COM 338 Electronic News II: Reporting

Credit Hours: 3
In-Class Instructional Hours: 2  Labs: 2  Field Work: 0

Catalog Description:
Prerequisite. COM 302 and COM 337

News reporting for electronic media in non-studio locations; practice in reporting, writing and news presentation under deadline pressure; techniques of using cameras and editing equipment.

Reasons for Revision:
(2007) This course was last revised in 1998. This revision is part of a general program review, through which Communication seeks to update its courses in light of departmental experience with the previous program version, evolving departmental needs, and expanding scholarship in the field. Additionally, the department is undertaking this revision to position itself for accreditation by the Accrediting Council for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

Student Learning Outcomes:
On completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of what constitutes effective field news reporting
2. Demonstrate a basic ability to effectively gather pertinent information for a field news report
3. Prepare professional-quality electronic news reports in various formats, including news packages, voiceovers, and voiceover/sound on tape
4. Understand the basic principles of cameras, microphones and editing equipment and demonstrate a basic ability to prepare news packages under deadline pressure
5. Discuss radio and television news, using terminology and concepts employed by journalistic professionals
6. Analyze ethical content of radio and television news packages

Course Content References:

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<th>Student Learning Outcomes</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Demonstrate an understanding of what constitutes effective field news reporting</td>
<td>I, II, III</td>
<td>1. Exams, applied projects, presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Demonstrate a basic ability to effectively gather pertinent information for a field news report</td>
<td>II, III</td>
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<td>3. Prepare professional-quality electronic news reports in various formats, including news packages, voiceovers, and voiceover/sound on tape</td>
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<td>4. Understand the basic principles of cameras, microphones and editing equipment and demonstrate a basic ability to prepare news packages under deadline pressure</td>
<td>II, III, IV</td>
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<td>5. Discuss radio and television news, using terminology and concepts employed by journalistic professionals</td>
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<td>6. Analyze ethical content of radio and television news packages</td>
<td>III, IV</td>
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Course Content:

I. Field Reporting
   A. Radio reporting
   B. Television reporting
   C. Sources of news and information
   D. Types of interviews
II. Writing field stories for radio and audio dissemination
    A. Sound bites and actualities
    B. News package
    C. Communicating without visual images
    D. Equipment for field audio
    E. Ethical issues of audio reporting
III. Writing field stories for television and video dissemination
     A. Sound bites and actualities
     B. Voice-overs
     C. News package
     D. Communicating with visual images
     E. Equipment for field video
     F. Ethical issues of video reporting
IV. On-Air Presentation Skills
    A. Grooming and appearance
    B. Demeanor
    C. Voice delivery
    D. Live/remote protocols
    E. Teases, tosses and bulleting
V. Current Practice
   A. Radio
   B. Television
   C. Online media
VI. Newscast Production
    A. News hole
    B. Story selection
    C. Story flow
    D. Scripts
    E. timing
Resources:
Classic Scholarship in the Field

Current Scholarship in the Field

Web Sites
National Association of Broadcasters  http://www.nab.org
Poynter Institute  http://www.poynter.org
Radio Television News Directors Association  http://www.rtnda.org
Society of Professional Journalists  http://www.spj.org