

CN 4533 ADVANCED PRINT JOURNALISM LEVEL 6**UK CREDITS: 15**

(Previously CN 4633 Journalism II)

(Updated: Fall 2017)

PREREQUISITES:

WP 1010 Introduction to Academic Writing
 WP 1111 Integrated Academic Writing & Ethics
 WP 1212 Academic Writing and Research
 CN 2202 Writing for Mass Communication
 CN 3311 Fundamentals of Print Journalism

CATALOG**DESCRIPTION:**

Writing polished news and feature stories for publication in student online publication. Developing story ideas and editing stories for publication. Interviewing and other types of research. The primacy of structure to good writing.

RATIONALE:

This course provides upper-level students with hands-on learning and training in writing and editing articles for publication, and allows them to build a portfolio published of articles. A deeper understanding of the roles of, and relationship between, different elements of writing and reporting learned in earlier modules enables students to be consistent in identifying and writing stories worthy of publication.

LEARNING**OUTCOMES:**

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

1. Write news and feature stories that meet the publication standards of the online student magazine.
2. Analyze and critique the quality of other people's work.
3. Systematically apply rules of structure to media writing.
4. Integrate writing, reporting, and storytelling techniques in their work.

METHOD OF TEACHING**AND LEARNING:**

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:

In-class workshops – formative	0	Peer discussion/editing of drafts of story ideas and drafts
Two News stories or briefs – summative	20	250-300 words each
Feature Story – summative	50	1000-1200 words minimum
Final examination (2-hour, comprehensive) – summative	30	Essay questions, editing exercises

The formative assessment entails students examining each other's work critically, thus enabling them to identify and correct problems in their writing.

The writing projects test Learning Outcomes 1, 3, 4.
The final examination tests Learning Outcomes 2, 3.

**REQUIRED
TEXTBOOK:**

Friedlander, Jay and Lee, John. *Feature Writing for Newspapers and Magazines*, Pearson Education, 2004.

FURTHER READINGS: Franklin, Jon. *Writing for Story*, Plume Printing, 1994.

Mencher, Melvin. *News Reporting and Writing*, McGraw-Hill Higher Education, 2010.

Cappon, Rene J. *The Associated Press Guide to News Writing*, ARCO (Thomson Learning), 2005.

**RECOMMENDED
MATERIAL:**

Blundell, William. *The Art and Craft of Feature Writing*. Plume Printing, 1988.

**COMMUNICATION
REQUIREMENTS:**

All work in proper English

**SOFTWARE
REQUIREMENTS:**

MS Word, Internet, Academic Database Access

WWW RESOURCES:

www.jonfranklin.com
www.vanityfair.com
www.washingtonpost.com
www.kathimerini.com
www.NYTimes.com
www.time.com
www.newsweek.com

INDICATIVE CONTENT OUTLINE:

1. Writing News Stories on Deadline for Publication
 - 1.1 Finding stories with news value
 - 1.2 Pre-planning versus pre-writing
 - 1.3 Cross-checking information
 - 1.4 Quickly writing accurate stories with strong leads for publication
2. The Newspaper, Magazine, and Online Magazine Feature Story Idea
 - 2.1 Differences between newspaper and magazine features
 - 2.2 How to get ideas for stories
 - 2.3 Researching stories
 - 2.4 Staff writing versus free-lance writing
3. Interviewing
 - 3.1 Who to interview
 - 3.2 Requesting an interview
 - 3.3 Persuading people to talk to you
 - 3.4 When and where to interview
 - 3.5 Preparing for an interview

3.6 Conducting an interview

3. Character Development

- 3.1 The importance of character
- 3.2 Defining a character through conflict or aspiration
- 3.2 Revealing a character
- 3.3 Perspective, objectivity, and balance in news and feature writing
- 3.4 Interview types, preparing for and conducting interviews
- 3.5 The interview story

4. Writing for Story: Structure

- 4.1 The primacy of structure
- 4.2 Minor and major complications
- 4.3 Complication resolution
- 4.4 Building sentences, graphs, sections, and stories
- 4.5 Writing the lead
- 4.6 Writing the body
- 4.7 Writing the end

5. Editing

- 5.1 The editor's job
- 5.2 Editing news stories