Fall 9-1-2005

RTV 360.01: Advanced Broadcast Reporting

Denise J. Dowling
University of Montana - Missoula, denise.dowling@umontana.edu

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Radio-Television 360-Advanced Reporting

Prerequisites: RTV 151, RTV 280

Autumn 2005

Purpose of the Course: Intensive training in broadcast news reporting and production, including news gathering, writing, interviewing, vocal work, photography and audio/video editing. Course includes an overview of current radio and television news practices, and discussions of newsroom ethics. This course is the required first half of a year-long course. Students are required to register for RTV 361 on completion of RTV 360.

General Ed Requirements: This course is an upper division writing course. Students must take UM’s writing assessment during this year. Check the UM web site for dates of the writing assessment.

Frequency of Offering: This course is offered every autumn semester.

Class Meeting Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:10-3 p.m. in GBB L04. We will often meet in the television studio, student editing and in 730 Eddy’s computer lab. Please check the syllabus carefully.

Instructor: Denise Dowling, 730 Eddy Room 101A
Phone: 243-4143  Home: 251-0357
Email: denise.dowling@umontana.edu

Office Hours: 10-11am daily and by appointment.

Pre-course Requirements:
• You must have a working e-mail account. They are available free on the university’s central computer.
• There is no required textbook for this course.
• You must be computer literate and know how to create a document in Word. You will learn EZ News Software for script writing and rundown building.
• You are expected to know Adobe Audition (Formerly Cool Edit) software in Studios C&D.
**Course Requirements:** You will need to purchase a hard drive to store your video projects. The drives are no more expensive than a textbook, and you will use it for the duration of your career here at UM. Drives are available for purchase at the bookstore for $140. You’ll need to go to the customer service counter for assistance.

You will need Mini DV tape later in the semester. All TV assignments will be shot and edited on Mini DV. You must also own at least two minidisks (you may want more). All radio assignments will be gathered, edited and turned in on minidisk.

You will need keys to get into the 730 Eddy computer lab and the audio and video editing stations in the PARTV building. See Wanda LaCroix at 730 Eddy for a key card. The key card must be taken to Public Safety where you’ll make a $5 deposit for each key.

**Radio Assignments:** You will be working for KBGA radio and KUFM radio. Stories that **DO NOT AIR** will receive a C grade **AT BEST**. These people will be helping supervise your work:

- KBGA News Director, **Stan Pillman**, UC 209A, KBGA Phone 243-6426, Cell 880-0900, Email pillbar@aol.com
- KBGA Sports Director, **Andrea Lutz**, UC 209A, KBGA Phone 243-6426, Cell 396-0365, Email andrealutz@hotmail.com
- KUFM News Director, **Sally Mauk**, PARTV 153, Phone 243-4075, sally.mauk@umontana.edu

**Quizzes:** Expect unannounced current events quizzes. I expect you to keep up with what’s happening in the news.

**Deadlines:** If you miss your deadline for an assignment, you will receive 0 points for that assignment. If you have a problem that will delay your assignment for any reason, you **MUST NOTIFY ME AND THE NEWS DIRECTOR IMMEDIATELY**. Some problems **MAY justify an extension of your deadline**, but don’t count on it.

**Class Attendance:** Mandatory. If you have one unexcused absence, your final grade will drop one full grade. If you miss more than one class you will **fail this course**. This course requires your attendance as we build on what we learn each week. You also have classmates counting on you in lab situations. If you are ill or must be away on university business, you must notify me in advance that you will miss class. I require a written note from a doctor or coach/adviser or your absence will be considered unexcused. You will not be able to make up any points you may have earned in class, even if your absence is excused.
Course Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Radio Anchoring Assignment</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KBGA Stories (2)</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KUFM Story</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interview Assignment</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Reporting Assignment</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team TV Package</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final TV Package</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Events Quizzes</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
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Total Possible Points: 1000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>100-93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>92-90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>89-88%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>87-83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>82-80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>79-78%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>77-73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>72-70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>69-68%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>67-63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 63%</td>
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Plagiarism

Plagiarism, in a nutshell, is using other people’s words, ideas, data or materials as your own. Some people consider the use of 7-10 words in a row, copied from another source, as plagiarism. Be sure to include citations when using other people’s writing, because plagiarism is a serious offense in any discipline, especially in journalism. It’s a firing offense in the professional world. In the Department of Radio-Television at The University of Montana, students face a range of penalties for plagiarism.

- a grade of “F” on the assignment
- a request that the student drop the class;
- withdrawal of the student from the class, initiated by the professor;
- an “F” in the course;
- denial of the student’s degree
- expulsion, suspension or probation from the university.

A combination of these penalties may also be used. If you need more information or have questions about plagiarism, ask your nearest journalism professor or consult the student conduct code.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Classroom Activity</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Tuesday 8/30** | Class introduction  
KUFM News Director  
KBGA News Director  
Know your Audience  
Story Ideas      | Write News Stories  
Gather Story Ideas  
Interview Classmate/Write story |
| **Thursday 9/1** | Story Meeting  
Finding News  
Deciding on an angle   | Present Story Ideas  
Review Classmates’ Assignments  
Preview Radio Stories |
| **Tuesday 9/6** | Story Meeting  
Writing Review  
Adobe Audition Review if needed | Radio Newscast Assignment Given |
| **Thursday 9/8** | News Day  
Gathering Information  
Vocal Performance | Schedule one-on-one vocal performance critiques  
Work on Radio Newscasts |
| **Tuesday 9/13** | Story Meeting  
Radio Storytelling  
Radio Script Writing | Work on Radio Newscasts |
| **Thursday 9/15** | ***One on one newscast critique sessions scheduled in Studios C&D*** | Radio Newscast Assignment Due |
| **Tuesday 9/20** | **Meet in the Studio**  
Interviewing Exercises  
Facility Tour  
Lighting and Camera Review | FCP Editing Exercise |
| **Thursday 9/22** | **Meet in Student Editing**  
Final Cut Pro Editing Review  
Tape Logging  
Story Meeting | Interview Assignments Given |
| **Tuesday 9/27** | **Meet in the Studio**  
Reporters & Photographers and Teamwork  
Story Meeting | Interview Assignments Given |
| **Thursday 9/29** | **Meet in 730 Eddy**  
EZ News Rundowns & Scripting | Questions for Interview Due  
Log Interview Tape |
| **Tuesday 10/4** | **Meet in Studio**  
Story Meeting  
In-class Reporting exercise  
Interviews | Questions for Interview Due  
Log Interview Tape |
| **Thursday 10/6** | Choosing Soundbites  
Writing in and out of Sound  
Write story from Interview  
Review Radio Scripts  
Review Sound Bite scripts | Tape Log Due  
Write and Edit Interview Story  
Ideas for Field Assignments Due/Assignments Given |
| **Tuesday 10/11** | **Meet in Studio**  
Story Meeting  
Edited Interview Stories Anchored In Class | Script/Edited Interview Story Due  
Write Questions/Set up Interview/Broll for Field Reporting Exercise |
| **Thursday 10/13** | **Meet in Studio**  
Field Reporting Exercise | Questions for Field Interview Due  
Log Tape/Write Story |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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| Tuesday 10/18 | Story Meeting  
Package Building  
Using Nat sound  
Shooting/Editing Sequences                                                                                                                            |
| Thursday 10/20 | **Meet in Studio**  
Story Meeting  
Edited Field Stories Anchored in class  
Assignments Given for Mid-Term Package                                                                                                              |
| Tuesday 10/25 | More Package Building                                                                                                                              |
| Thursday 10/27 | Vosbs Reviewed                                                                                                                                   |
| Tuesday 10/25 | Shoot and Write Package                                                                                                                           |
| Thursday 10/27 | Shoot and Write Package                                                                                                                           |
| Tuesday 11/1  | The Law-What you need to know                                                                                                                       |
| Thursday 11/3  | Review Scripts  
Doing meaningful standups                                                                                                                                 |
| Tuesday 11/8  | Review Scripts                                                                                                                                    |
| Thursday 11/10 | Work On Packages                                                                                                                                  |
| Tuesday 11/15 | **Meet In Studio**  
Anchor Intro Packages                                                                                                                            |
| Thursday 11/17 | Review Mid-term Packages                                                                                                                           |
| Tuesday 11/22 | Review Mid-term Packages                                                                                                                           |
| Thursday 11/24 | No Class  
Thanksgiving Holiday                                                                                                                          |
| Tuesday 11/29 | Story Meeting  
Work on Final Project  
Package building  
Preview next semester newscasts                                                                                                                     |
| Thursday 12/1 | No Class                                                                                                                                           |
| Tuesday 12/6  | Producing Newscasts on EZ News  
Work on Final Project                                                                                                                             |
| Thursday 12/8  | Work on Final Project  
Final Projects and Scripts Due Monday, December 12th by 5pm.                                                                                   |

**Final Meeting Tuesday, December 13th, 3:20-5:20pm in the TV Studio**

Final projects will be viewed**