COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

Number: JOUR G185  
TITLE: Writing For News Media

ORIGINATOR: Instructor Placeholder AAA  
FORMERLY KNOWN AS: BVP G111

EFF TERM: Fall 2009  
DATE OF OUTLINE/REVIEW: 12-13-2012

CROSS LISTED COURSE:

SEMESTER UNITS: 3.0  
HRS LEC: 54.0  
HRS LAB: 0.0  
HRS OTHER: 0.0  
CONTACT HRS TOTAL: 54.0

STUDY NON-CONTACT HRS RECOMMENDED: 108.0

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:
Students will develop the skills which are needed to organize and write stories for print and broadcast media, including newspapers, radio, television and magazines. This includes extensive exercises in writing, interviewing and other skills, including working with sound and pictures recorded in the field. Students will also develop knowledge of the ethics and law of print and broadcast news.

JUSTIFICATION FOR COURSE:

PREREQUISITES:

COREQUISITES:

ADVISORIES:

ASSIGNED DISCIPLINES:
Journalism
Mass communication

MATERIAL FEE: Yes [ ] No [X] Amount: $0.00

CREDIT STATUS: Noncredit [ ] Credit - Degree Applicable [X] Credit - Not Degree Applicable [ ]

GRADING POLICY: Pass/No Pass [X] Standard Letter [X] Not Graded [ ] Satisfactory Progress [ ]

OPEN ENTRY/OPEN EXIT: Yes [ ] No [X]

TRANSFER STATUS: CSU Transferable[X] UC/CSU Transferable[ ] Not Transferable[ ]

BASIC SKILLS STATUS: Yes [ ] No [X] LEVELS BELOW TRANSFER: Not Applicable

CALIFORNIA CLASSIFICATION CODES: Y - Not Applicable

NON CREDIT COURSE CATEGORY: Y - Not applicable, Credit Course

OCCUPATIONAL (SAM) CODE: C

REPEATABLE ACCORDING TO STATE GUIDELINES: No [X] Yes [ ] NUMBER REPEATS:

REQUIRED FOR DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE: No [ ] Yes [X]  
Associate of Arts: Liberal Arts: Emphasis in Business and Technology(Associate in Arts)

GE AND TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS MET:

COURSE LEVEL STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) Supported by this course:
1. Compile news through research, interviews, event coverage, and other ways for the news media.

2. Compose writing in the appropriate format and style for—respectively—newspapers, television, and radio news broadcasts.

3. Differentiate between and among the print and broadcast news media approaches.

4. Explain the legal and ethical issues involved in the writing, reporting, and broadcasting of news.

5. Apply methods to promote information retention and to convert prose to broadcast writing, including the use of the active voice, strong verbs, adjectives and phrases, attribution, and multiple tenses.

6. Compose "leads" in a variety of formats and styles for print and electronic media.

7. Explain the basic mission, goals, and responsibilities of journalism.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
1. Demonstrate understanding of the basic mission, goals and responsibilities of journalism.
2. Gather news through research, interviews, event coverage and other ways for the news media.
3. Write in the appropriate format and style for—respectively—newspapers, television and radio news broadcasts.
4. Differentiate between and among the print and broadcast news media approaches.
5. Explain the legal and ethical issues involved in the writing, reporting and broadcasting of news.
6. Demonstrate the ability to use methods to promote information retention and to convert prose to broadcast writing, including the use of the active voice, strong verbs, adjectives and phrases, attribution and multiple tenses.
7. Demonstrate the ability to write "leads" in a variety of formats and styles for print and electronic media.

COURSE CONTENT:

LECTURE CONTENT:

A. Introduction to principles of journalism.

B. Newsgathering, including interviewing, research, event and meeting coverage.

C. Formats for writing news stories, features, and scripts for newspapers, radio and television.

D. Specific writing skills for newspaper writing, including lead-writing, story organization, use of quotes, and attribution.

E. Specific writing skills for broadcast writing, including language, sentence structure, attribution, active and passive verb and tenses.

F. Ethical and legal issues in print and electronic journalism.

G. Copy editing, proofreading, editing and producing.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

A. Lecture:

B. Field Experience:

C. Independent Study:

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES:

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

Reading Assignments

Writing for Broadcast News (John Hewitt) News Reporting and Writing (Melvin Mencher)

Out-of-class Assignments
Critiquing newscasts from commercial television and cable. Examination of news coverage from local newspapers. Tests on libel, copy editing and proofreading. Field trips to cable and broadcast newsrooms and newspapers.

**Writing Assignments**

Students will have weekly writing assignments in and out of class; will write a variety of stories for print and broadcast news (including features, packages, interviews) and will produce a 5-minute news program.

**METHODS OF STUDENT EVALUATION:**

- Written Assignments
- Projects (ind/group)
- Skills Demonstration
  
  **Demonstration of Critical Thinking:**
  
  Each student will demonstrate his/her ability to judge the newsworthiness of topics, to appraise, evaluate and compare facts and points of view, and to conduct effective interviews—all toward the goal of creating a professional news article or broadcast story or segment.

**Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration:**

Students will have weekly writing assignments in and out of class; will write a variety of stories for print and broadcast news (including features, packages, interviews) and will produce a 5-minute news program.

**TEXTS, READINGS, AND RESOURCES:**

- **TextBooks:**

- **Other:**
  1. Computer disks
  2. Videotape
  3. Writing for Broadcast News
  4. News Reporting and Writing

**LIBRARY:**

- **Adequate library resources include:** Non-Print Materials

**Comments:**

**Attachments:**

[Attached Files](#)