

University of Montana

## ScholarWorks at University of Montana

---

University of Montana Course Syllabi, 2021-2025

---

Fall 9-1-2022

### JRNL 505.01: Seminar in Environmental Journalism

Nadia D. White

*University of Montana, Missoula*, [nadia.white@umontana.edu](mailto:nadia.white@umontana.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi2021-2025>

**Let us know how access to this document benefits you.**

---

#### Recommended Citation

White, Nadia D., "JRNL 505.01: Seminar in Environmental Journalism" (2022). *University of Montana Course Syllabi, 2021-2025*. 1480.

<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi2021-2025/1480>

This Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana Course Syllabi, 2021-2025 by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@mso.umt.edu](mailto:scholarworks@mso.umt.edu).

JRNL 505  
Fall 2022

Seminar in Environmental Journalism  
5-7:50p.m.

CRN70426  
DAH316

Instructor: Nadia White  
Phone/email: 243-2227, [nadia.white@umontana.edu](mailto:nadia.white@umontana.edu)  
Twitter: @NadiaWh  
Instagram: NadiaWhiteMT

Class meeting time: 5-7:50 p.m. Thursday  
Class meeting place: DAH 316

Office hours: Mondays 9-11 a.m., Wednesdays 1-3 p.m., or by appointment  
Holidays affecting this class: Thanksgiving. No class 11/24.  
Last day of classes: 12/12

JRNL505 Seminar on Issues in Environmental Journalism is a required first-semester class for students in the master's program in Environmental Science & Natural Resource Journalism and for qualified undergrads pursuing the 4+1 Journalism option. The course will meet at 5 p.m. Mountain Time on Thursdays during Fall 2022. It is a discussion class with three learning outcome goals for students. Successful students will:

- Create a community of environmental journalists well-versed in topically relevant issues.
- Develop and practice skills of learning, teaching and small-group leadership
- Understand the opportunities and requirements related to the master's work (professional portfolio and project) required of all Journalism graduate students.

This class offers skills valued in careers as journalists, communications specialists, research professionals etc.

The class will meet in person. Seminar classes depend on full-class engagement to succeed and all students are expected to complete the assigned readings and arrive to class on time and prepared to engage meaningfully in relevant conversation.

## Assignments & Grade Value

- Beat reports: Weekly news in review 15%
- Flathead Lakers communication capacity report. 20%
- Be-the-expert presentations 20%
- Draft master's work proposals
  - Draft 15%
  - Final 15%
- Class participation 15%

## Academic honesty

Misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the university. Students need to be familiar with the [Student Conduct Code](#).

## Building access

Shortly after the start of the semester you will all have 24/7 access to Don Anderson Hall by using your Griz Card to swipe into the building. Please take care of keeping the building safe for each other. Don't let people you don't know into the building with you. Don't prop open doors. Don't take the furniture out

of the building. Tidy things up even if you didn't make the mess (and especially if you did.) Treat Don Anderson Hall like a special place that was built for you – because it is and it was.

## Accommodation for students with disabilities

This course is accessible to 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.

## Cultural leave policy

UM has a cultural or ceremonial leave policy that 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.

## Cell phones and laptops in class

We may end up using cell phones or laptops for all sorts of things in class, but I ask that you do not use your phone for non-class stuff.

I strongly recommend that you avoid using them for note taking as well. Evidence strongly suggests that [students who take notes longhand remember the material better and apply it more effectively](#). Moreover, it is hard for me to teach when you are distracted by a screen right in front of you. Or by the screen of the student sitting in the row ahead of you. Journalists need to be able to pay attention to the person they are engaging with, so, this is part of learning by doing. Equally important, the dynamics of the class really suffer when some students are engaged with their screens and not the dialog developing in class. I reserve the right to turn off your laptop and take possession of your cell phone if you cannot manage your use of those devices appropriately. I really, really love responding to your Snap Chats and text messages as though I were you, so, you've been warned.

## No double dipping

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 of this course. Doing so without permission will result in an F for the assignment, and could result in an F for the course.

*-- This syllabus is subject to change. --*