

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Laurier Brantford launches interdisciplinary journalism program *Program will cover both theory and skills common to professional journalists*

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BRANTFORD – Laurier Brantford is launching a journalism program and continues to develop diverse programs to meet the needs of a rapidly growing student population. The new program, which begins in September 2005, will allow students to learn essential journalistic skills while receiving a liberal arts education.

“The Laurier Brantford journalism program will provide students with practical and professional tools of the trade,” says Maija Saari, journalism professor and program designer. “Our graduates will tailor their studies to suit their personal and career goals. Combined with our interdisciplinary approach, students will enter the fields of journalism and communications with a creative portfolio and the proven ability to think outside the box.”

The program represents an innovative and exciting collaborative relationship between Laurier Brantford and Mohawk College, in which students will be able to supplement their core curriculum classes in contemporary studies with hands-on practical skills training taught directly by experienced media professionals. In many cases, students in other programs will be able to take journalism courses as electives or as a minor, enriching their own studies with a better understanding of how the media and its professionals work.

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Honours Journalism students will choose between four concentrations in which to specialize; print journalism; emerging journalism and new media; video-radio journalism/documentary production; and public relations. Students who choose the latter two concentrations will also receive a post-graduate certificate from Mohawk College.

Laurier Brantford offers a selection of liberal arts programs including criminology, contemporary studies, education and organizational leadership. For more information about Laurier Brantford visit <http://www.wlu.ca/brantford>.