

C&J 271

3 credit hours

WRITING FOR PRINT JOURNALISM

DESCRIPTION

This class is a continuation of C&J 171, with increased emphasis on gathering news from original sources and writing specifically for the print media, primarily newspapers. Students will focus on interviews, accuracy, attribution, story structure and grammar. There will be a strong emphasis on learning and using AP Style. This is a writing workshop class. Students will explore what constitutes a compelling and well-written article in print journalism. The instructor will implement a coaching style in advising students. In an actual newsroom, deadlines are strictly observed. Thus, in this class, most graded stories will be written in class on deadline.

MISSION

Teach accepted practices and skills used in writing for print journalism.

OBJECTIVES

- Build awareness and understanding of the *First Amendment* and its importance in the operation of the media in an open and free society.
- Develop professional writing standards in *truth, accuracy, fairness*, objectivity and writing to deadlines, and reinforce *ethical ways of thinking and acting*.
- Learn to *write clearly and accurately* through study and practice of established conventions in grammar, AP Style, story structure, and interviewing.
- Exercise *creative and analytical thinking* and evaluation skills in topic/story selection, information-gathering, content development, writing and editing.
- Build awareness of the *diversity* of audiences through news coverage.
- Develop an understanding of *research and critical evaluation* skills including use of the Internet, libraries and public documents.