

CUMBERLAND COUNTY COLLEGE

Course: EN 231 Journalism/Newswriting I

Credits: 4

Prerequisites

None

Co-requisite

EN101

Description

This class introduces students to the theories and practices of writing for various types of new media. Students will learn the basic forms of news stories including crime, courts, disasters, obituaries and sports. Students will learn how these forms are presented and the differences associated with writing for the print media and writing for online publications. Students will also learn interviewing techniques, editing skills, how to work a beat, and how to utilize the Internet for research.

Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Identify newsworthy subjects.
- Identify topics of interest to their demographic.
- Demonstrate how to work a beat.
- Explain how to pitch stories.
- Utilize the Associated Press Style Guide.
- Develop a story using traditional and more creative forms.
- Illustrate their work on a website.

Topical Outline

Journalism/Newswriting I is an introductory course in writing for the print and online media. The main goal of the course is to give the student the skills necessary to write a news story suitable for publication in *The Voice*, the student newspaper of Cumberland County College. We will cover how to write a lead, use quotes, inverted pyramid style and use Associated Press Style. Students will also learn how to identify news stories, how to cultivate sources and how the Internet is changing, how the news is researched and presented. Articles written by students will be included in *The Voice (printed and online)*.

Required Texts and Other Materials

AP Stylebook, Associated Press, 4th edition: Basic Books.

Inside Reporting: A Practical Guide to the Craft of Journalism by Harrower, Tim, 2nd edition, New York: McGraw-Hill.

Student Assessment

Students will be graded on their finished products, on in-class exercises and quizzes. Two newspapers will be produced each semester and students will be graded on the quality of the articles contributed to *The Voice*. Students will also be graded on their online articles.

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism is cheating. Plagiarism is presenting in written work, in public speaking, and in oral reports the ideas or exact words of someone else without proper documentation.

Whether the act of plagiarism is deliberate or accidental [ignorance of the proper rules for handling material is no excuse], plagiarism is, indeed, a “criminal” offense.

As such, a plagiarized paper or report automatically receives a grade of **ZERO** and the student may receive a grade of **F** for the semester at the discretion of the instructor.

Available Resources

If you are having difficulty with work in this class, tutoring is available through the Success Center. If you think that you might have a learning disability, contact Project Assist at 856.691.8600, x1282 for information on assistance that can be provided to eligible students.

(List availability of open labs and/or writing center)

Before Withdrawing From This Course

If a student experiences adverse circumstances while enrolled in this course and considers withdrawing, s/he should see an advisor (division or advisement center) BEFORE withdrawing from the class. A withdrawal may cause harmful repercussions to completion rate standards and overall GPA which can limit or eliminate future financial aid in addition to causing academic suspension.