

JR 102 Foundations of Journalism – Fall 2018

Instructor: Angela Anderson-Connolly

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Class: MW 8:00-9:45

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description:

Foundations of Journalism is a 4 credit course. In this course you will learn the basics of journalism. You will learn how to identify a news story, develop and pitch story ideas, define the focus of a story, and how to identify and evaluate sources. You will be putting those skills to use as you cover events in the Boston area. You will learn about journalistic standards for print, broadcast, radio and online.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Identify newsworthy information, and explain why.
2. Explain the role of journalism and public service responsibilities in a democratic society.
3. Develop a basic news story using the fundamentals of news including fairness, attribution, backgrounding, proper use of sound bytes and quotes, and attribution.
4. Produce news reports across multiple platforms.
5. Cover events, learning the basics of interviewing and fact gathering needed to create a news report.
6. Use appropriate writing styles for platform, including AP Style and Broadcast form.
7. Apply ethical standards of journalism in a real world setting.
8. Recognize the types of news sources that can be used.

Course Tools

Text Book:

Writing and Reporting for the Media 11th Edition.

Lucinda D. Davenport, Michael W. Drager, Fred Felder.

ISBN-13: 978-0190200886

ISBN-10: 019020088X

Also required:

Boston Globe Subscription

New York Times, Wall Street Journal or Washington Post access

Ear bud headphones (please bring to class)

AP StyleBook (online access)

Daily Musts

Reading the Boston Globe/New York Times and other print news sources

Watching local and national TV news broadcasts

Reading several online news sources

Listen to NPR Morning Edition

Expectations: You are expected to participate in class. This course will focus on a lot of classroom discussion. You will learn while there are “rules to journalism” there is also a lot of room for discussion. There are some questions with multiple answers, and by talking out issues as a group you will learn more. Journalism also requires critical thinking and collaboration, you will experience both in this course. You are expected to be respectful to one another in class, outside of class and during the peer review process. I ask that you dress appropriately for class (not pajamas, no short shorts, no spaghetti straps etc.). Treat this class as a job, you never know when an unexpected guest will be the class, or when we will be going out in the field.

Attendance: Attendance in this class is mandatory. Any missed class must come with prior notification, and a valid reason. If you are missing a class due to a religious reason please notify me in advance. You are responsible for finding out what you missed in class that day. Assignments done during class may or may not be made up at a later date. If you miss three classes, you will fail the course.

Plagiarism/Fabrication: If you plagiarize or fabricate any part of an assignment you will fail the class. Do not “borrow” a phrase or passage even by re-wording it. Do not fabricate information for a story. All work you do must be original and generated through interviews and research. You are allowed to quote from other works, but must be cited appropriately. Plagiarism could lead to suspension. Please read Emerson’s Plagiarism Policy.
<http://www.emerson.edu/policy/plagiarism>

Two Degrees of Separation Rule: You will hear this in every journalism class, so start obeying the rule now! You are not allowed to interview relatives, friends, classmates, colleagues or anyone else you already know. Interviewing people you know presents a conflict of interest.

Deadlines: Journalism and deadlines go hand and hand. Do not miss deadlines. Late work will lose ten points for each day. After 3 days the assignment will not be accepted and receive a 0.

Students with Disabilities:

If you need services or accommodations, contact the Disability Services Office at (617) 824-8592, dso@emerson.edu. The office is located at 216 Tremont Street 5th Floor.

Respect for Diversity and Inclusion: Each student in this class deserves respect for the individual they are. Each student will be treated fairly. I will do my best to create an inclusive environment. If you have suggestions for improvement, please speak to me. If you have any other question, contact Emerson's Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

Grading:

Attendance	10%
Reading Assignments	10%
Quizzes	20%
Homework	20%