

Courtney Lowery Cowgill is an editor, writer, teacher and entrepreneur. She started teaching at the University of Montana in 2006 when she co-taught the Rural News Network project. Now, Cowgill specializes in teaching online courses (feature writing, elements of news writing and social media and engagement) at the School of Journalism and she oversees the Legislative and Community News Services, which provide daily and weekly coverage to scores of news publications and broadcasters across the state during the biennial Montana legislative sessions. She also directs the J-School's social media, marketing and recruitment efforts.

From 2005 – 2009 she co-founded and was editor in chief of the award-winning online startup news magazine New West, which has since been sold and shuttered. She then went on to serve as the managing editor of PBS MediaShift, a national publication that covers media and technology. She has also been a reporter for the Associated Press, Lee Newspapers (covering the Montana Legislature) and a reporting intern at The Chronicle of Higher Education and the Great Falls Tribune.

Cowgill received her bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Montana.

In addition to her work at UM, she runs a small farm and farm-to-loaf sourdough bakery with her husband Jacob in central Montana. She also writes for various publications about agriculture and about media.