Prefix, Number and Name of Course:
COM 327  Literary Journalism

Credit Hours: 3 credits
In-Class Instructional Hours: 3  Labs: 0  Field Work: 0

Catalog Description:
Prerequisite: COM 100 and COM 210

Exploration of literary excellence in journalistic writing; classic journalistic authors and their stories; relationship of journalism and literature, as well as television and radio scripts and online, long-form narrative

Reasons for Revision:
(Fall 2010) This course was last revised in approximately 2000. This revision will update the course to include changing journalistic writing practice across multiple media formats, and expanding scholarship in the field. The prerequisite is also changing, allowing students to take the course once they have completed COM 100 Media Literacy and 200 level Media Writing course.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcomes:</th>
<th>Course Content References:</th>
<th>Assessment:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On completion of this course, students will be able to:</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>1. Exams, papers, applied projects, class participation, presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Identify and meaningfully discuss classic works by writers and reporters of American journalism</td>
<td>II, III, VI</td>
<td>2. Exams, papers, applied projects, presentations</td>
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<td>2. Critically analyze the elements in works of journalism that constitute designations of “great” and “classic” and thus are worthy of enduring fame</td>
<td>IV, V</td>
<td>3. Exams, papers, applied projects, class, participation, presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Demonstrate familiarity with the characteristics and varieties of approaches to literary journalism</td>
<td>III, IV, V, VI</td>
<td>4. Exams, papers, applied projects, presentations</td>
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<td>4. Critically analyze various ways that American journalistic writing in print, broadcast scripts and long-form online narratives has influenced American literary culture and literary writers</td>
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Course Content:

I. Literary Journalism
   A. Relationship with news writing
   B. Relationship with literature
   C. Interviewing
   D. Research
II. Characteristics of Literary Journalism
   A. Strong narrative
   B. Evocative description
   C. Realistic character presentation
III. Literary Journalistic Writing Style
   A. Quotations and dialogue
   B. Metaphoric language
   C. Physical detail
   D. Sound and sense
   E. Deconstruction
   F. Close analysis
IV. Topics of Literary Journalism
   A. Reporting of major disasters and news
   B. Reporting of societal change and social issues
   C. Reporting of personal and family relationships
   D. War reporting
   E. Interviews with heroes and newsmakers
   F. Reporting of firsts, lasts and onlys
V. Formats of Literary Journalism
   A. Journalistic novels
   B. Docu-dramas
   C. Serial reporting
   D. New journalism
   E. Long-form online narratives
   F. Broadcast scripts
VI. Key Figures in Literary Journalism (examples)
   A. Ernest Hemingway
   B. Jack London
   C. H.L. Mencken
   D. Ida Tarbell
   E. Hunter Thompson
   F. Ernie Pyle
   G. Jimmy Breslin
Resources:

Scholarship in the Field.


Periodicals:
*Columbia Journalism Review*  
*Editor & Publisher*  
*Journalism Quarterly*
Electronic and/or Audiovisual Resources

AEJMC History Division
http://www.utc.edu/~aejhist

American Journalism Historians Association
http://ajhaonline.org

American Women’s History: Journalism
http://www.mtsu.edu/~kmiddlet/history/women/wh-jour.html

Center for History and New Media
http://chnm.gmu.edu

Nieman Journalism Lab – Harvard University
www.niemanlab.org

Paley Center for Media
http://www.mtr.org

Poynter Online – Journalism
www.poynter.org