JOUR 1 Course Outline as of Fall 2013

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: JOUR 1 Title: INTRO TO JOURNALISM
Full Title: Introduction to Journalism
Last Reviewed: 11/14/2022

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	2.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	35.00
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	1.00	17.5	Lab Scheduled	17.50
		Contact DHR	2.00		Contact DHR	35.00
		Contact Total	5.00		Contact Total	87.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 70.00 Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category:	AA Degree Applicable
Grading:	Grade Only
Repeatability:	00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP
Also Listed As:	
Formerly:	JOUR 1A

Catalog Description:
Introduction to journalism, news reporting and writing with an emphasis on journalistic standards, media ethics and the changing nature of the news industry. Students will learn fundamental reporting skills and write news and feature articles for possible publishing in the Oak Leaf college newspaper and/or website.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation:
Eligibility for English 1A or equivalent; AND
Basic knowledge of Macintosh or Windows computers.

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:
Description: Introduction to journalism, news reporting and writing with an emphasis on journalistic standards, media ethics and the changing nature of the news industry. Students will learn fundamental reporting skills and write news and feature articles for possible publishing in the Oak Leaf college newspaper and/or website. (Grade Only)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:
Recommended: Eligibility for English 1A or equivalent; AND
Basic knowledge of Macintosh or Windows computers.
Limits on Enrollment:
Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.
Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

AS Degree:	**Area**	Effective:	Inactive:
CSU GE:	**Transfer Area**	Effective:	Inactive:
IGETC:	**Transfer Area**	Effective:	Inactive:

CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:
UC Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:

CID:
CID Descriptor:JOUR 110 Introduction to Reporting and Newswriting
SRJC Equivalent Course(s): JOUR1 OR JOUR1 AND JOUR1L
CID Descriptor:JOUR 110 Introduction to Reporting and Newswriting
SRJC Equivalent Course(s): JOUR1 OR JOUR1 AND JOUR1L

Certificate/Major Applicable:
Major Applicable Course

COURSE CONTENT

Outcomes and Objectives:
Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Develop story ideas, identify sources, conduct interviews and research and write different types of news and feature articles.
2. Distinguish between news and feature articles in terms of lead, content, sources and story structure.
3. Use copyediting skills and knowledge of AP style to edit, refine and improve articles.
4. Apply ethical philosophies to the evaluation of news judgments regarding use of controversial photos, conflicts of interest, withholding information and other ethical dilemmas.
5. Analyze libel and invasion of privacy case studies and determine potential outcomes based on knowledge of media law.
6. Discuss and critically analyze the dynamic status of news media in America, including objectivity, framing and bias, media consolidation, the democratizing role of the Internet and other issues.

Topics and Scope:

I. What is News?
   A. Definition of news

- B. Internet vs. newspaper vs. television vs. radio news
- C. What is newsworthy?
- D. Inverted pyramid

II. News Leads
- A. Typology of news leads
- B. Leads to avoid
- C. Story angle

III. Covering a Beat
- A. Finding story ideas
- B. Developing and keeping sources
- C. Police beat reporting

IV. Sources and Research
- A. Types of sources
- B. Diversity of sources
- C. Agreements with sources (off the record, on background, etc.)
- D. Offline and online research

V. Interviewing
- A. Interview preparation
- B. Question types
- C. Rapport/listening skills
- D. Note taking and accuracy

VI. Attribution
- A. Choosing best quotes
- B. Quote vs. paraphrase
- C. Quote punctuation

VII. Working with Numbers
- A. Why use numbers
- B. Interpreting poll results and studies
- C. Means, medians, percentages

VIII. Story Types
- A. Meeting and speech stories
- B. Event stories
- C. News conferences

IX. Feature Writing
- A. Difference between feature and news stories
- B. Types of features
- C. Profiles
- D. Feature leads
- E. Feature story structures
  1. Focus structure features
  2. Hourglass
  3. Narrative
- F. Use of fiction techniques

X. Editing
- A. Grammar
- B. Punctuation
- C. AP Style
- D. Active vs. passive

E. Conciseness
F. Clarity and precision
G. Strong verbs
H. Transitions and story flow

XI. Media Law
A. First Amendment, censorship and prior restraint
B. Freedom of Information Act
C. Sunshine laws/Brown Act
D. Shield laws
E. Libel
1. Categories of libel
2. Elements of a libel case
3. Libel defenses
4. Avoiding libel
F. Invasion of privacy

XII. Media Ethics
A. Ethical philosophies
B. Ethical dilemmas
1. Conflicts of interest
2. Deceit
3. Controversial photos/stories
4. Withholding information
5. Plagiarism and other issues
C. Code of ethics
D. Ethics cases and ethical problem solving

XIII. Objectivity
A. Objective procedures
B. Is objectivity possible?
C. Framing and bias

XIV. Media as Business
A. Media consolidation/ monopolization
B. Role of gatekeepers
C. Media as business/profit-making enterprises
D. Role of Internet

Assignment:

1. Five to seven articles that may include general news, meeting, speech, event coverage, police blotter, profile and feature article assignments.
2. Reading 10-30 pages per week in text and reader.
3. Seven to fifteen short assignments to build reporting and writing skills, including:
   a. copyediting
   b. writing leads
   c. developing story ideas
   d. practicing interview skills
   e. writing inverted pyramid and feature stories
   f. completing AP style and grammar exercises
   g. finding sources and problem solving libel and ethics cases

4. 1-2 Midterm(s) and final exam

Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

Writing: Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Articles	Writing 30 - 50%

Problem Solving: Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

Homework problems	Problem solving 5 - 20%

Skill Demonstrations: All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

Homework	Skill Demonstrations 15 - 30%

Exams: All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

1-2 Midterm(s) and final exam that can include multiple choice, short answer, and skill demonstration	Exams 20 - 30%

Other: Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Attendance and classroom participation	Other Category 5 - 20%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:
Instructor prepared materials

Inside Reporting. Tim Harrower. McGraw-Hill: 2007

News Reporting and Writing. 11th ed. or higher. Mencher, Melvin. McGraw/Hill: 2008

News Reporting and Writing , 9th ed. or higher. The Missouri Group (Brooks, Brian S.; Kennedy, George; Moen, Daryl; and Ranley, Don. Bedford/St. Martin's: 2008

Writing and Reporting News (5th ed. or higher). Carole Rich. Wadsworth: 2007