

Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism

Journalistic Field Work in Outside/In Public Agreement

Students interested in reporting in public (outside) during the Fall 2020 need to sign this waiver once for each course in which the work is being used and submit it to their faculty members.

In signing this Agreement, I acknowledge that I understand that my participation in in-person reporting taking place outside will involve risks and hazards not found in remote reporting at the J-School. There are a range of risks in ordinary times, including injuries and theft of personal property. I understand that COVID-19 presents unique health risks, especially to those with underlying conditions, and that there may be other risks not known or reasonably foreseeable. I have sought and obtained information and advice that I feel are necessary and appropriate. I VOLUNTARILY ACCEPT AND ASSUME ALL OF THE RISKS IN PARTICIPATING IN reporting. I also understand that my participation in the work described below is voluntary and that I may complete the requirements for all of my courses without participating in this assignment.

Course Name _____

Instructor _____

Student Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____

At minimum, students must remain at least six feet away from any subject(s), and should wear a mask during the time they are outside. Moreover, they are expected to appropriately clean all of their equipment when they return home. They should also avoid being in the middle of large groups, as defined locally.

Guidelines and resources for reporting with social distancing in mind

1. Use remote communication tools as much as possible - phones, social media, video conferencing tools, etc.
 - a. Find ways to engage existing communities online; or foster the creation of new ones.
2. Assume the people you come in contact with are carrying the virus, even if you can't see overt symptoms. Similarly, assume you might be a carrier and keep back from people.
3. In order to report in public: Report locally; avoid mass transit. Do so in well-ventilated, outside areas. Under no circumstances can students report inside homes, businesses, or other people's vehicles.
4. Wear a mask; don't touch your face
5. Keep at least 6 feet from people
6. Keep control of your equipment (e.g., don't hand mics over to people you are interviewing). Equipment (including microphones) never touch the subject. Mics must be attached to boom poles, microphone or light stands, never the subject.
7. Wipe down equipment with alcohol wipes or other appropriate disinfectant when you arrive at the location to report (to ensure you remove anything you might have picked up on the equipment on the way) and when you get home.
8. Do not shake hands
9. Be creative - duct-tape a mic on a broomstick to create an ad hoc boom pole.
10. Wash hands as soon as you get home. Or use sanitizing gel after finishing reporting.
11. Set equipment bags down in a way that handles and straps don't touch anything but the bag.
12. Always keep the camera or audio recorder off any surface. It should be worn or put in the bag at all times.
13. Use hand sanitizer immediately before and immediately after any coverage.

Some relevant articles:

Please refer to this guidance from CPJ for more detailed recommendations:

https://cpj.org/2020/02/cpj-safety-advisory-covering-the-coronavirus-outbr.php?fbclid=IwAR3FwpqgfbX8gtY2EUa1S8MVKJrD76ie64dS8otLUNgO5fCJymD7_0bl514

Suggestions from a video journalist:

<https://dartcenter.org/resources/covering-coronavirus-advice-video-journalists>

Reporting Guide for Visual Journalists from the Everyday Projects:

<https://www.everydayprojects.org/covid19-guide-for-visual-journalists>

How to Dress to Save Your Life:

https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-04-24/dressing-to-to-save-your-life-la-times-photojournalists-take-on-a-whole-new-danger?_amp=true&__twitter_impression=true