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## JRNL 482.01: Montana Journal

John Twiggs

*University of Montana - Missoula*, [john.twiggs@umontana.edu](mailto:john.twiggs@umontana.edu)

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# JRNL 482

## Syllabus-Fall 2013

**Instructor:** John Twiggs  
**Office Phone:** 243-4565  
**Cell Phone:** 531-5603  
**Office Hours:** by appt. Corbin 153  
**e-mail:** john.twiggs@umontana.edu

### Montana Journal

#### Course Outline:

The television program **Montana Journal** features a collection of news stories relevant to viewers across Montana. Students will work in teams of either two or three members and produce at least one segment for the program. We will produce two programs during the semester. The first program will have an assigned topic and the students will determine story angles for the show. The second program, a different set of stories, will be a topic to be determined. Only a program worthy of broadcast will make it to air. We will have additional opportunities to distribute the stories on our website.

#### Learning Outcomes:

- The successful JRNL 482 student will learn the process, from start to finish for producing a half-hour television news magazine program ready for statewide broadcast. This includes everything from editorial content to post production to operating within a set budget.
- The successful student will also gain hands-on experience in the chosen area of emphasis whether on the production or broadcast journalism side.

#### Job assignments:

There are a variety of jobs related to finishing a half-hour television program. In addition to the traditional reporter/photographer/editor spots, we'll also need a producer and director for the program (see descriptions in separate handout). There is an opportunity for on-air host for each of the programs. We will also need a graphic look for each show. Keep in mind we're producing two programs, so there will be an opportunity to rotate responsibilities. Do not feel limited by production/broadcast roles.

#### Graduate Component:

Graduate students will be required to take on the additional responsibilities of one of the jobs described above. Most often this will be the role of producer which will require additional writing and organizing of the program. This will also include a leadership role in the overall production of the broadcast. The exact assignment will be made based on previous experience.

**Equipment:**

JRNL 482 students will shoot video the **Sony EX-1** camera (plus needed accessories) supplied by the J-School checkout department. (see additional handout) Everyone will use these cameras to provide production continuity and consistency. Students will then edit on the **Avid Media Composer** program. This program is available in several DAH rooms, but the final edits will be completed in the third floor edit suites to ensure audio quality.

**By the Numbers:**

Journalists often need to present basic numeric information to put a story in context. In an effort to facilitate the reporting of economic business information, you will be required to seek out numeric content relating to your stories. You can present this through the script, an interview or graphically. This will be required in each story you produce for each program.

**Diversity in programs:**

The well-rounded journalist knows how to tell stories from varied perspectives. The School of Journalism has undertaken an initiative to create opportunities for students to tell stories of more varied and diverse groups of people. Diversity means not only racial diversity, but ethnic, socio-economic, gender and age diversity. As a team, we will work to ensure appropriate representation in both of our television programs.

**Attendance Policy:**

Attendance is mandatory. Any unexcused absence will result in the loss of a letter grade from your final semester grade. This includes full class meetings as well as specific team meetings.

**Same Work for Multiple Classes in J-School**

You may not submit for this course any assignment that has previously or will be concurrently submitted for another class unless you receive prior approval from the professor for this course. To do so without permission will result in an "F" for the assignment and could result in an "F" for the course.

**After Hours Access:**

For after hours access to Don Anderson Hall, complete and submit this form online. <http://www.jour.umt.edu/don-anderson-hall-after-hours-access-request> by Friday, September 6th. Students who miss this deadline will be subject to a late fee and a delay in processing. Complete only one request form per semester, be sure to list all courses you are taking. Codes will remain active until the last day of the semester.

**Academic Honesty**

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at <http://www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/page/1321>.

### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

This course is accessible to and usable by otherwise qualified students with disabilities. To request reasonable program modifications, please consult with the instructor. Disability Services for Students will assist the instructor and student in the accommodation process. For more information, visit the Disability Services website at [www.umt.edu/dss/](http://www.umt.edu/dss/).

### **Grading Policy:**

We will use the (+/-) grading system for this semester.

### **(Overall Theme: Effort & Improvement)**

#### **Editorial students**

Research/story proposal:	20%
Ability to meet deadlines:	15%
Script writing (rewriting):	20%
Final Story (team grade):	30%
Time Management:	15%

#### **Production Students**

Ability to meet deadlines:	15%
Field Photography:	20%
Editing:	20%
Final Story (team grade):	30%
Time Management:	15%

(additional jobs performed for the show will count as extra credit)

## **JRNL 482 Schedule (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)**

### **PROGRAM NUMBER ONE: Montana Journal**

#### **Week 1:** Aug. 27<sup>th</sup> - Aug. 29<sup>th</sup>

Give show assignments, story assignments, begin research.

#### **Week 2:** Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> - Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>

Continue research, discuss show format, line-up interviews, discuss long form story structure. All of this included in one page story proposal. Due Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>

#### **Week 3:** Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> - Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>

Finalize story proposals, finalize travel arrangements, discuss production standards, start field shooting. Producer/Director meetings.

#### **Week 4:** Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>-Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>

Finish field shooting, start logging, transcribe interviews. Make sure video is backed up on portable drive and confirm it is imported to J-school computer. Watch early video.

#### **Week 5:** Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>-Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>

Rough draft of script due. Individual team meetings this week. No full class meetings. Begin production of promos. Begin production of open.

#### **Week 6:** Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> - Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>

Finalize script. Continue individual team meetings. No full class meetings. Rough cuts due.

**Week 7:** Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> – Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>

Final script changes. Fine cuts due by end of week. Shoot anchor stand-ups for program. Begin discussions for program number two ideas. Post production of program.

**Week 8:** Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>- Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>

Continue discussions and finalize choice for program number two topic. Review program number one.

## **PROGRAM NUMBER TWO: TBD**

**Week 9:** Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> - Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>

New assignments for program number two. Begin research.

**Week 10:** Oct 29<sup>th</sup> - Oct.31<sup>st</sup>

Continue research, discuss show format, line-up interviews, make travel arrangements. All of this included in one page story proposal. Due November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Week 11:** Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> - Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>

Finalize story proposals. Begin field shooting. Producer/Director meetings.

**Week 12:** Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> -Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>

Complete field shooting. Make sure video is backed up on portable drive and confirm it is imported into J-school computer. Start logging and transcribing interviews.

**Week 13:** Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> –Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>

Initial rough cuts due. (soundbites on timeline) Individual team meetings this week. No full class meetings. Begin production of open. (if necessary)

**Week 14:** Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>

Finalize story structure Clean up other details before break.

**Week 15:** Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>

Rough cuts due. (more video added) Final script changes. Fine cuts due by end of week. Shoot anchor stand-ups for program.

**Week 16:** Finals week meeting, TBD, December 12<sup>th</sup>?

All elements due on Tuesday of this week. Final post-production.