

Discovery Scholars Program Criteria
USC Annenberg School for Communication

School of Communication

Communication majors may submit any substantive piece of original scholarly research. Entries may be presented in standard research paper format or may include multi-media components. Students engaged in collaborative research, with faculty members or with other students, may submit a paper on that research; however the paper itself must be single-authored, and the submission should include a cover memo explaining the explicit contributions the Discovery Scholar candidate has made to the research project. Students may submit a Communication Honors Thesis for consideration, provided it meets the general criteria for the program.

School of Journalism (Journalism & Public Relations)

Journalism and Public Relations majors may submit original projects in the area of print journalism (writing or photojournalism), broadcast journalism (television or radio), online journalism, or public relations. Entries must constitute a coherent body, or portfolio, of work. A portfolio may contain works of the same genre (e.g., in the category of print journalism, the pieces may all be feature stories, in-depth stories, editorials, or spot news). Alternatively a portfolio may contain thematically-related pieces from different genres or even different media (e.g., print and online journalism). Submissions will be evaluated on a number of criteria, including the quality of writing, clarity, depth, focus, news/information value, and originality. Applicants should cite any items that have been published, either by an on-campus outlet or outside of USC.

For more information regarding the Discovery Scholars Criteria for Annenberg students, please contact Associate Dean Abby Kaun at kaun@usc.edu.