

Prepared by the Department of Language and Literature  
Date of Departmental Approval: November 2, 2009  
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Effective: Fall 2010

1. **Course Number:** ENL161  
**Course Title:** Journalism I
2. **Description:** This course is designed to instruct the student in the collecting, writing, editing and publishing of news and feature articles in periodicals. Although weekly lecture and discussion periods will be mandatory, the emphasis in the course will be on writing news stories outside of regular class time. Each student in the course will be expected to be involved in the student newspaper.
3. **Student learning outcomes:**  
Upon successful completion of this course, students are able to do the following:
  - Write news and feature stories suitable for publication in newspapers or other news media.
  - Conduct interviews in order to obtain newsworthy information to be used in news stories.
  - Identify common organizational structures commonly used in news and feature stories.
  - Write news and feature stories using the conventions of the Associated Press Stylebook
  - Gather and analyze information and present it clearly and accurately.
  - Critically analyze news and feature stories in the news media.
  - Discuss the history of journalism in the United States and the influence of the mass media in society.
  - Discuss the major ethical issues involved in modern journalism and take ethics into account when writing news stories.
  - Demonstrate media literacy as a critical consumer of the mass media.
  - Demonstrate an ability to compare and contrast the role of the mass media in various cultures and societies
  - Discuss the role of the mass media in fostering understanding of diverse cultures and communities within the United States.
  - Practice interviewing sources from a variety of racial, ethnic and identity groups in order to present a balanced account of events in our multicultural society.
  - Draft news stories using current word-processing software and transmit them in appropriate format to a publication.
4. **Credits:** 3 credits
5. **Satisfies General Education Requirement:** Humanities and Fine Arts
6. **Prerequisite:** ENL101
7. **Semester(s) Offered:** Fall, Spring
8. **Suggested General Guidelines for Evaluation:** The final grade will be based primarily on the quality of the weekly news writing assignments. Other factors will include tests, participation in the student newspaper, quizzes on the reading assignments, class attendance and participation and reading newspapers.
9. **General Topical Outline (Optional):**
  - Introduction to journalism
  - News writing
  - Grammar, punctuation and style
  - Story ideas and curiosity
  - Sources and interviewing
  - Types of leads
  - The body of stories
  - Feature writing
  - Public relations and broadcast news
  - Libel and ethics
  - Beat reporting and common story types
  - Public affairs reporting
  - Features and profiles
  - Computer assisted reporting
  - The future of journalism