JOUR 280.01: Broadcast Reporting & Writing

Joel Lunstad

University of Montana - Missoula

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Syllabus

Scope
This is a beginning broadcast news reporting class, with strong emphasis on writing. It includes basic training in radio reporting, including digital audio editing and use of field recording equipment. It also offers a basic introduction to TV reporting. This is a hands-on course.

General Education/Journalism Credits
This course will count as a lower-division writing course toward general education requirements. It is a sophomore pre-requisite for admission to the professional program of the School of Journalism.

Class Time
M/W/F 1:00 - 2:00 pm in GBB205. Some meetings will be held in Studios C & D in PARTV.

Instructor
Joel Lundstad, KPAX-TV News Director. Work number: 542-4450. Home phone: 273-2888. Cell phone: 544-2564. E-mail: joeljon@onewest.net

Office Hours
I am available by appointment only Tuesdays and Thursdays between 12:30 and 1:30 pm in the basement of the R/TV House at 730 Eddy.

Required Text
Broadcast News Writing Stylebook by Prof. Robert A. Papper.

E-Mail
Each student must have an e-mail account on the university Selway central computer or with any other Internet service that provides a working e-mail address.

Keys
In PARTV, one key opens Student Production/170, Audio Control C/172 and D/173, and Video Editing/174. A separate key opens the back door of 730 Eddy, so you can get at our mini computer lab after hours. Each of you must get a keycard from RTV secretary Wanda LaCroix.

Attendance
Mandatory. The only acceptable excuses are severe illness and university business. You must notify me in advance if you expect to miss a class. You will be docked 10 points for each class missed, in addition to any points you may have earned in class that day. I reserve the right to require students with repeated unexcused absences to drop the course.

Deadlines
Journalists who miss deadlines aren’t journalists for very long. As such, deadlines for this class are absolute. If you miss a deadline, you will be docked one letter grade on that assignment. If you do not have a legitimate excuse (i.e. severe illness) for missing the deadline, you will fail the assignment.

**Plagiarism**
Plagiarists use other people’s words, ideas, data or materials as their own. Some consider using just a few words in a row from another source as plagiarism. Make sure you give proper credit when using other people’s words or work. This is a serious offense in journalism, as in other fields. Students at the University of Montana Department of Radio-TV face these penalties;

- a grade of *F* on the assignment;
- a request for the student to drop the class;
- withdrawal of 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.

**Grading**
This will be on a points system.

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<thead>
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<th>Quizzes</th>
<th>150</th>
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<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
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<td>Radio Project 1</td>
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<td>Final Radio Project</td>
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<td>Class Participation</td>
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**Total** 1000

**Journalism 280, Section 2. Joel Lundstad, Adjunct Professor. MWF 1:10-2p**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Read</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M-Jan 26</td>
<td>Intro to the Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>W-Jan 28</td>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Wire Copy</td>
<td>Chap. 1</td>
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<td>F-Jan 30</td>
<td>Clear Writing</td>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Chap. 2</td>
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<td>M-Feb 2</td>
<td>Phrases</td>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Chap. 3</td>
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<td>W-Feb 4</td>
<td>Writing Exercise</td>
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<td>F-Feb 6</td>
<td>Short Sentences</td>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Chap. 4</td>
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<td>M-Feb 9</td>
<td>Writing Leads</td>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Chap. 5</td>
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<td>W-Feb 11</td>
<td>Quiz Review</td>
<td>Writing</td>
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<td>F-Feb 13</td>
<td>Writing &amp; Reporting</td>
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<td>W-Feb 18</td>
<td>Stories</td>
<td>Write Full Story</td>
<td>Chap. 6</td>
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<td>F-Feb 20</td>
<td>Writing and Reporting</td>
<td>Write Full Story</td>
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M-Feb 23  Writing and Reporting  Wire Copy
W-Feb 25  Writing and Reporting  Wire Copy
F-Feb 27  Writing and Reporting  Wire Copy
M-Mar 1  Interviewing  Interview Classmates  Chap. 7
W-Mar 3  Interviewing  Interview Classmates
F-Mar 5  Interviewing  Writing/Interview Stories
M-Mar 8  Writing and Reporting  Writing Exercise
W-Mar 10  Gathering Sound  Field Interviews
F-Mar 12  Gathering Sound  Field Interviews
M-Mar 15  Gathering Sound  Chap. 10
W-Mar 17  Audio Editing  Meet in Studio C/D
F-Mar 19  Audio Editing  Meet in Studio C/D
M-Mar 22  Reporting Terms
W-Mar 24  Scripting
F-Mar 26  Assign. Proj. 1  Audio Editing Assignment Due
M-Mar 29  NO CLASS  Spring Break
W-Mar 31  NO CLASS  Spring Break
F-Apr 2  NO CLASS  Spring Break
M-Apr 5  Story Ideas
W-Apr 7  Story Ideas  Assign Final Project
F-Apr 9  Voice Performance
M-Apr 12  Nat Sound
W-Apr 14  Crime Reporting  Writing  Chap. 15
F-Apr 16  Live Reporting  Live Exercise
M-Apr 19  NO CLASS
W-Apr 21  NO CLASS
F-Apr 23  Teases & Promos  Proj. 1 Due  Chap. 12
M-Apr 26  Ethics  Chap. 11
W-Apr 28  Writing Lab  Quiz
F-Apr 30  Writing Lab
M-May 3  TV Reporting  Writing to Video  Chaps. 8, 9 & 23
W-May 5  TV Reporting
F-May 7  Course Review  Writing Exercise