

MCJ-458 Advance News Reporting (3 Credit Hours)

Course Objectives

1. This course is designed for advanced journalism students who want to learn the fundamentals of beat reporting. Students who learned the basics of news writing and reporting in MCF-242 will refine their skills by choosing a beat, developing sources and producing stories that are more sophisticated than those they have done before. The emphasis is on getting well sourced and using your sources and advanced reporting skills to publish quality work.

Learning Outcomes

2. Improve key skills, such as gathering, assessing and developing rapport with sources
Produce stories based on information obtained from primary sources
Write with objectivity, authority and a well-developed sense of audience
Develop skills of verification
Develop a more sophisticated understanding and appreciation for the journalist's role
Expand and deepen their understanding of journalistic ethics

3. Contents

- a. Enterprise reporting
 - (1) Strategies
 - (2) Planning and newsgathering
 - (3) Advanced feature writing tools
- b. Investigate reporting tools and techniques
- c. Specialized reporting (students can pick an area/beat to report on for the semester)
 - (1) Consistency in reporting
 - (2) Cultivating sources
 - (3) Context and in-depth reporting
- d. Basics of longform

References

1. Page One: Inside the New York Times and the Future of Journalism, by David Folkenflik
2. America's Best Newspaper Writing, a Collection of ASNE Prizewinners, by Roy Peter Clark and Christopher Scanlan, The Poynter Institute, Bedford/St. Martin's, 2006
3. News Reporting and Writing Nov 10, 2010 by Missouri Group and Brian S. Brooks
4. Writing and Reporting News: A Coaching Method (Wadsworth Series in Mass Communication and Journalism) Jan 1, 2012 | Large Print by Carole Rich
5. Breaking Cat News: Cats Reporting on the News that Matters to Cats May 10, 2016 by Georgia Dunn
6. Writing and Reporting News: A Coaching Method (Mass Communication and Journalism) Jan 1, 2015 by Carole Rich
7. Melvin Mencher's News Reporting and Writing Feb 17, 2010 by Melvin Mencher