JRN

JRN 101 - B: News Literacy
How do you know if you're getting the truth from the news media? This course is designed to prepare students to become more discriminating news consumers. It will examine standards of reliability and accuracy in news gathering and presentation, and seek to establish the differences between news and propaganda, assertion and verification, bias and fairness, and infotainment and journalism. Students will be encouraged to critically examine news broadcasts, newspaper articles and Web sites. Visiting journalists will be questioned about the journalistic process and decision-making. JRN 101 and JRN 103 are mutually exclusive; JRN 101 cannot be taken for credit in addition to JRN 103 or vice versa.
Pre- or corequisite: WRT 101 or higher or equivalent, or permission of department
3 credits

JRN 103 - G: News Literacy
How do you know if you're getting the truth from the news media? This course is designed to prepare students to become more discriminating news consumers. It will examine standards of reliability and accuracy in news gathering and presentation, and seek to establish the differences between news and propaganda, assertion and verification, bias and fairness, and infotainment and journalism. Students will be encouraged to critically examine news broadcasts, newspaper articles and Web sites. Visiting journalists will be questioned about the journalistic process and decision-making. JRN 101 and JRN 103 are mutually exclusive; JRN 101 cannot be taken for credit in addition to JRN 103 or vice versa.
Pre- or corequisite: WRT 101 or higher or equivalent, or permission of department
3 credits

JRN 108 - F: The History and Future of the American Press
This course traces the history of the American press from pre-American Revolution to post-Internet revolution. It examines the political, economic and technological forces that shaped the news media and how the press, in turn, influenced American government, politics and society. Topics will include freedom of the press, the rise of the popular press, war and the press, the press and presidents, the impact of investigative journalism, the evolution of radio and TV news, and the advent of 24/7 online news.
Pre- or corequisite: WRT 101 or higher or equivalent, or permission of department
3 credits

JRN 110: News I: Basic News Reporting and Writing
An introduction to reporting and writing the news, including defining what is newsworthy. This is a foundation for all other courses in the journalism program. Through weekly assignments students will develop a mastery of the basic elements of writing a news story that conforms to standards of clarity, accuracy and fairness. An emphasis is placed on gaining practical experience through reporting on classroom, campus and community events. The development of basic skills is accompanied by the exploration of the role of the press in a free society. The course includes an immersion lab in grammar, punctuation and sentence structure. Students who pass a proficiency test will be exempt from the lab. All other students must take the lab and pass the test to advance in the journalism program.
Prerequisite: Completion of D.E.C. category A
Pre- or corequisite: JRN 101 or JRN 103
3 credits

JRN 111: Writing Immersion Lab
To progress in the major and minor program, students must pass a grammar proficiency test as part of JRN 111, a grammar course that is co-requisite with JRN 110. The grammar course includes an eight-week immersion lab in grammar, punctuation and sentence structure. In the ninth week, all students take a proficiency test. Those who pass are excused from the lab for the rest of the semester. All other students must continue attending the lab and will be required to take a second test on the last day of class. Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. Students must receive a Satisfactory grade in JRN 111 in order to continue in journalism skills courses.
Prerequisite: Completion of D.E.C. A
Mandatory Corequisite: JRN 110
S/U grading

JRN 210: News II: Advanced Reporting and Writing
This course is a continuation of JRN 110, with an emphasis on developing advanced reporting and newswriting skills. Students move beyond the basic wire-service type breaking-news report (speech story, obituary, crime report) and begin writing using more advanced forms: the news feature, the profile, the news analysis, the trend story. Classroom drills include scene-setters and human-interest stories. Emphasis is placed on improving reporting skills, developing story ideas, researching, interviewing, expanding the number and type of sources used and using numbers and statistics accurately and effectively. Students are required to write in Associated Press style.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 110 and grade of satisfactory in JRN 111
Mandatory Corequisite: JRN 211
3 credits

JRN 211: Digital Photojournalism Lab
In this lab, which must be taken in conjunction with JRN 210, students will develop an appreciation for news photography and fundamental digital photography skills, including learning how to operate a digital camera, photo composition, lighting, approaches to subject matter and other aspects of news photography. The goal is for students to be able to illustrate and enhance the stories they write. Students are required to illustrate at least one story they do for JRN 210. Details will be spelled out. In this required lab, students will acquire the ability to apply these extremely important skills in their subsequent print, broadcast and online journalism courses and careers.
Mandatory Corequisite: JRN 210
S/U grading

JRN 220: Media Law and Ethics
Examines the legal issues that are encountered by journalists and other media professionals, including the First Amendment, libel, invasion of privacy, copyright law, and trademarks. Students also will examine ethical codes that guide journalists, including independence, truth-telling, accountability and protecting sources.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 110 and a grade of satisfactory in JRN 111
3 credits

JRN 298: On Campus Internship
Designed to provide students with experience in journalism at the campus level. Students will work for a campus news outlet on a schedule approved by the School of Journalism. The work will involve journalistic skills related to the educational goals of the School of Journalism. The internship coordinator will determine whether the work meets appropriate journalistic standards. This internship is required of all journalism majors and may be repeated once.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 210 and grade of satisfactory in JRN 211; 12 credits of JRN
Pre- or corequisite: JRN 310 if broadcast or online
1 credit, S/U grading
JRN 301: Journalism 24/7
This course examines the rapidly evolving media landscape and the implications for journalism and journalists. Students examine the revolutionary changes in digital technology, dramatically shifting patterns of media consumption, rise of non-traditional competition, challenges of serving a more diverse audience, and accelerating media consolidation, and explore alternative visions for the impact on content, standards, business models, and jobs in the next decade.
Prerequisites: C or higher in JRN 108; C or better in JRN 110; grade of satisfactory in JRN 111
3 credits

JRN 310: News III: Reporting, Writing and Production for Broadcast
Students are introduced to the skills needed to report and write news stories for television and radio. Students will become familiar with the proper use of pictures and sound in broadcast journalism, and become comfortable writing news reports in a variety of broadcast formats. Students also are expected to become familiar with a variety of broadcast production tools, including the basics of Final Cut Pro and video photography. Course includes a lecture and a weekly three-hour lab. This course has an associated fee. Please see www.stonybrook.edu/coursefees for more information.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 210 and a grade of satisfactory in JRN 211
3 credits

JRN 320: The Promise and Perils of Online Journalism
This course examines the challenges presented by the explosion of journalism on the Internet and assesses the role of the journalist in an online society. Students are exposed to both practical skills and a broader understanding of issues. Topics include how journalists add value to information online, writing and editing for the Web, the use of interactive tools, blogs and podcasts, and an elementary understanding of Web design. At the same time, students explore issues of privacy, the Internet's potential threat to traditional journalistic standards, and how online publishing is creating new audiences. Students will critique news Web sites, participate in a blog and podcast, create a news Web page, and produce an online story package. Course includes a lecture and a weekly three-hour lab.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 210 and a grade of satisfactory in JRN 211
3 credits

JRN 333: Business Reporting
This course provides practical training for journalism students interested in a possible career in business reporting. It seeks to provide the basic understanding and skills to report on business and consumer news and economic trends. Goals include learning how to read and understand financial statements, how to identify and access relevant public documents, and how to interpret basic economic data and statistics. Students profile a public company on Long Island or in New York City, and learn how to write a business story that conforms to standards of accuracy and context. They will be encouraged to visit major financial institutions, public markets, and regulatory agencies in New York City. Students will also examine business stories and controversies in the news from the perspective of the business community and journalists.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 310
Advisory Prerequisites: ECO 108 and BUS 110
3 credits

JRN 334: Science and Health Reporting
Students will examine methods of evaluating and reporting science and health news with accuracy and context. Among the topics to be covered: how to read a medical journal article; how to understand simple statistical data; how to deal with conflicting claims. Drawing on the resources of the Health Sciences Center, the course also will provide information on how research and health care are organized and funded. Students will report and write several stories for print, broadcast or the Web. They also will spend a day shadowing a health care professional.
Prerequisites: C or higher in JRN 210 and a grade of satisfactory in JRN 211: 1 DEC E and 1 DEC F
3 credits

JRN 335: Reporting in New York City - Print
This course, which is offered mainly in winter and summer sessions, provides students with an overview of how reporters cover the major institutions in New York City: City Hall, the United Nations, the police department, the courts, Wall Street, etc. The course offers a blend of classroom instruction, talks with officials and journalists, and hands-on reporting. On reporting days, the class will run as a newsroom. It is offered at the university's Manhattan extension.
Prerequisite: C or better in JRN 210 and JRN 211: permission of the department
3 credits

JRN 336: Sports Reporting
This course is designed to prepare students to report, write and produce sports stories in print, broadcast and online, from sports news to behind-the-scenes issues that resonate in the world of sports. Upon completion of this course, students should be as comfortable covering a government hearing on steroids in professional sports as covering a basketball game.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 310
3 credits

JRN 337: Introduction to Narrative Journalism
Building on students' experiences in newswriting, this course examines the reporting and writing of longer stories and more textured feature stories. There will be an emphasis on focus, structure, and storytelling, including the rudiments of developing style and a narrative voice. Students will be expected to write several original enterprise stories. They will also explore the similarities and differences in telling stories in print, online, and in broadcast formats.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 210 and grade of satisfactory in JRN 211
3 credits

JRN 340: Beat Reporting
This course is designed to develop the ability of students to cover a specific area of news coverage, a beat. Emphasis is placed on developing sources, finding stories, organizing a beat and covering a variety of beat stories from breaking news to profiles and in-depth enterprise stories. Students will select a beat to follow throughout the semester.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 310
3 credits

JRN 350: Journalistic Judgment
Journalistic judgment-how and why decisions are made in the newsroom-examines the fundamentals of the editor or news director's role in print, broadcast and online news with emphasis on their impact on critical thinking, decision-making, maximizing accuracy, removing bias and providing diversity and context. Students will discuss journalistic judgment in print, broadcast and online news. The semester case studies and project will address fundamental judgment issues.
Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 310
Pre- or corequisite: JRN 320
3 credits

JRN 355: Reporting in New York City - Broadcast
JRN 364: City Editor

Designed to prepare student journalists to get to the bottom of complex stories through probing reporting that will seek rich detail and context. All stories will be part of an overall subject that students will choose as a group for publication as a special report. Students must choose a subject they consider underreported. This will be done by class vote after discussion. Students will work independently under the supervision of a City Editor to produce one in-depth story of approximately 1,500 words during the semester. These stories will delve deeply into the subject matter. Students will meet regularly with the City Editor in a seminar setting to discuss procedures, ideas, progress, to brainstorm and to share their experiences. They also will work independently on all aspects of developing their stories. Students will be graded on a number of benchmarks such as story proposal, revised proposal, reporting outlines, quality of research and reporting, drafts of the story, adding value and the final story. It is the goal that the stories be published. This is an interactive class with regular class discussions and group critiques. Participation in the weekly discussions is vital for each student journalist. Students should be prepared to contribute voluntarily or when called upon.

Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 310 and permission of the department
3 credits

JRN 363: Magazine Writing

This course builds on JRN 337, advancing the exploration of long-form magazine stories. Students will learn how to develop ideas and craft them into sophisticated pieces with protagonists and strong narrative drive. They will learn to bring their stories to life using novelistic techniques such as character development, voice, mood and theme, conflict and resolution, scene-setting, foreshadowing and dialogue. Required reading assignments, group discussions of works-in-progress and roundtable meetings with professional narrative journalists will inspire students to develop their own writer's eye and voice. The culminating goal of the course is for each student to produce a 2,500-to-3,000-word story for publication. Students will also learn how to select a market for their stories and write a query letter.

Prerequisites: B or higher in JRN 337 and permission of department
3 credits

JRN 364: City Editor

Designed to prepare student journalists to get to the bottom of complex stories through probing reporting that will seek rich detail and context. All stories will be part of an overall subject that students will choose as a group for publication as a special report. Students must choose a subject they consider underreported. This will be done by class vote after discussion. Students will work independently under the supervision of a City Editor to produce one in-depth story of approximately 1,500 words during the semester. These stories will delve deeply into the subject matter. Students will meet regularly with the City Editor in a seminar setting to discuss procedures, ideas, progress, to brainstorm and to share their experiences. They also will work independently on all aspects of developing their stories. Students will be graded on a number of benchmarks such as story proposal, revised proposal, reporting outlines, quality of research and reporting, drafts of the story, adding value and the final story. It is the goal that the stories be published. This is an interactive class with regular class discussions and group critiques. Participation in the weekly discussions is vital for each student journalist. Students should be prepared to contribute voluntarily or when called upon.

Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 310 and permission of the department
3 credits

JRN 370: Advanced Reporting, Writing and Production for Broadcast

This course builds on the work of JRN 310 and is offered in a workshop/production environment. There is focus on mastering the reporting of breaking news, live reporting and developing story ideas. Emphasis also will be on shooting techniques. Students will produce longer-form reports.

Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 310
Pre- or corequisite: JRN 350 or permission of the department
3 credits

JRN 371: Television Production

Designed to introduce students to planning, assembling, producing and performing the elements of a newscast. Students will be exposed to the roles of key members of a newscast team, including producers, assistant producers, reporters, writers, anchors and video photographers and editors. There will be emphasis on developing decision-making and on-air skills, as students complete mini-newscasts and segments for broadcast. Students will be expected to meet strict deadlines and manage critical air time. Newscast segments will be showcased on JRN Web sites.

Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 370
3 credits

JRN 380: Advanced Editing and Presentation / Web

This course, designed for students interested in specializing in online news, will focus on content management and the presentation of news on the Web. Students will have the opportunity to manage a news Web site in real time, with emphasis on around-the-clock news judgment and presentation. Students will learn how to enhance online news through multi-media integration and reader/viewer interactivity. Students also will study information architecture, eye-tracking studies and different ways of making the Web more accessible for readers, including layering information. The course builds on the skills learned in JRN 320. After completion of course overview material, students will move through three phases designed to simulate a key role in current online newsrooms. The phases include real-time content management, multi-media integration and harvesting original video. There will be emphasis on building critical thinking skills and developing team work. By the end of this course, students are to produce a complete multimedia project and integrate its production into a real-time online news site.

Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 320
Pre- or corequisite: JRN 350 or permission of the department
3 credits

JRN 381: Advanced Digital Storytelling

Students will combine their advanced journalistic skills in reporting, writing and producing with advanced multimedia techniques to create an online "microsite" devoted to one major story, combining text with video, photos, blogs and interactive features. This course builds on skills acquired in JRN 380. Significant computer use will be required outside of class time.

Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 380
3 credits

JRN 390: Special Topics: Issues in Contemporary Journalism

This special topics course will deal with timely and contemporary issues that affect journalists and journalism. The issues could range from the press in wartime, an examination of the role of the press covering war from World War II to the current war in Iraq, and how the
press covers presidential campaigns. May be repeated as the topic changes.

Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 101 or JRN 103; may vary by topic

3 credits

**JRN 391: Journalism Workshops**

This 1-credit workshop course is designed to assist students in developing skills that will be useful in various journalism courses. Topics will rotate. Anticipated topics include On-Air Presentation, Audio Journalism, Digital Photography, Databases, FOIL and Sunshine Laws, On-Air Performance, Editing Software.

Prerequisite: Varies by topic, permission of the department

1 credit

**JRN 392: Special Topics: Issues in Contemporary Journalism-Journalism Without Walls Prep**

This 1-credit workshop is designed to assist students in preparing in advance if they are interested in taking JRN 435 Journalism Without Walls, a course in which students travel with journalism faculty to a location and spend several weeks reporting, writing and broadcasting from and about it. Before going to China to report on #Modern China and Its Media, # for example, students would examine the complex world of China’s media market, the world’s largest, over which the Chinese government exercises strict control of news and entertainment at the same time as journalists and bloggers are using digital technology to get out their message. Each Journalism Without Walls Prep would be tailored to the specific locale and coverage issues.

Prerequisite: To be taken before JRN 435

1 credit

**JRN 411: Television Practicum**

This is a capstone course for students specializing in video. This day-long workshop class meets on Fridays from 9 am to 6 pm, with an hour break for lunch. Each week, students will produce and broadcast a half-hour, live newscast that will be broadcast on the Web and on a campus news channel. The class will experience the working conditions of a professional TV newsroom. Over the course of the semester, students will have the opportunity to work in each of their key jobs necessary for a successful newscast: broadcast producer, news director, anchor, field producer, reporter, video editor and member of the studio crew. Following each newscast, the news team will gather for a "post-mortem" meeting. At this meeting, work will be critiqued and plans will be made for follow-up stories and the next week’s newscast. The post mortem will serve as a weekly assessment for the students.

Prerequisite: C or higher in JRN 370 and permission of the instructor

Pre- or co-requisite: JRN 371

3 credits

**JRN 435: Journalism Without Walls**

Offered only during winter or summer sessions, this course is designed for experienced and energetic journalism students. Students will be assigned as part of a team to travel to a location and using only mobile technology, transmits stories and video from the field. Their work product is published via a special Web site. Students will have one week to research a topic or location before leaving for their destination. (Teams of students, for example, have gone to China, Russia, Cuba and the U.S. Gulf Coast.) While on assignment, students file blogs, gather multimedia and video, write and edit stories, produce a Web site and establish a "mobile news-room." Each or several instructors accompany the students. This course combines students’ journalistic skills, judgment and enterprise with knowledge of emerging technology. May be repeated as the topic changes.

Prerequisites: permission of the department, additional prerequisites announced by topic. Passport may be required.

3 credits

**JRN 475: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum I**

Work with a faculty member as an assistant in one of the faculty member’s regularly scheduled courses. The student must attend all classes and carry out tasks assigned by the faculty member to assist in teaching the course. The student will meet with the instructor on a regular basis to discuss intellectual and pedagogical matters relating to the course. Not for major or minor credit.

Prerequisites: U3 or U4; Permission of instructor and undergraduate program director

3 credits, S/U grading

**JRN 490: Senior Project**

0-6 credits, S/U grading

**JRN 487: Independent Study**

Intensive study of a special topic undertaken with close faculty supervision. May be repeated.

Prerequisites: Permission of instructor and director of undergraduate studies

0-6 credits, S/U grading

**JRN 488: Internship**

Students work at local, state, and national news organizations. The work must involve journalistic skills related to the educational goals of the department.

Prerequisites: C or higher in JRN 210 and a grade of satisfactory in JRN 211; C or higher in JRN 310 if broadcast or online; grade of satisfactory in JRN 288; 12 JRN credits; permission of internship coordinator.

Recommended GPA: 2.5 overall and 3.0 in JRN.

0-6 credits, S/U grading

**JRN 489: Specialized Internship**

This is an advanced internship. Students will spend 2 days a week at the internship site. In addition, this specialized internship includes a weekly lecture designed to prepare students to report, write and produce stories that benefit from a greater knowledge of a subject. Examples of Specialized Internships include Hyperlocal Reporting, Police and Court Reporting, Governmental Reporting, Culture and the Arts. The work must involve journalistic skills related to the educational goals of the department.

Prerequisite: C or better in JRN 340 and permission of instructor

4 credits, S/U grading

Stony Brook University: www.stonybrook.edu/ugbulletin
Pre or corequisites: One of the following: JRN 361, JRN 371, or JRN 381
3 credits