

# Fall 2016 JOURNALISM

## Schedule & Course Descriptions (Updated 8/1/2016)

### Core courses

#### **AJRL 100 Foundations of Journalism**

5128	TTh	1:15-2:35pm	HU 024	Thomas Bass
9173	TTh	11:45am-1:05pm	BA 130	Elaine Salisbury

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 earn a grade of C or better in this course in order to take AJRL 200Z.

#### **AJRL 200Z Introduction to Reporting & News Writing**

5233	TTh	1:15-2:35pm	LC 13	Elaine Salisbury
5234	Th	5:45-8:35pm	SL G03	Barbara Lombardo

In this introductory workshop, students develop the skills of practicing reporters and news writers. They acquire the news judgment that allows them to identify what should be reported and written about, and they learn the fundamental forms of journalistic writing. Students familiarize themselves with journalistic sources and evaluating their reliability. They practice revision and learn about the Associated Press style, civics, and rudimentary budget analysis. *Prerequisite(s): AJRL 100 with a grade of C or better.*

#### **AJRL 201Z Reporting and News Writing II**

7102	TTh	10:15-11:45am	SL G03	Elaine Salisbury
7103	TTh	11:45am-1:05pm	LC 13	Shirley Perlman

This course builds on the introductory AJRL 200Z course, moving students to more advanced news reporting by focusing on beat reporting, multimedia platforms, and advanced assignments such as: covering budgets, public hearings and community issues, and researching public records. At the end of this course, students will be expected to demonstrate strong competence in news judgment, reporting, writing simple and mid-level news stories, and meeting deadlines. They will also have a basic understanding of critical thinking for journalists and some familiarity with media ethics. *Prerequisite(s): AJRL 200Z, or permission of instructor.*

#### **AJRL 225 Media Law and Ethics**

6764	MWF	9:20-10:15am	ES 140	Holly McKenna
------	-----	--------------	--------	---------------

This course examines strategies for making good ethical decisions in newsgathering and writing as well as the laws that pertain to daily journalism and public relations. The course covers the major ethical theories and philosophies and the major legal cases that journalists must know. Emphasis will be on actual cases and hypothetical situations encountered in daily journalism. The course pays special attention to some of the most common dilemmas - libel, free press/fair trial conflicts, anonymous sources, and publishing content that can harm people. Only one version of AJRL 225 may be taken for credit. *Prerequisite(s):* restricted to Journalism, Documentary Studies and History majors and minors. Others may be admitted space permitting, and with permission from the instructor.

#### **AJRL 390 Digital Media Workshop I: Web Publishing**

8245	MW	1:15-2:35pm	LC 13	Thomas Palmer
------	----	-------------	-------	---------------

This workshop course introduces students to the frontier of online journalism and audience-building strategies. Students develop proficiency with the range of online services and applications that journalists use today, including WordPress, Facebook, Twitter, Adobe Photoshop and video-editing software. The field-based journalism projects include video and photography capture and editing. Students also learn search-engine-optimization headline writing skills and online story editing. *Prerequisite(s): AJRL 200Z, or permission of instructor.*

**AJRL 392 Digital Media Workshop 2: Desk-top publishing**

7512 MW 5:45-7:05pm LC 13 Thomas Palmer

Based on journalistic principles, this workshop course provides students with a cross-platform foundation in design, typography and color theory as it applies today in printed publications and mobile devices. Students learn workflow strategies in the editing and fusion of visual and written content for print and online. Projects include the creation of magazines, broadsheet or tabloid print designs and tablet visual design/functionality. Applications include Adobe InDesign and Photoshop. *Prerequisite(s): AJRL 200Z, or permission of instructor.*

**AJRL 490Z Digital Publication**

5761 T 5:45-8:35pm LC 13 Michael Huber

This workshop is devoted to electronic publishing in a wide variety of contemporary contexts - from the Web, to blogs, to E-zines, to Webcasts, and others. Most often, the course will involve publishing at least one issue of a journalistic E-zine, in addition to other assignments that require using other forms of contemporary electronic media. Students will be expected to exercise news judgment; report, write, and edit stories; work with digital imagining; utilize graphic design and layout principles; and work through a publishing process. *Prerequisite(s): AJRL 201Z, and either AJRL 390 or 392; or permission of instructor.*

**Contextual courses****AJRL 330 History of Journalism in the United States**

9028 TTh 11:45am-1:05pm SS 133 Nancy Roberts

This course examines the development of journalism in the United States, emphasizing the role of the press as a social institution. Subjects covered include the function and purpose of the press, evolving definitions of news, changing interpretations of the First Amendment, and the ethical and legal dimensions of free speech. Also examined will be the social, economic, political, technological, and cultural forces that have shaped the practices of journalism today.

**AJRL 340 Global Perspectives on News**

10028 MW 4:15-5:35p SS 131 Rosemary Armao

This course provides a global perspective on news production and the distribution of media around the world. After studying the political and legal constraints under which international media operate, including the operating procedures of American journalists working as foreign correspondents, the course will explore topics including censorship, information warfare, Internet piracy, the blogosphere, and conflicts between national interests and the media technologies that are unconstrained by national borders. Readings include works by Marshall McLuhan, Umberto Eco, Benjamin Barber, Susan George, and others.

**AJRL 363 Visual Culture**

8244 MWF 11:30am-12:25pm ES 140 Thomas Palmer

The course explores the increasing predominance of visual media in contemporary life. It examines how traditional narrative forms of storytelling are being replaced by visual forms of storytelling in journalism, photojournalism, film, television, the internet, video games, anime, graphic novels, and advertising. Particular emphasis will be paid to the global flow of visual culture and the technologies that facilitate these cultural exchanges. *May not be taken by students with credit for AJRL/TJRL 220.*

**AJRL 475z Journalism & Social Media**

10741 Th 5:45-8:35p LC 13 Michael Huber

An examination of media and society in the digital age. The course explores the nature of media, their social role, and means of production. It surveys new technologies and their effect on print, film, broadcast, web, and other media. Topics include recent developments in communications technology, news, social media, intellectual property, censorship, surveillance, and gender differences. *Prerequisite(s): AJRL 200Z or AJRL 270X*

## Skills courses

### **AJRL 308Z Narrative Journalism**

2061 M 5:45-8:35pm HU 027 Steve Barnes

Students will explore a variety of journalistic styles, with emphasis on compelling narrative and description, combined with the skillful use of quotes and dialogue. The class features intensive critiques of students' work. A variety of formats will be studied: newspapers, magazines, non-fiction books, and online publications. Readings for the course include works by Janet Malcolm, Barbara Ehrenreich, Ellen Ullman, Mary Karr, Edward Abbey, Edmund Wilson, Michael Herr, and James Baldwin. Students submit weekly writing assignments and a final portfolio of edited work. Only one version of AJRL 308Z may be taken for credit. *Prerequisite(s): AJRL 200Z, or permission of instructor.*

### **AJRL 366Z Magazine Writing**

5237 TTh 2:45-4:05am HU 027 Nancy Roberts

This writing-intensive course gives students experience in conceptualizing, researching and reporting, writing, rewriting, and submitting for publication different types of articles that are found in magazines and the features section of newspapers, both print and online. Ethical issues and writer-editor relationships are also examined. Students write several articles of varying length and complete other assignments, such as writing query letters and analyzing magazine content. *Prerequisite(s): AJRL 200Z, and AJRL 201Z or 270X; or permission of instructor.*

### **AJRL 475Z Sports Journalism**

9229 W 5:45-8:35pm HU 116 Ian Pickus

Students will examine and practice modern forms of sports journalism, surveying longform features, broadcast, daily recaps and notebooks, interviews with athletes, social media and blogs, commentary, hard news, and statistical analysis. Through rigorous reading and writing requirements, students will confront classic pieces of sportswriting and contemporaneous works, with specific focus on writing for the web in addition to field reporting for more traditional outlets.

### **AJRL 380 Photojournalism**

7112 Th 2:45-5:35pm SL G03 Katherine Van Acker

Students develop the critical skills for evaluating and the technical skills for producing, editing, and publishing digital photographs in a variety of formats, including traditional newspapers, satellite transmissions from the field, and Internet websites. While developing their aesthetic and technical skills, students will critique each other's photos in a workshop format. Only one version of A JRL 380 may be taken for credit.

### **AJRL 385 Broadcast Journalism**

5015 M 2:45-5:35pm LC 13 David Guistina

Students will report, write, produce, air, and record a variety of television and radio news stories with a degree of professionalism resembling what might be found in local newscasts, whether they be short reports or longer, feature-length stories. Working individually or in groups, students will use analog and digital video technologies and recording devices to produce their stories. *Prerequisite(s): AJRL 200Z and either AJRL 201Z or AJRL 270X; or permission of instructor.*

### **AJRL 390 Digital Media Workshop I: Web Publishing**

8245 MW 1:15-2:35pm LC 13 Thomas Palmer

### **AJRL 392 Digital Media Workshop 2: Desktop publishing**

7512 MW 5:45-7:05pm LC 13 Thomas Palmer

### **AJRL 460z Advanced Reporting & News Writing**

5257 MW 2:45-4:05pm BB 02 James M. Odato

Students in this advanced workshop will work on investigative and explanatory news stories that are thoroughly researched and compellingly written. Students are expected to develop a sense of journalistic tenacity and appreciation for applied research. They will learn how to develop a story through multiple drafts and how to produce articles noteworthy for journalistic flair, emotional impact, and informative power. *Prerequisite(s): A JRL 201Z or A JRL 270X or permission of instructor.*

## Required courses (check your DARS for details on what you need)

**AJRL 460z**      **Advanced Reporting & News Writing**  
5257              MW                      2:45-4:05pm                      BB 02                      James M. Odato

**AJRL 475Z**      **Sports Journalism**  
9229              W                              5:45-8:35pm                      HU 116                      Ian Pickus

**AJRL 475z**      **Journalism & Social Media**  
10741              Th                              5:45-8:35p                      LC 13                      Michael Huber

**AJRL 480**      **Public Affairs Journalism**  
10029              TTh                              4:15-5:35pm                      SS 255                      Michael T. Hill

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 200Z and either A JRL 201Z or A JRL 270X; or permission of instructor.*

**AJRL 495**      **Internship in Journalism**  
2062              ARR                              ARR                              ARR                              Holly McKenna

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. May be repeated for up to a total of six credits. S/U graded. *Prerequisite(s): 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.*

## Honors College

**TJRL 100**      **Foundations of Journalism and Media Studies**  
10149              T                              5:45-8:35pm                      BB 213                      Thomas Bass

Specially designed for students in the Honors College, TJRL 100 is the Journalism Program's introductory course in Journalism and Media Studies. With a strong writing component, the course helps students become more informed about media. It teaches basic journalistic practices and introduces the major issues currently confronting journalism and media studies. Topics range from media history and the economics of the media industry to broad questions about the impact of media on individuals and society in the 21st century.