School of Journalism Retention and Graduation Rates

The School of Journalism begins tracking its majors when they attain U3 standing. Students with U3 standing have earned between 57 and 84 credits. The program has identified retention and graduation rates of U3 students as principal measures of program effectiveness because they are committed to their majors by this point in their careers. Some 60 percent of all Stony Brook undergraduates who complete a degree switch their majors at least once. The examination of success rates of U3 students better reflects the performance of our program rather than students’ exploratory activity in their early career and provides data more comparable to journalism programs that admit students to the major as juniors.

All data was provided by Stony Brook University’s Office of Institutional Research, Planning and Effectiveness.

An analysis of our retention data for all U3 majors for the past 7 years shows that the School of Journalism retains its majors at a rate of 70.4 percent, as compared with 63.5 percent for all other majors at Stony Brook University.

Retained One Year (same major)
The School of Journalism’s 4-year graduation rate for its majors over the past 7 years has averaged 34 percent, compared with 39 percent for other majors at Stony Brook University. In the most recent year of data collection, the School of Journalism’s 4-year graduation rate with a journalism major increased to 42%, meeting the overall rate of the institution. While the 4-year graduation rate in the same major is about 33 percent, when counting students who graduate in any field in 4 years, this figure increases to over 50 percent.

**Graduated in 2 Years (Same Major)**

![Graph showing graduation rates in 2 years for Journalism and All majors from Fall 2007 to Fall 2014.](graph1.png)

The School of Journalism’s 6-year graduation rate over the past 7 years averaged 57 percent; the University’s averaged 54 percent. When counting students who graduate in any major in 6 years, the graduation rate exceeds 81 percent.

**Graduated in 4 Years (Same Major)**

![Graph showing graduation rates in 4 years for Journalism and All majors from Fall 2007 to Fall 2014.](graph2.png)