

COMPREHENSIVE COURSE GUIDE

COURSE DEPARTMENT AND NUMBER: JOUR1110

TITLE: Newswriting and Reporting

CREDIT HOURS: 3

CONTACT HOURS: 3

COURSE DESCRIPTION: JOUR 1110 is an introductory course in writing for the mass media, with emphasis on gathering, writing, and reporting for newspapers and broadcast media

PREREQUISITE: ENGL 1101

FREQUENCY OF OFFERING: On demand

REQUIRED TEXTS: As determined

SUPPLEMENTARY READING MATERIAL: As determined

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- I. To broaden the student's understanding of information gathering processes**
- II. To improve the student's ability to organize such information into a coherent form to fit the needs of a particular public**
- III. To help the student become articulate in communicating facts and ideas in writing for newspapers and electronic media**
- IV. To give the student practice in applying principles and theories of communication to his or her own communicative efforts**
- V. To emphasize the importance of the journalistic deadline**
- VI. To acquaint the student with operational procedures of various media**

MINIMUM PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

- I. Completion of assigned readings
- II. Completion of at least six story assignments, including events coverage, interviews, and speech reports.
- III. Completion of a feature story
- IV. Completion of assigned tests
- V. Completion of final exam

OTHER REQUIRED EVALUATIVE WORK

As assigned

POLICIES

- I. Attendance - irregular attendance reduces students' opportunities for success in the course. Students missing three 50-minute class periods or the equivalent will receive letters warning that their class grades are in jeopardy.
- II. Late Work and Make-Up Work - Because the story assignments are intended for publication in the campus newspaper, late work may be useless and make-up work may be impossible. When this is the case, The grade for late work will be 0 if an assignment rests with the ' students, not with the instructor.
- III. Plagiarism Policy – Presenting someone else’s phrasing and/or ideas as one’s own will result in 0 for the assignment and may result in an F for the course.

NOTE: Excessive absences are reported to the Admissions Office and to the various agencies administering financial aid. These absences can result in disruption or loss of financial support unless work is completed to the instructor's satisfaction. The instructor may refuse to accept late work.

IV. Grading

Story assignments	30%
Feature story assignment	20%
Tests	20%
Final examination	30%

- V. Disability - In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Darton College will honor request for reasonable accommodations made by individuals with disabilities. Students must self-disclose their disability to the Office of Disability Services before academic accommodations can be implemented.**

- VI. Individual Conferences - Instructors carry many responsibilities that require them to be out of their offices, sometimes even during posted office hours. Students needing assistance or clarification regarding class work should make appointments for conferences with their instructors.**

Congratulations on your completion of reading this comprehensive course guide, which will certainly give you a better chance to succeed in this course. Please log into **MyDC** and send an email message to your instructor to acknowledge that you have read the complete document and understand the objectives, requirements, and policies of this course.

JOUR 1110 NEWSWRITING AND REPORTING
Course Outline

- I. Fundamentals of Newswriting and Reporting**
 - A. Define news**
 - B. Distinguish between facts and news elements**
 - C. Verify information for accuracy**
 - D. Analyze information for fairness and objectivity**
 - E. Examine media differences in even coverage**

- II. News Story Development**
 - A. Leads: Summary, feature**
 - B. Bridge**
 - C. Attribution**
 - D. Brevity**
 - E. Clarity**
 - F. News Angle**

- III. Newsroom Routines**
 - A. Single-incident story**
 - B. Meetings**
 - C. Obituaries**
 - D. Rewrites**

- IV. Legal Concerns of the Press**
 - A. Libel**
 - B. Invasion of privacy**
 - C. Contempt/ Confidentiality**
 - D. Obscenity**
 - E. Conduct codes**
 - F. Reporters' rights**

- V. Strengthening Reporting Skills**
 - A. Interview**
 - B. Speech reporting**
 - C. Features**
 - D. Enterprise**