



Fall as a Season of Exploration

By Lynn Schofield Clark, MFJS chair and professor and director, Estlow International Center for Journalism and New Media

Professor Lynn Schofield Clark engages with DU and South High School students as a part of [Digital Media Club](#)

The fall quarter is coming to a close, and what a busy one it's been! Undergraduate enrollment in the department of Media, Film, and Journalism Studies is up, and in fact we have experienced an increase of 10% every year for the past five years. We now have more than 250 undergraduate majors, and about 40 graduate students.

We've been engaging in a bit of experimentation with differing class offerings and settings, too. We were the first university in North America to offer a course in Cannabis Journalism that acquainted students with the legal, ethical and economic challenges associated both with the newly-legalized cannabis industry and the stories to be told about it in various journalistic venues.

We've also continued to offer popular courses such as Video Editing is For Everybody and a travel-related multicultural journalism course that explored intercultural communication and human rights at the U.S./Mexico border. We had a course that contributed to the strategic communication efforts of groups associated with the [local slow food movement](#) and another that provided public relations planning guidance to [CultureHaus](#), the young professional support group of the Denver Art Museum. We continue to offer numerous courses that take students out of the classroom and into various communities, helping our students to transform their passion into purpose.

Last year the Department concluded the first phase of its strategic planning efforts, which had been focused on graduate studies. This effort resulted in the decision to open a new graduate degree program: the [M.A. in Media and Public Communication](#). The degree allows students to select either a Strategic Communication or Media and Globalization concentration, and also choose to complete an internship or a thesis as part of their degree requirements.

We continue to share a prestigious joint graduate degree in [International and Intercultural Communication](#) (IIC) with the Josef Korbel School of International Studies. Students who have little prior video/film experience can elect to take courses in film/video in fulfillment of requirements for these degrees, but we are no longer offering either the Film Production or Student Designed emphases at this time. When you come into contact with those who might be considering graduate studies, please [direct them our way](#). We continue to build on our tradition of small classes and personalized attention both in our graduate and undergraduate programs.

Throughout the fall season, we have shared in the enthusiasm associated with Chancellor Rebecca Chopp's initiative, [Imagine DU](#). If you haven't had a chance to discuss your priorities for the university, and specifically for our programs and facilities, please do [share them](#) before the end of the calendar year. We need those who have been or are currently enrolled in our programs to help us envision what might be possible were we to have upgraded facilities for our students. If you have ideas, please be in touch as we'd love to incorporate them into our planning.

As we move quickly toward the U.S. season of Thanksgiving, we want to express our thanks for the many students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends who make up our larger community in the areas of media, film, journalism studies and strategic communication.

We are so proud to continue the legacy to which you have contributed. Please let us know if you'd like to plan a visit!

Save the Date

MFJS is proud to be a part of, or support, several exciting upcoming events in 2016.

Diversity Summit on Inclusive Excellence

January 21-22, 2016

Beyond Good Intentions: Confronting My Bias to Change Our Community

Register & learn more: du.edu/diversitysummit

Women's Conference

March 2016 (to be confirmed)

Learn more: du.edu/duwomen/conference

Internationalization Summit

April 15, 2016

Uncommon Intersections: Cultivating Multiple Perspectives at Home and Abroad

Lunchtime keynote speaker: Lourdes Garcia-Navarro, award-winning NPR international correspondent covering South America

Garcia-Navarro is sponsored by the Estlow International Center for Journalism and New Media and is also the 2016 Margolin Distinguished Journalism Lecturer.

Learn more: du.edu/intz/summit

InShort Student Film Showcase

June 2, 2016

DU student filmmakers are making short narrative films; see the stories they've captured at the 2016 InShort Student Film Showcase.

Learn more: du.edu/ahss/mfjs/showcase/inshort