JOURNALISM (JOUR)

JOUR 180  Media Tech Toolkit  (3 credits)
Corequisite(s): CMDA 110. This entry level, three credit hour course will give students extensive hands-on experience in how to operate a camera, handle a microphone, and manage a Web site, skills on which they will build for many of their upper level courses. Through lectures, writing and field experience students will develop a strong understanding of how to use both still and video cameras, how to edit photos, video, and audio, and how to manage a web site. This course includes instruction in the use of social media and an overview of the ways new technologies are transforming communication industries.

JOUR 210  News Reporting: Print and Online  (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): WRIT 105 or HONP 100. Writing news articles according to contemporary practices, for multiple platforms. Interviewing techniques are explored as well as a respect for facts, impartiality and fairness.

JOUR 211  Advanced News Reporting: Field Experience  (4 credits)
Prerequisite(s): JOUR 210. Combines classroom instruction with extensive off-campus (often evening) fieldwork. Students will have their own reporter ‘beats’ covering various municipalities near Montclair State University on a weekly basis. ‘Beats’ will include town council, city boards and agencies, police, courts, etc. Breaking news stories written to tight deadlines, as well as major analytical pieces. Intense discussion of actual reporting problems encountered in the field: making contacts, using unnamed sources, dealing with officials, canvassing neighborhoods, etc. Emphasis on students’ initiative working on their own, and relentless follow-through.

JOUR 216  History of Journalism in America  (3 credits)
Evolution of the American press is examined through research and discussion of significant periods, individuals and issues from 1600 to the present.

JOUR 219  The Holocaust and the American Press: Before, During and After  (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): WRIT 106 or HONP 101. This seminar explores the central questions of what did the American public know of the Holocaust from 1933 to 1945, and when did it know it? More troubling still, if the public and thus the government knew of the assembly-line murder of 6 million Jews, and Sinti/Roma peoples, homosexuals, Communists, Jehovah’s Witnesses and others, then why was nothing done? A thorough examination of radio, newsreel and especially newspaper coverage of the Holocaust - particularly from 1941-1945 - will be combined with a study of the historical events that made the Holocaust possible. The Holocaust and the free world’s burden to ‘do something’ also will be related to other genocides including Armenia, Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda, Darfur and others. Mutually Exclusive with JAST 219.

JOUR 232  Modern Journalism  (1-3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): WRIT 105 or HONP 100. This course takes a close look at key issues in story selection and presentation for contemporary publications and web sites. Students will participate in a hands-on manner in the content development process by creating their own writing and reporting projects, including video.

JOUR 280  Writing/Reporting For TV and Radio  (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): CMDA 220 or JOUR 210. Restriction(s): School of Communication and Media majors or Journalism minors only. Students will study the writing, reporting and producing skills required to create outstanding news programs. Students will participate in intensive writing to develop these skills. This class will review examples of top professional news production from major national and local news outlets.

JOUR 281  Introduction to Photojournalism  (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): JOUR 180. This course is designed to introduce students to the contemporary practices of photojournalism, and to explore the aesthetic, technical, cultural, and historical forces that have shaped its evolution as a form of visual communication. Students will learn the technical skills needed to operate a digital DSLR camera to create adept storytelling images. Secondly, they will interact with the campus community to develop and execute great stories and photographic images.

JOUR 282  New Jersey Local News  (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): CMDA 220 or JOUR 210. Restriction(s): School of Communication and Media majors or Journalism minors only. This class is designed to introduce mid-level students to the fundamentals of covering local news stories, including coverage of local government, schools, police, fire and business. In addition to the fundamentals of reporting, students will learn how to use multimedia and online tools to gather, produce and display information.

JOUR 284  The Entertainment Beat  (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): CMDA 220 or JOUR 210. Restriction(s): School of Communication and Media majors or Journalism minors only. This seminar course introduces students to the challenges of covering the entertainment industry in the digital age. The class will create an original blog, and every student will select a beat to cover throughout the semester, contributing regularly to the blog.

JOUR 288  Special Topics in Journalism  (1-3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): CMDA 220 or JOUR 210. Restriction(s): School of Communication and Media majors or Journalism minors only. This course is specifically intended for lower division (freshman and sophomore) students. It provides an umbrella to offer a variety of specialized introductory level topics which do not justify establishing a permanent course. May be repeated for a maximum of 9 credits.

JOUR 290  Montclair News Lab  (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): CMDA 110. This class will be run like a professional newsroom. Students will produce a weekly, 15 - 30 minute News / Magazine show to be broadcast and streamed on multiple digital and social media channels. Most of the pre-production for the show will be done outside of regular class time. Students will be permitted to repeat the class to develop their skills and to foster and environment of student-to-student collaboration and apprenticeship. May be repeated for a maximum of 9 credits.

JOUR 300  Meet the Press  (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): JOUR 210. Study of issues and problems in modern journalism through lectures and by writings of working journalists.

JOUR 313  Editing  (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): JOUR 210. Copy editing, proofreading and basic editorial skills. Articles are analyzed for accuracy, libel, precise diction and tightening.

JOUR 314  Advanced Editing  (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): JOUR 313. Techniques learned in editing are reinforced. Layout, headlines and production are explored. Rewriting and fitting articles are worked on extensively.
JOUR 315 Magazine Journalism (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): JOUR 210 or permission of the instructor. Researching, writing and placing feature stories in mass circulation magazines.

JOUR 316 Reporting of Public Affairs (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): JOUR 210. News articles on the activities of government at the local level, including writing reports on the proceedings of civil and criminal court and city/county executive councils.

JOUR 317 Feature Writing (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): JOUR 210. All aspects of writing personality profiles and of writing critical reviews, columns and/or sports features.

JOUR 388 Apps for Journalists (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): TVDM 349. This course offers advanced journalism students the opportunity to experiment with the latest technological tools and applications and develop innovative newsgathering, storytelling, engagement, presentation, aggregation, and dissemination practices of news content across media platforms.

JOUR 416 Interpretive Journalism (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): JOUR 210 and JOUR 314. Studying and writing columns, editorials and news articles. Students will compare different styles of interpretive reporting and develop their own skills in this area.

JOUR 480 News Production Lab (4 credits)
Prerequisite(s): JOUR 210 and JOUR 280 and TVDM 349. This course is for students with production and news writing experience to take those skills and apply them to actual electronic journalism projects via a news website called 'WiredJersey.' The class will produce content about MSU, New Jersey and the rest of the world and present it on 'WiredJersey.' The subjects covered will be news, politics, sports, entertainment and popular culture. Students are required to follow international, national and local news and will be quizzed regularly on their knowledge of the news. Students will also be required to produce material for conventional studio-based news programs.

JOUR 488 Media Entrepreneurship (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): TVDM 441. This course provides an introduction to entrepreneurship and evolving business models for media. Students identify emerging trends and opportunities for innovation in the media realm and pitch new media business ideas, research and develop a business plan, and build skills in digital technologies.