Courses in Journalism

A Jrl 100
Foundations of Journalism (3)
This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System. Introduction to contemporary journalism as a major institution in American democracy. This course will help students become more informed about media and introduce them to the major issues in journalism. Topics range from media history and the economic structure of the industry to broad questions about the impact of media on individuals and society in a fast-changing technological society. Also addressed will be ethical and legal issues related to media practices in news media. A student must make a grade of C or better in this course in order to take AJRL 200Z.
(2470) Perlman, Shirley
6 Week 1: May 30-July 7
Online course in Blackboard

A Jrl 225
Media Law and Ethics (3)
This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System. It is often said that "law and ethics have the same center point, but law has a smaller circumference." The center point focus on what is "right" to do in varying circumstances. This is especially true for journalists, whose practices in gathering, reporting, writing, and publishing news in many different forms and media often involve overlapping dilemmas of ethical questions and legal ramifications. This course will introduce students to the foundations of media law and ethics, explaining historical and contemporary theories and practices, and applying close analysis through actual cases and hypothetical situations. It will pay special attention to some of the most common dilemmas for journalists - libel, for example, or free press/fair trial conflicts, or confidentiality, or going "undercover" to investigate wrongdoing, or publishing what could be offensive content, as a few examples.
(1566) Roberts, Nancy
6 Week 2: June 26-August 4
Online course in Blackboard

A Jrl 480
Public Affairs Journalism (3)
This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System. The Capital District offers a unique laboratory for reporting on public affairs at all levels, from the local to the national. These include governmental affairs, but also judicial matters, relations between New York State and the State's indigenous Indian tribes, and policy issues concerning medicine, technology, business, and education. Public affairs journalism is now part of a large debate about the lengths to which journalists should go in hosting community events and creating an informed citizenry. Along with numerous writing assignments, students will engage in wide reading of journalists who have staked out positions to this debate and operated effectively as reports or advocates in the public arena. Prerequisite(s): A JRL 201Z or A JRL 270X; or permission of instructor.
(2404) Odato, James
6 Week 1: May 30-July 7
Online course in Blackboard

A Jrl 495
Internship in Journalism (1-6)
The course is limited to Journalism majors and minors. Internships in a variety of media are offered for variable credit. The internship requires that students work on-site in a professional media organization,
under the direct supervision of a qualified supervisor. A faculty supervisor will also design an academic component for the internship, based on readings, daily journals, and the writing of papers that analyze and reflect on the work experience. The faculty supervisor will meet regularly with interns (by telephone or by email, if the student is working at an internship outside of the Capital District). Internships are open only to qualified juniors and seniors who have an overall grade point average of 2.50 or higher and an overall grade point average of 3.0 or higher in their coursework in Journalism. Prerequisite(s): Permission of Faculty Supervisor. S/U graded.

(1089) McKenna, Holly
12 Week: May 30-August 18
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