30% more than general news reporters in the U.S. with a median salary of \$85,000.*

What past fellows are doing now

Previous fellows have graduated with job offers in a range of reporting fields from breaking news to long-term investigations on artificial intelligence companies. Our recent alumni are in roles such as:

- Investigative reporter at The Texas Observer
- Political reporter at The Copper Courier
- Communications Manager at Climate Resilience for All
- TV Producer at WTHR

“This position didn't just give us career skills, it brought us together as real friends and collaborators.”

-Francesca D'Annunzio, Class of 2022-2023

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Students will choose from the Masters of Mass Communication (MMC) or the Masters of Investigative Journalism (MAIJ) program at The Cronkite School at Arizona State University.

Over 12 months, students will get immersive, hands-on experience that prepares them to be a powerhouse investigative business storyteller.

Curriculum Structure Example

FALL

- MCO502 Journalism Skills
- MCO530 History, Philosophy and Ethics of Journalism
- MCO504 Cronkite Master's Seminar
- Reynolds Center Seminar

SPRING

- MCO510 Data Journalism
- MCO525 21st Century Media Organization & Entrepreneurship
- Two Advanced Skills courses
- Elective course in accounting or finance

SUMMER

- Internship

How To Apply

The early application deadline for the MAIJ/MMC programs at ASU is Dec. 1, 2025. The application deadline for the Steele Fellowship is Jan. 1, 2026.

THE
REYNOLDS
CENTER

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