

Experience Big City Journalist Bootcamp

July 14-18, 2025 | \$850



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

In today's 24-hour news cycle culture, journalists need to have good instincts and a strong ethical code. This dynamic five-day summer program is cross-presented by Drexel's [Department of Politics](#) and [Department of Communication](#), and provides campers with an introduction to the exciting and rapidly changing environment of news media and journalism. This is an intensive, hands-on experience where campers will learn about the theory and history of media and journalism in Philadelphia, and about relationships between journalism and public relations in today's digital/social media environment. Campers will pitch and produce new stories in collaboration with a journalist from [Philadelphia Citizen](#), a leader in local [solutions-based journalism](#). Big City Journalist Boot Camp will be hosted at Drexel's University City Campus in Philadelphia, and campers will visit various local new outlets.

PROGRAM DETAILS

DATESJuly 14–18, 2025

LOCATIONDrexel University, Philadelphia, PA, 19104

FORMATOn-campus, commuter, optional residential stay (additional fee).

TUITION COST\$850

ELIGIBILITYRising high school sophomores, juniors and seniors.

DEADLINEJune 20, 2025

DISCOUNTSEarly Bird (pay non-refundable tuition by April 30, 2025): \$800

Sample Schedule | July 14-18, 2025

Program content and sequence may change due to weather, staff schedules or other circumstances.

DAY 1

- Introduction and orientation
- Lectures and discussion on:
 - » History of Urban Journalism in the US
 - » The State of Contemporary Journalism
 - » History of Philadelphia
- History and Contemporary State of Journalism in Philadelphia
- Welcome Reception

DAY 2

- Guest speakers from:
 - » Philadelphia mainstream legacy media outlets
 - » Philadelphia alternative media outlets
 - » Philadelphia foundations
- Afternoon News Lab

DAY 3

- Morning workshops with Philadelphia-area journalists and editors
- Afternoon workshops on location
- Student Fieldtrip to Media Outlets

DAY 4

- Shadowing Philadelphia-area journalists
- Afternoon News Lab

DAY 5

- Wrap up of program
- Student presentations
- Award Ceremony



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QUESTIONS? Email us! coas@drexel.edu

Camper Testimonials



"I enjoyed having different kinds of journalists come in, not only to suggest and remind me of all the unique ways to choose my interests, but also to see someone successfully doing my dream. Being surrounded by teens from all different backgrounds was a plus, with kids from suburban, urban and rural communities. The newsroom vibe was very nice, and I never felt scared or nervous being around people."

"We were able to have a real journalism experience by writing our own articles. Some of us never wrote an article before, and it was nice to see what an actual journalist lifestyle would be like."

"I really enjoyed being able to meet so many new people and learn about their lives, experiences, and stories. Some of the speakers were both extremely informative and entertaining, and the passion of these speakers was incredibly inspiring. I enjoyed having the opportunity to write my own article under the guidance of professionals. I definitely was able to get a sense of what journalism would be like as a career."

"I learned a ton, and I gained so much knowledge and experience that I truly believe I would not have learned somewhere else. The guest speakers, the lessons, all of them opened my eyes and reassure me that I am on the path that I want to follow."

"I liked that I was able to have hands-on experience interviewing and writing an article."

"I enjoyed the freedom the camp provided. The lectures were informative and designed in a way where each student could take it how they see fit."