

CN 4707 TELEVISION NEWS WRITING - LEVEL 6

UK CREDITS: 15

(Updated Fall 2015)

PREREQUISITES:

WP 1010 Introduction to Academic Writing
WP 1111 Integrated Academic Writing and Ethics
CN 2202 Writing for Mass Communication
CN 2305 Multimedia Lab
CN 3311 Fundamentals of Print Journalism
CN 4535 Editing Theory and Practice
CS 1070 Introduction to Information Systems

CATALOG

DESCRIPTION:

Using visuals, sound, and words together in news and feature formats. Objectivity and balance. Checking sources. Structuring stories. Camera use and shot selection. Researching, interviewing, shooting, writing, and producing a package story.

RATIONALE:

This course trains students in the techniques of television news story production. It is intended for students who intend to pursue a career in journalism or public relations.

LEARNING

OUTCOMES:

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

1. Describe the visual, textual, and aural elements of story-telling and explain how they work together.
2. Understand how journalistic principles of accuracy, objectivity, balance, and fairness relate to the use of visuals and sound as well as words.
3. Create a well-structured a story that contains visuals, words, and sounds.
4. Combine visuals and text in writing voice-overs.
5. Produce a complete package story.

METHOD OF

TEACHING

AND LEARNING:

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

- Class lectures, interactive learning (class discussions, group work) video presentations, and in-class workshop exercises.
- 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, timely announcements, as well as additional resources.
- Peer tutoring is also available to students who choose to get additional help.

ASSESSMENT:

In-class examination of homework exercises – formative	0	Various writing and camera exercises
Package story – summative	50	Voiced and fully edited project, 2-4 minutes long
Final examination – summative	50	Essay-type/short answer questions; writing exercise

Formative assessment tests students' ability to understand and apply principles learned in class and through readings.

The project tests learning outcomes 2, 3, 5

The final examination tests learning outcome 1, 2, 4

READING LIST:

1. Required Textbook:

Shook, Fred, Larson, John, and DeTarsio, John. *Television Field Production and Reporting*, 5th ed., Allyn and Bacon, 2009.

2. Further Reading:

Block, Mervin. *Writing Broadcast News – Shorter, Sharper, Stronger*, CQ Press College, 2011.

Dotson, Bob. *Make It Memorable*, Bonus Books, 2003.

Freedman, Wayne. *It Takes More Than Good Looks to Succeed in Television News Reporting*, 2nd ed., A Wealth of Wisdom, 2011.

McCullough-Carroll, Victoria. *Writing News for Television: Style and Format*, Iowa State Press, 2009.

Tuggle, C.A., and Carr, Forrest. *Broadcast news Handbook: Writing, Reporting, and Producing in the Age of Social Media*, 5th ed., McGraw-Hill, 2013.

Wulfemeyer, Tim K. *Radio-TV Newswriting: A Workbook*, 2nd ed., Iowa State Press, 2003.

WWW RESOURCES:

www.bbc.com

www.cnn.com

www.cbs.com

www.nbc.com

www.abc.com

www.rtnda.org

www.thebashfulbloviator.com

skai.gr

SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE

REQUIREMENTS: MS Word, Digital Video Camera, PC, Editing Software

**COMMUNICATION
REQUIREMENTS:**

All presentations using proper English (oral and written)

INDICATIVE CONTENT OUTLINE:

1. Visual Storytelling
 - 1.1 The three-dimensional story
 - 1.2 Video, text, and sound
 - 1.3 Sequences, visual transitions, and cutaways
 - 1.4 Referencing video
 - 1.5 Illustrative versus sequential video
 - 1.6. Language use
 - 1.7. Natural sound use
 - 1.8. Stand-up use
2. Structure and Purpose
 - 2.1 Story commitment and news values
 - 2.2 Visual leads/proof, beginnings, middles, and ends
 - 2.3 Objectivity and meaning in visuals, sound and text
3. Writing and Producing Stories
 - 3.1 Voice-overs
 - 3.2 Packages
4. Videography
 - 4.1 Use of file video
 - 4.2 Shooting sequences and other basic shots
 - 4.3 Conducting and shooting interviews
 - 4.4 Doing stand-ups
 - 4.5 Working with natural sound
5. The Newscast
 - 5.1 Producing a rundown
 - 5.2 The role of the anchor