

DEREE COLLEGE SYLLABUS FOR: CN 4433 Investigative Journalism**Instruction hours/lab hours/ US credits 3/0/3****UK LEVEL: 6****UK CREDITS:15**

(Updated Fall 2025)

PREREQUISITES:

WP 1010 Introduction to Academic Writing
WP 1111 Academic Writing
CN 2202 Introduction to Media Writing
CN 3311 Fundamentals of Journalism

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Writing eloquent investigative news and feature pieces that require original ideas; interviewing and other types of research; applying content and presentation skills acquired in the previous writing courses; examining case studies.

RATIONALE:

This course provides advanced students with practical, analytical and critical skills for investigating, writing and editing articles for publication. It offers a deeper understanding of the roles of, and relationship between, different elements of analytical writing and reporting. It enables them to identify newsworthy ideas, perform journalistic tasks with professional and ethical standards, and understand the challenges and potential risks of the investigative work of journalism in today's communication ecosystems.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

As a result of taking this course, the student should be able to:

1. Write news and feature stories that meet publication standards for newsworthy and investigative articles.
2. Analyze and critique the quality of other people's work.
3. Systematically apply rules of appropriate content and to media writing.
4. Integrate writing and reporting techniques in their work.

METHOD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING:

In congruence with the teaching and learning strategy of the college, the following tools are used:

- ❖ In congruence with the learning and teaching strategy of the college, the following tools are used:
- ❖ Class lectures and discussions, in-class workshops and other group work.
- ❖ Office hours: students are encouraged to make full use of the office hours of their instructor, where they can ask questions, see their exam paper, and/or go over lecture material.
- ❖ Use of a blackboard site, where instructors post lecture notes, assignment instructions, announcements, and other resources.
- ❖ Peer tutoring is also available to students who choose to get additional help.

ASSESSMENT:

Summative:

First assessment: 2 news stories	20%
Second assessment: midterm – case study analysis (2 hours)	20%
Final assessment: investigative story (1300 – 1800 words)	60%

	<p>Formative:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>In-class workshops</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr> <td>1 Test</td><td>0</td></tr> </table> <p>The first assessment (news stories) test LOs 1, 3, and 4.</p> <p>The second assessment (case study analysis) tests LO 2</p> <p>The final assessment (investigative story) tests LOs 1, 3, and 4.</p> <p>The formative assessments enable students to examine their and other students' work</p> <p>Students are required to resit failed assessments in this module.</p>	In-class workshops	0	1 Test	0
In-class workshops	0				
1 Test	0				
INDICATIVE READING:	<p>REQUIRED READING: Burstiner, Marcy. <i>Investigative Reporting</i>. Routledge, 2018.</p> <p>Professor's Notes (in Blackboard)</p> <p>RECOMMENDED READING:</p> <p>Coatney, Caryn, <i>Investigative Journalism in Changing Times: Australian and Anglo-American Reporting</i>. Routledge, 2023. (PERLEGO)</p> <p>de Burgh, Hugo and Lashmar, Paul, <i>Investigative Journalism</i>. Routledge, 2021. (PERLEGO)</p>				
INDICATIVE MATERIAL: (e.g. audiovisual, digital material, etc.)	<p>REQUIRED MATERIAL: an audio recording device (for interviews).</p> <p>RECOMMENDED MATERIAL:</p>				
COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS:	Blackboard and an active ACG email account. High standards of oral and written English for all assignments				
SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS:	Blackboard CMS; MSOffice; Windows Media Player				
WWW RESOURCES: UPDATED	www.jonfranklin.com www.vanityfair.com www.washingtonpost.com www.kathimerini.com www.NYTimes.com www.time.com www.newsweek.com				
INDICATIVE CONTENT:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finding the Newsworthy Story 2. Organising the Investigation 3. Identifying the Sources 				

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">4. Preparing for the Interviews5. Gathering the Information6. Analysing the Findings7. Shaping the Story8. Writing the Story9. Legal and Ethical Considerations and challenges10. Past, Present and Feature of Investigative Reporting
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