

**I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

- A. Department Information:  
Division: Humanities  
Department: English  
Course ID: ENGL 122x4  
Course Title: Journalism Production  
Units: 2  
Lab: 6 hours per week  
Prerequisite: ENGL 101 or ENGL 101H

- B. Catalog and Schedule Description:  
A laboratory course for the production of the campus newspaper. Students participate in all phases of newspaper production: writing, reporting, layout, advertising, photography, editing and distribution. This course may be taken four times.

**II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: Four**

**III. EXPECTED OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS:**

**Upon successful completion of the first semester, students should be able to:**

- A. Review news writing format- the inverted pyramid
- B. Plan the layout of the newspaper
- C. Define newspaper ethics and responsibilities

**Upon successful completion of the second semester, students should be able to:**

- A. Review feature story format
- B. Demonstrate ability to lay out and paste up the newspaper
- C. Review interviewing and surveying for news stories
- D. Use editing and copying editing techniques

**Upon successful completion of the third semester, students should be able to:**

- A. Review editorial ethics and responsibilities
- B. Demonstrate ability to write from news releases
- C. Conduct interviews and report on them with clarity and focus

**Upon successful completion of the fourth semester, students should be able to:**

- A. Practice investigative journalism including using both human public sources
- B. Distinguish alternative journalistic format, new journalism, etc.  
Demonstrate the ability to write reviews and editorials

**IV. COURSE CONTENT:**

- A. Principles of writing news stories, features and editorials:
  - 1. Accuracy
  - 2. Clarity
  - 3. Conciseness
  - 4. Attribution
  - 5. Objectivity
- B. Principles of interviewing:
  - 1. Preparation
  - 2. Selection of questions
  - 3. Note taking and recording
- C. Page layout:
  - 1. Choice and arrangement of stories
  - 2. Choice and arrangement of photos and cartoons
  - 3. Headline writing

**V. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:**

- A. Lecture/discussion: Methods and principles of various types of news writing and paper layout will be presented in lecture and discussed with the class.
- B. Workshop: Students will present stories for peer review in the workshop. The instructor will model the review process as each new assignment is considered.

**VI. TYPICAL OUT-OF-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:**

- A. News stories: A student might interview the college president at the beginning of the school year about the state of the institution.
- B. Features: A student might write a profile of a faculty member who has a newsworthy sabbatical leave project.
- C. Editorials/reviews: A student might critique a school play or an issue of Phineas.

**VII. EVALUATION(S):**

- A. Methods of Evaluation: Most evaluations are based on the production of each issue of the campus newspaper.

**Upon completion of first semester, students should be evaluated on:**

- 1. Quality of news stories
- 2. Evaluation of the newspaper layout

**Upon completion of second semester, students should be evaluated on:**

- 1. Quality of feature stories
- 2. Format of lay out and paste up
- 3. Quality of interview notes and stories
- 4. Quality of editing

**Upon completion of third semester, students should be evaluated on:**

- 1. Quiz on ethics and responsibilities
- 2. Quality of news stories based on press releases
- 3. Quality of news stories based on interviews

**Upon completion of fourth semester, students should be evaluated on**

- 1. Quality of investigative stories- attribution, accuracy, clarity
- 2. Quality of editorials and reviews

- B. Frequency of Evaluation:

Students will be graded periodically throughout the semester on the quality of their contributions to the college newspaper as writers, photographers, cartoonists, copy editors and headline writers, page editors, and general editors. There is a minimum of four issues per semester of the college newspaper.

**VIII. TYPICAL TEXT(S):**

News Reporting and Writing, 8<sup>th</sup> ed. Melvin Mencher. McGraw Hill-College Div., 2000.  
The Associated Press Stylebook and Brief on Media Law. Ed. Norm Goldstein. Perseus Publishing, 2002.  
Writing and Reporting News. Carol Rich. Thomson/Wadsworth, 2003.

**IX. OTHER SUPPLIES REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: None**