

Journalism Courses

Fall 2023

JOU 270 A/B/C

Introduction to Journalism (3 credit hours)

270 A: Prof. Justin Catanoso, MW 2:00-3:15 (CRN 60248)

270 B: Prof. Michael Venutolo-Mantovani, T 9:30-12:00 (CRN 60249)

270 C: Prof. Lisa Sorg, M 9:00-11:30 (CRN 61523)

Introduction to Journalism is your gateway course to a minor in journalism. This course is a full immersion into new ways to think about gathering information and communicating it—fairly and accurately—in a variety of forms and formats. Throughout the semester, we will discuss, evaluate and practice the craft of journalism through clear and concise writing. You will write news, features and opinion. You will write stories of varying length. You will post to a blog and tweet news. You will practice multimedia reporting using audio, video and/or digital photography. You will be creative, but work only from verified facts and information. Ultimately, you will learn communication skills that will impress potential employers, whether you plan to work as a journalist (writer or editor), a PR professional, an attorney, a business person or in any field where writing cleanly and communicating clearly are vital. There will be more than a dozen graded assignments, many of them on deadline.

JOU 278 A/COM 270 O

News Literacy (3 credit hours)

Prof. Phoebe Zerwick

TR 12:30-1:45 (CRN 60250/62148)

Is it journalism? How do you know? Students will learn to navigate the news in a media landscape that is flooded with both information and misinformation. The course examines the practice of American journalism, focusing on how journalism is defined, how the news business functions, its antecedents in history and its role as a counterweight to power in a democracy. It explores the difference between news and propaganda; news and opinion; and bias and fairness with a goal of training more discriminating and thoughtful producers and consumers of news.

JOU 315

Beat Reporting (3 credit hours)

Prof. Justin Catanoso

T 2:00-4:30 (CRN 64842)

This class is ideal for students interested in learning more about and practicing the twin skills of reporting and journalistic writing in its varied forms: traditional news and feature stories, blog and Twitter posts, and short videos. The class meets one night a week where interactive discussions focus on developing sources, interviewing skills, the new modes of journalistic communication and how best to write news and feature stories both short and long. Part of each

class is also devoted to progress students make between classes on the real meat of the course: cultivating sources and developing story ideas. Students select a beat on campus, like covering student government or study abroad programs. They reach out to sources on that beat week by week. They come up with story ideas. They write stories designed to fit a range of assignments. Most stories are offered to the OGB or The Student for publication. Guest speakers provide real-world insight into professional journalism. P – JOURNALISM 270

JOU 331

Prof. Paul Garber

On Air With WFDD (3 Credit hours)

WF 9:30-10:45 (CRN 64843)

Fundamentals in audio reporting including interviewing techniques, writing for radio, beat coverage, audio recording and editing, and social media. Students will work with news professionals at 88.5 FM WFDD to produce stories for broadcast including and gain an understanding about creating community through radio.

JOU 340/WRI 344

Magazine Writing (3 Credit Hours)

Prof. Barry Yeoman

M 2:00-4:30 (CRN 62982/61815)

Students in this class will learn and practice the skills needed to produce magazine stories for publication. Focusing on a single topic of their own choosing all semester, they will be encouraged to write creatively and often. They will learn advanced principles of interviewing, document research, story structure, character development, and explanatory journalism. They will also read and analyze some of the best magazine stories written over the past thirty years.

JOU 345/COM 270T

Sports Journalism (3 credit hours)

Prof. Justin Catanoso

MW 12:30-1:45 (CRN 61533/62820)

This course will survey the art and craft of sports writing in all forms, across all mediums. Students will cover players, teams, issues and the business of sports. The emphasis will be on storytelling—in short and longer form—that goes beyond play-by-play and the final score of a contest. Students will write, blog and tweet, often on deadline, as well as produce podcasts and videos. Students will write breaking news, features and columns. Students will be required to read daily sports journalism in newspapers, magazines and sports web sites and follow the work of specific sports journalists. Developing sources, identifying story ideas and covering a sport through a season will be central to the course. Some class time may meet off campus; some

class time will be shifted so that we can attend a sporting event as a group. Several professional sports journalists will meet with the class either in person or on Skype.

JOU 355A/COM 215

Broadcast Journalism (3 credit hours)

Prof. Melissa Painter-Greene

M 5:00-7:30pm (CRN 62979/60797)

An introduction to the theory and practice of broadcast journalism. Topics will include ethics, technology, and the media as industry, and projects will address writing, producing, and performing for radio and television.

JOU 375B /COM 316 B

Special Topics in Journalism: Screenwriting (3 credit hours)

Prof. Thomas Southerland

W 11:00-1:30 (CRN 62992/61466)

Introduction to the art and practice of writing for the screen. Through numerous exercises, students learn to use experiences, observations, and imagination to create compelling characters and stories for a variety of mediums and complete an original, short screenplay.

JOU 375 C/COM 370 A

Special Topics in Journalism: Documentary Filmmaking (3 credit hours)

Prof. Cagney Gentry

TR 2:00-3:15 (CRN 61952/61752)

An exploration of the theory and practice of non-fiction filmmaking. Students create several short documentary films with emphasis placed on storytelling and collaboration. Students will develop their storytelling skills and gain experience with conceptualization, project development, camerawork, sound recording, and editing. P—POI; COM 247, Podcasting, or Multimedia Journalism.

JOU 380 A

Prof. Robert Samuels

Deep Dive: The American Dilemma: Race, Reporting and Democracy (1.5 credit hours)

TBD (CRN 64036/61641)

Students will work with a visiting journalist from *The Washington Post* to study the successes and failures of journalism in covering issues related to race and racism. The course will look back to the Civil Rights era and explore contemporary coverage of such issues as the Black Lives Matter movement, racial disparities in health, and criminal justice, with reporting exercises that give students practice grappling with these complex issues. Conducted on Zoom.