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JRNL 352.01: Intermediate Video Reporting and Producing

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JRNL 352-01 – *Intermediate Video Reporting and Producing* Spring 2022

Scope:

JRNL 352 focuses on reporting and writing individual television news stories as well as writing and producing television newscasts. Through feedback and revision, students will improve their writing, storytelling, video photography and editing skills. All assignments will be based on journalistic writing and ethical decision-making.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, successful JRNL 352 students will demonstrate:

- Strong news judgment
- Ability to identify various issues and angles in potential news stories
- Ability to write strong leads, bodies and conclusions to television news stories
- Strong writing skills including the use of active voice, writing to video, clear and concise use of language
- Interviewing skills including research and writing questions, interpersonal communication, proper questioning and listening
- Development of performance skills for newscast anchoring and field reporting
- Ability to identify quality in their own and other's work, and make newscast choices that reflect that ability
- Television newscast producing skills including building strong leads, writing for story flow, writing for pace and creating an overall look and feel of a program through writing and production values
- Proficiency in the technical requirements of television work including shooting and editing video, script writing using iNews, rundown building in iNews and use of the server to store and playback stories
- Understanding of journalism ethics, codes and the law covering journalistic endeavors

Learning Outcomes for Advanced Writing Courses:

Successful JRNL 352 students will:

- Identify and pursue sophisticated questions for academic inquiry.
- Find, evaluate, analyze, and synthesize information effectively and ethically from diverse sources.
- Manage multiple perspectives as appropriate.
- Recognize the purposes and needs of discipline-specific audiences and adopt the academic voice necessary for the chosen discipline.
- Use multiple drafts, revision, and editing in conducting inquiry and preparing written work.
- Follow the conventions of citation, documentation, and formal presentation appropriate to that discipline.

Pre-requisite: JRNL 350

Class meets:

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 to 1:50 in DAH 101, 114 and the television studio.

Instructor: Ray Fanning, Associate Professor, School of Journalism,

Office: Don Anderson Hall 405

Office hours: 9:00-11:00 a.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays. I'm also available at other times by appointment.

Office phone: 243-4747.

My regular e-mail: ray.fanning@umontana.edu.

Grading:

Grades will be based on:

Ideas and research

Class attendance and participation

Writing

Reporting and producing assignments

Contribution to the overall success of the class

Ability to work with your classmates

Class attendance is mandatory. You can't succeed if you miss critique sessions, lectures and labs. University business and documented illness are acceptable excuses.

UM also has a cultural or ceremonial leave policy. It allows excused absences for cultural, religious, and ceremonial purposes to meet the student's customs and traditions or to participate in related activities. To receive an authorized absence for a cultural, religious, or ceremonial event the student or their advisor (proxy) must submit a formal written request to the instructor. This must include a brief description (with inclusive dates) of the cultural event or ceremony and the importance of the student's attendance or participation. Authorization for the absence is subject to approval by the instructor. Appeals may be made to the Chair, Dean or Provost. The excused absence or leave may not exceed five academic calendar days (not including weekends or holidays). Students remain responsible for completion or make-up of assignments as defined in the syllabus, at the discretion of the instructor.

Active military service is also an excused absence.

You must notify me in advance if you will be absent.

Two unexcused absences will lower your final grade by one letter. You will fail the class if you have a third unexcused absence.

Grading Breakdown:

News Packages (3) / writing, reporting, video and editing: 70%- of final grade

UM package 1:30-2:00 minutes

Diversity package 1:30-2:00 minutes

Local government package 1:30-2:00 minutes

A description and specific requirements for each of the news stories will be available on Moodle.

The instructor will provide feedback on each package script and students will make revisions before they record and edit the package for submission.

For news packages, 30% of the grade will be based on video and editing. And 70% will be based on writing and reporting

Each package must have an anchor lead and tag and meet the following criteria:

- 1:30-2:00 (not including the anchor lead and tag)
- A character-centered story
- At least three sound bites total, from at least two different stakeholders who represent different perspectives.
- At least one, three-shot video sequence, using matched action.
- At least one natural sound break

Package 3 will also require a stand up, used as a transition, not at the beginning or end of the package.

Packages cannot focus solely on events like food drives, unless those events are integral to telling a strong, character-centered story. A story about an annual food drive hosted by a sorority with soundbites about what it took to put it on the event and how much food they collected would not qualify. But if you told the story through the eyes of a sorority member who had a personal story to tell about hunger, that would work.

(You will receive no credit for packages that are not completed by the deadline.)

8:00 Newscast (Producing and writing): 30%- of the final grade

A description and the specific requirements for the newscast will be available on Moodle.

The instructor will provide feedback on each of the newscast scripts and students will revise them before they go into production.

For the newscast, 40% of the grade will be based on story selection, flow and pacing. And 60% will be based on writing.

Required Materials:

You will need a hard drive to store video.

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. You may not submit work you've done for any television station in an internship or paid position. To do so without permission will result in an "F" for the assignment and could result in an "F" for the course.

Diversity Initiative

The School of Journalism has undertaken an initiative to create opportunities for students to tell stories of more varied and diverse groups of people. You will need to integrate one of these groups into an assignment. We will discuss this during the preparation for the assignment.

Moodle

I will use Moodle for this course your grades will be available there, along with some handouts

Academic Honesty

I expect your honesty in presenting your own work for this course. Academic misconduct at The University of Montana is subject to an academic penalty ranging from failing the assignment to expulsion from the university. Students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code.

<http://www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/page/1321>

Plagiarism

As defined by “The University of Montana Student Conduct Code” plagiarism is: “Representing another person's words, ideas, data, or materials as one's own.” This is strictly prohibited in this class and any case of plagiarism in this course will be subject to the penalties outlined in the student code of conduct.

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. The Office for Disability Equity (ODE) will assist the instructor and student in the accommodation process. For more information, visit the ODE website at

<https://www.umt.edu/disability/>

Access

For after-hours access to Don Anderson Hall, you will be able to enter the building and DAH 101 using the Griz Card swipe.

Class-by-Class Topics and Assignments SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Week	Date	Class	Assignments
1	1/18	Syllabus and Package Assignments- News Drivers	UM assignment
	1/20	Writing for Broadcast-1 The Basics and Leads	
2	1/25	Writing for Broadcast-2 Lead examples and endings Reader, VO, VOSOT, Package	

Week	Date	Class	Assignments
	1/27	Video and Audio Dos and Don'ts	
3	2/1	Story meeting- research and package ideas Make sure it's a TV story	Due- UM News Memos
	2/3	Writing for Broadcast-3 Writing to Pictures and Using Natural Sound Recording reporter track	
4	2/8	Package Structure P-A-R-E-F Choosing Soundbites Studio orientation	
	2/10	iNews basics	
5	2/15	Working with Premiere	
	2/17	Review package 1 scripts- Rewrite scripts based on feedback.	Due- Package 1 script.
6	2/22	How a story's focus changes from package to vo to vosot	Write vo and vosot versions of pkg 1
	2/24	Review package 1 edit-Individual meetings Debrief on first package	Due- Package 1 edit Edit Vo and vosot versions
7	3/1	Building Supers in Premiere	
	3/3	Closed Captioning in Premiere	
8	3/8	Add closed captioning and name and locator supers to package 1	Due-closed captioning and supers
	3/10	Review package 2 scripts-rewrite scripts based on feedback.	Due- Package 2 script.
9	3/15	Review Package 2 edit Write and edit Vo and Vosot versions	Due- Package 2 edit vos and vosots
	3/17	Anchoring	
10	3/22	Spring Break- No Classes	
	3/24	Spring Break- No Classes	
11	3/29	Producing a Newscast	
	3/31	Building rundowns in iNews	
12	4/5	Script review for package 3- rewrite scripts based on feedback.	Due- Package 3 script
	4/7	Producing an 8:00 newscast	
13	4/12	Review Package 3- individual meetings Write and edit Vo and Vosot versions	Due- Package 3 edit Vos and vosots
	4/14	Rundown Review for 8:00 newscast	
14	4/19	Building Graphics for 8:00 newscast	
	4/21	Shoot shows 1 and 2	
15	4/26	Shoot shows 3 and 4	
	4/28	Shoot shows 5 and 6	
16	5/3	Edit lab for 8:00 newscast	
	5/5	Critique Newscasts and evaluations	
17	5/9-	Finals Week	

Week	Date	Class	Assignments
	5/13		