Spring 2016 JOURNALISM
Schedule & Course Descriptions

Core courses

AJRL 100 Foundations of Journalism
4644 MWF 9:20-10:15am HU 024 Holly McKenna
10049 TTh 1:15-2:35pm ES 235 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
4645 TTh 10:15-11:35am LC 13 Elaine Salisbury
4646 TTh 11:45am-1:05pm LC 13 Elaine Salisbury
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
7428 TTh 11:45am-1:05pm BB 119 Shirley Perlman
6851 T 5:45-8:35pm SL G20 Barbara Lombardo
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
7159 M 5:45-8:35pm SS 255 Ian Pickus
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
7160 TTh 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
8078  TTh  11:45am-1:05pm  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
8907  M  5:45-8:35pm  LC 13  Michael Huber
6854  W  7:15-10:05pm  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 340  Global Perspectives on News
5090  TTh  2:45-4:05pm  SS 255  Thomas Bass
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
6852  TTh  10:15-11:35am  FA 114  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 468  Literary Journalism
7161  TTh  11:45am-1:05pm  LC 3A  Nancy Roberts
This course invites students to read and analyze literary journalism, with attention to its historical context. Readings include works by Daniel Defoe, Charles Dickens, Samuel Clemens, Stephen Cane, Janet Flanner, Lillian Ross, Rebecca West, John Hersey, James Agee, Dorothy Day, Meridel LeSueur, Truman Capote, Joan Didion, Tracy Kidder, and others. While reflecting on the relations between journalism and literary fiction and nonfiction, students will complete bi-weekly assignments. Only one version of AJRL 468 may be taken for credit. Prerequisite(s): AJRL 201Z.

AJRL 475  Entrepreneurial Journalism
10050  T  5:45-8:35pm  SS 133  Thomas Bass
Journalism is undergoing a radical transformation, as the profession moves from print to digital formats. Entrepreneurial Journalism aims to understand this transformation. The course will examine business models for media organizations and startups, the shifting economics of journalism, the financial structure of the news industry, and how changes in this structure affect the nature of news itself. Focused on invited speakers, case studies, and a global review of the field and its practices, Entrepreneurial Journalism will present examples and develop general strategies for thriving in today’s changing media landscape. The course is open to Journalism majors, minors, and other students who have taken either AJRL200Z or 270X.
This course is an introduction to the process of “crisis communications”: What does an organization or company do to protect its reputation and communicate effectively with the public, the news media and customers in the wake of a crisis? The course will include a heavy emphasis on case studies, and will examine several real crises and how the companies or organizations involved did well...or not so well. Students will be expected to participate in role-playing discussions about how certain crises might be handled, giving them a good idea about these situations play out in the real world. Prerequisite(s): AJRL200Z or 270X.

Skills courses

AJRL 308Z  Narrative Journalism
2108  TTh  5:45-8:35pm  HU 113  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 324  Introduction to Documentary Photography
7260  TH  2:45-5:35pm  SL G02  Katherine Van Acker
From Mathew Brady's Civil War photographs, to the work of photographers of the U.S. Farm Security Administration in the 1930s, and through the stunning and emotive images of contemporary social, ethnographic, scientific, and war photographers, documentary photography has experienced a long and vigorous development. In this basic introductory hands-on workshop, students will examine the long heritage of documentary photography as well as the practical lessons to be learned from renowned practitioners. The course explores the use of still photographs to record various aspects of social, political, and cultural life and events. Students will develop their visual storytelling skills through a series of research and fieldwork hands-on projects involving the documentation of various aspects of contemporary life. Students should be familiar with the basics of digital camera operation. Only one version of AJRL 324 may be taken for credit. Prerequisite(s): restricted to Documentary Studies Program and Journalism majors and minors. Others may be admitted space permitting, and with permission from the instructor.

AJRL 366Z  Magazine Writing
5092  TTh  8:45-10:05am  SL G02  Steve Barnes
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 385  Broadcast Journalism
6853  M  2:45-5:35pm  BA 209  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.
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AJRL 487 Investigative Reporting
10051 TTh 7:15-8:35pm SS 255 Michael Hill
Intensive reading and analysis of the history, strategies, techniques, ethics and practical problems of the craft of investigative reporting. Emphasis will be on hands-on experience with documents, sources, state agencies and ethical dilemmas. The goal is to produce a substantial piece of original, in-depth reportage by semester's end. Prerequisite(s): AJRL 201Z or 270X; or permission of instructor.

Required courses

AJRL 487 Investigative Reporting
10051 TTh 7:15-8:35pm SS 255 Michael Hill
Intensive reading and analysis of the history, strategies, techniques, ethics and practical problems of the craft of investigative reporting. Emphasis will be on hands-on experience with documents, sources, state agencies and ethical dilemmas. The goal is to produce a substantial piece of original, in-depth reportage by semester's end. Prerequisite(s): AJRL 201Z or 270X; or permission of instructor.

AJRL 495 Internship in Journalism
2094 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.

AJRL 499 Seniors Honors Project
6858 TTh 2:45-4:05pm HU 119 Nancy Roberts
Students will define, develop, research, and write or produce in electronic or visual form an individual project of serious merit. The project is intended to demonstrate the range of skills acquired during the student's training in Journalism. The project should also demonstrate a nuanced understanding of the ethical and legal issues of the profession. Work on the project will be supervised by advanced arrangement with a faculty member. The decision on whether a student's final project merits receiving Honors in Journalism will be made by the faculty of the Journalism Program.