



University of Maryland
Philip Merrill College of Journalism
Local News Network

College Park, MD

Partnership

The Local News Network is a program through which mid-level undergraduate journalism students report local news, often in their home communities in Maryland, for local news outlets.

Lead faculty

Jerry Zremski, jzremski@umd.edu; Rafael Lorente, rlorente@umd.edu

Course name

Journalism 320 (620 for graduate students)

Websites

[Local News Network](#)

Collaborators

Students' work appears in local news outlets across Maryland, including Baltimore Banner, Baltimore Sun, Daily Times (Salisbury, MD)

Impacts

The Local News Network's first project, a voter guide to Maryland's school board elections, got 74,691 page views on the college's Capital News Service websites, and portions of the voter guide were republished in news outlets across the state.

Students

40,000 at the University

640 in the College of Journalism

50-100 in the partnership, per semester

Student work

Student work is assigned through a required course, and many students report for local newspapers in their hometowns. Editing is performed by university faculty, adjunct faculty, and freelance editors.

Faculty/staff

Class is taught by Jerry Zremski and team of adjunct instructors who are also journalists. Associate Dean Rafael Lorente provides support to faculty and staff. Freelance editors were brought on to assist in editing students' work.

Funding sources

Two year grant