

Journalism

MMC Project Group

Course Description

In this project group, you will learn the basics of journalism and its many mediums. We will examine what makes journalism successful. Also, you will get practice with many different mediums, as the future of journalism is shaped by the incorporation of media.

Materials

Bring your iPad. If you feel more comfortable typing on a laptop, bring that in addition to your iPad.

Attendance and Participation

Each class is one hour long. Failure to attend class or complete the assignments will result in point deductions. Absences do **not** mean that you do not have to complete the work. If you stay on track with the syllabus and participate in class, you will get the most out of this course. Unique circumstances need to be communicated to me as soon as possible to be resolved.

Assignments

Assignments are due at the start of class. Submit them in the Google Drive folder, unless I have communicated a different system.

Please make sure your name is in the title of the assignment to receive the full amount of points.

Grading

Attendance: 2 points, 28 points total

Homeworks: 10 points, 70 points total

Projects:

- News/Feature Story: 15
- Review: 15
- Column: 15
- Video Project: 15
- Publication Project: 40

Total: 200 points

Week 1: Elements of Newsworthiness and Publications

Goals:

- Learn the elements of newsworthiness
- Learn about the kinds of publications
- Talk about branding, demographics, and advertising (what makes a publication)

Homework:

- Pick a subject for your Publication
 - Give a 2-3 sentence explanation of why you chose this subject
- Pick a topic to report on for your News/Feature story

- Include a paragraph explanation of how your story connects to the demographic of your publication and how it satisfies the five elements of newsworthiness

Week 2: Journalistic Writing

Goals:

- Understand the 5 W's and the inverted pyramid
- Practice formatting news and feature stories

Homework:

- Write the first draft of your story

Week 3: Sourcing and Interviewing

Goals:

- Be conscious of where information comes from, and the potential bias
- Learn how to contact sources and interview effectively

Homework:

- Have at least one interview finished and transcribed
- Incorporate the interview into your story draft

Week 4: Finishing Touches

Goals:

- 1:1 workshopping of drafts
- Peer editing sessions

Homework:

- Final draft of story

Week 5: Project One Presentations and Intro to Reviews

Goal:

- Present final stories
- Learn about review writing

Homework:

- Write a review (300-400 words) that relates to your publication's subject-matter

Week 6: Review Presentations and Intro to Columns

Goals:

- Learn about column writing
- Learn how to create a persuasive argument

Homework:

- Write a column (400-500 words) that relates to your publication's subject-matter

Week 7: Column Presentations and Multimedia Journalism

Goals:

- Discuss the many forms of journalism
- Present different forms

Homework:

- Find one piece of multimedia journalism that you enjoy and write a paragraph about why you think that form displays the information the best

Week 8: Intro to Broadcast Journalism

Goals:

- Discuss different aspects of broadcast journalism
- Review interviewing and good questions
- Watch video interviews and discuss

Homework:

- Draft a list of questions for your subject

Week 9: Broadcast Journalism (cont.)

Goals:

- Discuss good practices for video interviewing
- Assign interview partners
- Film interviews

Homework:

- Edit and finalize your interviews

Week 10: Creative Apps

Goals:

- Present new apps to use to enhance stories
- Discuss what type of stories work with what forms

Homework:

- Research apps/programs and find one that you would like to use to enhance one of your previous homeworks. This can be an app we discussed in class. Once you have decided, write a paragraph about how you would use that app for that story.

Week 11: App Presentation and Workshop

Goals:

- Present homework
- Adapt stories to the chosen program

Homework:

- Start thinking about your publication (themes, titles, audience, etc.)
- Come with ideas for next class

Week 12: Creating a Publication

Goals:

- Review the elements of a publication
- Talk about formatting
- Discuss tools to use to make a publication

Homework:

- Make the first draft of your publication

Week 13: Creating a Publication (continued)

Goals:

- Peer editing workshop
- 1:1 check ups and workshops

Homework:

- Finalize your publication and come prepared to present next class!

Week 14: Project Five Presentations

Goals:

- Present publications
- Learn about journalism resources on campus
- Feedback for instructor