Courses

JOUR 199 Undergraduate Open Seminar credit: 1 to 3 Hours.
A changing array of courses focusing on special topics in journalism.
Approved for Letter and S/U grading. May be repeated to a maximum of
12 hours in separate semesters, if topics vary.

JOUR 200 Introduction to Journalism credit: 3 Hours.
Discussion of the history, freedom, technologies, ethics, and functions of
the news media. Training in clear, descriptive writing techniques, using
journalistic models. Prerequisite: Completion of Composition I general
education requirement.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Advanced Composition

JOUR 205 History of American Journalism credit: 3 Hours.
Surveys the history of the field of journalism since pre-colonial times.
Includes the evolution of the media in the United States and the evolution
of cultural concepts concerning the media, including rights granted under
the First Amendment. Credit is not given for JOUR 205 if credit for JOUR
405 has been earned.

JOUR 210 Newsgathering Across Platforms credit: 4 Hours.
Fundamentals of journalistic reporting and writing across print, broadcast
and digital platforms. Credit is not given for JOUR 210 if credit for JOUR
400 has been earned. Prerequisite: JOUR 200.

JOUR 215 Multimedia Reporting credit: 4 Hours.
Designed to acquaint students with the fundamentals of digital
photography, video, audio and multimedia as it applies to journalism.
Instruction will include conceptual frameworks and techniques to
create multimedia journalism content; the conception, planning and
creation of multimedia projects; coverage of events with audio, video and
photographs; the technical and creative aspects of digital photography,
video, and multimedia; delivery platforms for multimedia content
including the Web and evolving communication technologies. Credit
is not given for JOUR 215 if credit for JOUR 410 has been earned.
Prerequisite: JOUR 210 or consent of Journalism Department.

JOUR 220 News Editing credit: 4 Hours.
Editing and headline writing, news judgment, ethics and leadership. Credit
is not given for JOUR 220 if credit for JOUR 320 has been given.

JOUR 250 Journalism Ethics & Diversity credit: 3 Hours.
Focuses on media decision-making and news judgment, specifically
ethics and diversity in newsgathering with regard to scope, privacy,
bias, economic concerns, and accountability. Examines real-life news
decisions and the thoughts of journalists who lived through famous
and infamous ethics situations. Key provisions in the Society of Professional
Journalists Code of Ethics regarding use of diverse voices will be
discussed and applied in practical ways, and both students and the
instructor will find current examples of ethics issues to present to the
class. Diversity education is part of the required standard for achieving
journalism accreditation from the discipline’s national accrediting body.

JOUR 293 Digital Photography for Everyone credit: 3 Hours.
Foundations of digital photography, techniques to produce photographs;
the conception and planning of pictures; the pictorial coverage of
locations, events and human interest situations; and the planning and
execution of photos in print, on the web and other electronic
media are the focus of this hands-on course. You will develop a
practical understanding of the potentials and realities of photographic
communication to better use them for full expression of your vision.
Approved for Letter and S/U grading.

JOUR 311 Media Law credit: 3 Hours.
Detailed analysis of the theories of freedom of expression, the
legal doctrines of greatest concern to mass communicators, and
contemporary issues related to free speech and press, including libel,
copyright, and news-gathering in a digital age. Credit is not given for
JOUR 311 if credit for JOUR 411 has been earned.

JOUR 315 Adv Public Affairs Reporting credit: 4 Hours.
Study and extensive practice of in-depth public affairs reporting - its
concepts, techniques, traditions, ethics, and social obligations. Credit
is not given for JOUR 315 if credit for JOUR 415 has been earned.
Prerequisite: JOUR 210.

JOUR 320 News Editing credit: 4 Hours.
Editing and headline writing, news judgment, ethics and leadership. Credit
is not given for JOUR 320 if credit for JOUR 420 has been earned.

JOUR 335 Audio Journalism credit: 4 Hours.
Reporting and writing news for audio programs and websites. Credit
is not given for JOUR 335 if credit for JOUR 435 has been earned.
Prerequisite: JOUR 210.

JOUR 340 Video Reporting & Storytelling credit: 4 Hours.
Introduces news studio and field production and principles of field
reporting and editing of news video; principles of planning, producing,
and directing news and public affairs programs. Credit is not given
for JOUR 340 if credit for JOUR 440 has been earned.
Prerequisite: JOUR 210.

JOUR 360 The Media and You credit: 3 Hours.
The course will survey contemporary public relations to clarify several
elements: publicity, advertising, branding, press agentry, public affairs,
issues management, lobbying, investor relations and development.
Students will learn to work with the press and the ethical dimensions of
the relationships that form. The course will employ real and hypothetical
case studies. Teams will develop strategies to reach a PR goal. Each
team will make presentations to be judged by real clients or the instructor
and guest judges.

JOUR 361 Readings in Sports Journalism credit: 3 Hours.
Books about sports and sports personalities are perennial best-sellers.
Students in this course will read, analyze and discuss long-form sports
journalism. Some of the books and stories are considered classics of the
form; others may be fairly recent and news-worthy publications. All will
represent varied approaches to sports journalism in books, magazines
and digital experiments and forms.

JOUR 421 Editing for Publication credit: 3 Hours.
Principles and practice of editing across disciplines. Content includes
style, grammar, punctuation, word usage, clarity and brevity. Both print
and digital environments are considered. Students will edit text and
display copy such as headlines and photo captions. 3 undergraduate
hours. 3 graduate hours. Credit is not given for both JOUR 421 and
JOUR 320. Journalism majors should enroll in JOUR 320. Prerequisite:
Advanced Composition.
JOUR 425 Multimedia Editing and Design credit: 4 Hours. Principles of visual reporting and editing; seeks to instill application-level competency in a wide array of non-linear, non-narrative techniques of journalistic storytelling across various media. 4 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: JOUR 215.

JOUR 445 Video Storytelling 2-Producing credit: 4 Hours. Advanced techniques for reporting, producing, writing, shooting, and editing video news stories and for producing and airing regularly scheduled news programs on deadline. 4 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: JOUR 340.

JOUR 450 Media and Public Opinion credit: 3 Hours. Theory of public opinion and communications; relation of communication systems to public opinion, social systems, and the political order. 3 undergraduate hours. 3 graduate hours. Prerequisite: Completion of Quantitative Reasoning I.

JOUR 451 Research Methods in Journalism credit: 3 Hours. Introduction to social science principles of measurement, sampling, statistical inferences and logic of research design in collection, analysis and interpretation of information used in journalism and mass media. 3 undergraduate hours. 3 graduate hours. Prerequisite: Completion of Quantitative Reasoning I requirement. JOUR 200 recommended, or graduate standing. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Quantitative Reasoning II

JOUR 452 Great Books of Journalism credit: 3 Hours. Books written by journalists have had great impact on U.S. public policy and understanding, covering such topics as corporate power, political corruption, rural poverty, the atomic bombing of Japan, Watergate, and a soldiers-eye view of war. From hard-edged investigations to nonfiction literature, the readings broaden and deepen understanding of the power and purpose of journalism beyond breaking news and celebrities. Readings from eight groundbreaking books, assessment of social and professional impact, ethical issues, reporting and writing approaches, and extensive class discussion. 3 undergraduate hours. 3 graduate hours. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Humanities - Lit Arts Cultural Studies - US Minority

JOUR 453 Crisis Communications credit: 3 Hours. Students will take on the role of a public relations/public affairs officer to learn how to deal with the media when managing a crisis for a client, whether a multinational corporation or a professional athlete. Students will use case studies of actual events to examine how the media dealt with the crisis. Students will get a look at the inner workings of a major PR firm devoted to telling the truth while managing the message. 3 undergraduate hours. 3 graduate hours.

JOUR 454 Propaganda & the News Media credit: 3 or 4 Hours. The course examines techniques and processes of propaganda in a democratic society. It draws from contemporary theories of influence and persuasion to identify propaganda in the context of modern journalism, to delineate differences between propaganda and information, and to assess the impact of propaganda on democratic decision making in the digital age. Particular attention is given to the news media practices and consumption patterns that unwittingly facilitate strategies of modern propagandists. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: Junior, Senior or Graduate standing.

JOUR 460 Special Topics credit: 1 to 4 Hours. A changing array of special projects, research or reading in journalism. 1 to 4 undergraduate hours. 1 to 4 graduate hours. May be repeated in the same or subsequent semesters if topics vary.

JOUR 470 International Reporting credit: 3 Hours. Role of international news in daily lives. Examines those who report it and those who pioneered it. Students monitor how U.S. and international media cover selected countries and learn how to write international news. In selected semesters, students may research issues and life in a foreign country in preparation for an international reporting trip. 3 undergraduate hours. 3 graduate hours.

JOUR 471 Science Journalism credit: 3 Hours. Students will explore media coverage of science. They will examine the interconnections of scientific advances and public understanding. The seminar format will allow students to interview scientists and journalists, to discuss work, and to become science communicators. Subject matter of reporting projects will be determined by the background and interests of the students. Field trips and Illinois science will be featured. 3 undergraduate hours. 3 graduate hours.

JOUR 472 Business Reporting credit: 3 Hours. Learning to follow the money is a key part of covering corporate America, professional sports or Hollywood. No need to fear financial statements: This course shows you easy methods to pick them apart and turn them into smart stories. Students learn to report and write stories using the Wall Street Journal's feature methods. 3 undergraduate hours. 3 graduate hours. Prerequisite: JOUR 210 or JOUR 400. Journalism or Agricultural Communications major(s). Restricted to students with Sophomore, Junior, Senior, or Graduate class standing.

JOUR 475 Magazine Writing credit: 3 Hours. Preparation of feature stories and articles; techniques of marketing, market analysis, and publishing articles written in the course. 3 undergraduate hours. 3 graduate hours. Prerequisite: JOUR 210.

JOUR 480 Advanced Reporting Topics credit: 3 Hours. Advanced reporting projects or techniques, with separate sections for a varying array of topics such as investigative reporting, immersion journalism, literary journalism, business and financial journalism, online publishing, radio news features, sports writing, broadcast documentary production, digital journalism, and photo journalism. 3 undergraduate hours. 3 graduate hours. May be repeated in the same or subsequent semesters if topics vary. Prerequisite: JOUR 210.

JOUR 481 Literary Feature Writing credit: 3 Hours. Course focuses on concept, reporting practice, and ethics of literary approaches to create evocative, story-like journalism articles. Students report and write a single in-depth story that will be re-reported and re-written three times. Includes extensive readings illustrating the finest literary journalism. The class includes extensive self, class and professor criticism and editing. Articles for this class have been published in the News-Gazette and other publications. An archive of published stories can be found at intimatejournalism.com. 3 undergraduate hours. 3 graduate hours. Prerequisite: JOUR 210. Journalism majors only.

JOUR 482 Immersion Journalism credit: 3 or 4 Hours. The interview methodology students learn is seen as the best way to provide the ethnographer/writer/reporter with insight into social phenomena. The methodology can be used to examine living conditions, family history and attitudes of ethnic groups at any class level -- wealthy, affluent, middle class, poor or underclass. Students with insatiable curiosity about behavior will be able to extract from participants surprising revelations about their needs, desires and motivations. Students will learn how personalities, circumstances, and choices made by participants' parents and forebears affect the participant's life today. Same as AFRO 482. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: Juniors, Seniors and Graduate students of any discipline.
JOUR 483 Investigative Journalism credit: 3 Hours.
The investigative methodology students learn is seen as the best way to provide the producer/editor/reporter with insight into social issues, government and businesses practices and systems. The methodology can be used to examine and topics or issue. Students will use data, documents, interviews and field observation to collect information, do basic data analysis, test hypotheses, and produce stories in text, audio, or video or all. Students will learn how to do deep research, organize complex material, and produce presentations that are easy for the public to understand. 3 undergraduate hours. 3 graduate hours.

JOUR 490 Professional Project credit: 3 Hours.
Individual and team-produced advanced enterprise projects in specialized fields. 3 undergraduate hours. 3 graduate hours. May be repeated in the same or subsequent semesters if topics vary.

JOUR 495 Internship Seminar credit: 0 to 1 Hours.
Seminar based on internship experience. Offered for College of Media students who complete an approved professional, industry related internship. 0 to 1 undergraduate hours. 0 to 1 graduate hours. Approved for S/U grading only. May be repeated in the same term to a maximum of 2 undergraduate hours or 2 graduate hours. May be repeated in separate terms to a maximum of 3 undergraduate hours or 3 graduate hours. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

JOUR 500 Current Issues in Journalism credit: 4 Hours.
Seminar on issues of contemporary importance in journalism in their historical, multicultural contexts. Emphasis on ethical, legal, social, professional aspects of those issues. Aimed at helping students to develop their own journalism philosophies and high standards of conduct. Prerequisite: Consent of department.

JOUR 501 Multimedia Storytelling credit: 4 Hours.
The course is designed to equip graduate students who have little or no journalism experience to report in a multimedia environment. In the first part of the course, students learn where to find stories and how to develop story ideas, as well as basic research and interviewing techniques. Students will then be introduced to the various ways in which stories can be told using media platforms such as print, radio, television and the web. Prerequisite: Graduate students only.

JOUR 505 Journalism Proseminar credit: 4 Hours.
Introduction to scholarship and research in journalism and mass communication examining theoretical approaches to the meanings, uses, and effects of mass media in society; discussion of media freedom and accountability; humanistic and social scientific contributions to understanding mass communication. Prerequisite: Consent of department.

JOUR 515 Master's Project credit: 4 Hours.
A professional journalism project demonstrating development of analytical and critical thinking abilities appropriate to the profession and effective application of journalism methodology. May be repeated up to 8 hours. Prerequisite: Consent of department.

JOUR 590 Advanced Topics in Journalism credit: 2 to 4 Hours.
Advanced special projects, research or reading in journalism at the master’s and doctoral level. Approved for letter and S/U grading. May be repeated in the same term to a maximum of 8 hours; may be repeated in separate terms to a maximum of 24 hours.