

## C&J 372

3 credit hours

# COPY EDITING AND LAYOUT

## DESCRIPTION

It takes a detail-oriented person to be a good copy editor, and this class will emphasize and constantly reinforce this need for constant attention to detail through in-class exercises and discussion, homework assignments, tests and lectures. Students will be expected to become experts in their knowledge and implementation of AP Style.

## MISSION

Develop skills to provide a foundation for each student's future career as an editor and/or as a writer—expertise in one field improving performance in the other.

## OBJECTIVES

- Learn to *write clearly and accurately* through study and practice of established conventions in grammar, AP Style, story structure, interviewing and handling *data and statistics*.
- Build awareness and understanding of professional writing standards regarding *truth, accuracy and fairness* through the skills of copy editing and headline writing, with some familiarization in the concepts of page design.
- Polish and expand each student's knowledge of AP Style and grammar.
- Exercise *creative and analytical thinking* in editing, writer-coaching and design.
- Build awareness of the *history and role of the media* including typographical elements.
- Learn techniques of *research and critical evaluation* in editing the work of others and making decisions of news judgment.