

Spring 2019 UMass Journalism Courses

Confirm classes, time and location on SPIRE. This is a guide, and courses may change.

Journal 201: Introduction to Journalism

(4 cr.) Cap. 100

Open to first-year and sophomores of any major. Gen Ed: SB DU

TTH 8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

Sibii

ILC S140

Introduction to Journalism is a survey class that covers the basic principles and practices of contemporary journalism. By studying fundamentals like truth telling, fact checking, the First Amendment, diversity, being a watchdog to the powerful and public engagement, students will explore the best of what journalists do in a democratic society. Students will also assess changes in the production, distribution, and consumption of journalism as new technologies are introduced to newsrooms. Toward the end of the semester, students look at case studies across the media and learn how different audiences, mediums, and perspectives affect the news.

Journal 250: News Literacy

(4 cr.) Cap. 40

Open to any major. Gen Ed: SB

TTh 10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Fox

ILC N255

What is fact? What is fiction? Can we even tell the difference anymore? Today's 24-hour news environment is saturated with a wide array of sources ranging from real-time citizen journalism reports, government propaganda and corporate spin to real-time blogging, photos, and videos from around the world, as well as reports from the mainstream media. In this class, students will become more discerning consumers of news. Students will use critical-thinking skills to develop the tools needed to determine what news sources are reliable in the digital world. Through readings, class discussions and written assignments, students will deconstruct stories, breaking down broadcast, print, web and social media stories to determine those that are well-sourced and can be considered real news. Students will also discuss concepts such as objectivity, opinion, bias and fairness and how all contribute to the mix of news in today's digital landscape.

Journal 300: Newswriting & Reporting

(4 cr.) Cap. 16

Required for major. Fulfills Junior Year Writing requirement

Prerequisite: ENGLWRIT 112 College Writing

Sec. 1: MW 9:05 a.m. - 11:05 a.m. Pasha

ILC S407

Sec. 2: TTh 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Foudy

ILC S405

Sec. 3: TTH 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Sibii

ILC S405

Sec. 4: MW 5:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. Parnass

ILC S405

This course covers the basic requirements of news writing and reporting, including interviewing, covering news events, and more. This class will include in-class and outside reporting assignments, and fulfills Junior Year Writing requirement.

Journal 301: Introduction to Multimedia Reporting**(3 cr.) Cap. 16**

Prereq: Journal 300

Sec. 1: TTH 10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.**Roche****ILC S407**

This class enables students to build on the reporting and writing skills learned in Journalism 300, while gaining the technical skills for storytelling in online platforms, such as basic web production, using digital images, and creating audio podcasts. Students write in-depth stories on topics of serious public concern that may include education, the environment, the economy, and technology. Students learn how to find and use government and advocacy group sources, and how to navigate the wealth of online data and documents. Students gain experience and confidence in reporting, writing and revising longer news stories. Attendance is required. This course is a prerequisite for more advanced multimedia courses. *Fulfills multimedia requirement.*

Journal 310: International Journalism**(4 cr.) Cap. 30**

Open to sophomores, juniors and seniors of any major. Gen Ed: SB DG

MWF**12:20 p.m. - 1:10 p.m.****Pasha****TBD****MW****2:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.****Zamith****TBD**

This course explores the challenges and issues facing journalists covering global affairs. Students will explore intercultural communication, overcoming biases in reporting, the use of social media to serve as a platform for news reporting, and examine the work of foreign correspondents from a critical perspective. Through a mixture of readings and news writing, the course will also broaden students' understanding of current affairs on the global stage.

Journal 320: History of American Journalism**(4 cr.) Cap. 30**

Sophomore, junior and seniors of any major. Gen Ed: HS

TTH 11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.**Forde****ILC N155**

We will examine the major innovations and styles in journalism, including the historical context into which print fits, the arrival of press freedom, the invention of faster presses, the Penny Press of the 1840s, the story press period in the 1890s, and the Muckrakers, objective reporters, investigative journalists, the literary journalists of the 20th century and today, and the arrival of the Internet. The institutional framework for journalism, including the First Amendment and the business structures of publications, will fill out the historical context in which these innovations took shape. We will have a special interest in the history of technologies in journalism. *Fulfills concepts/critical thinking requirement.*

Journal 332: Sports Journalism**(4 cr.) Cap. 16**

Sophomore, junior and senior majors enrolled in Sports Journalism Concentration.

Prerequisite: Journal 300

MW 9:05 - 11:05 a.m.**Fox****ILC S405**

A hands-on course aimed at how to write, edit and cover sports stories. Interviewing skills will be honed in this class, and you will need a flexible schedule in order to cover games outside of classes. Students will learn to write a

variety of stories ranging from straight game stories to previews to features and breaking news. Students will read and analyze successful writing styles from sportswriters in all mediums, including broadcast and the web. *This course fulfills one of the advanced writing/reporting courses the Journalism major requires.*

Journal 333: Introduction to Visual Storytelling

(4 cr.) Cap. 40

Sophomore, junior and senior Journalism majors only. GenEd: AT

MW 4:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Olga Kyle

N255

In Introduction to Visual Storytelling, students will become better producers and consumers of visual media. Students will develop a deeper visual literacy by studying topics like visual ethics, aesthetics, agency, and the currents of modern visual journalism ecosystem. By reporting their own video, photography and data visualization projects, students will learn how to control exposure with a DSLR camera, how to capture quality video and how to use different editing and production software. *Fulfills multimedia requirement.*

Journal 335: Principles of Public Relations

(3 cr.) Cap. 40

Sophomore, junior and senior Journalism majors only.

TTh 2:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Donohue

TBD

This course addresses the principles and practices of public relations and strategic communication in the public, private, for-profit and non-profit arenas. The course includes lectures, readings, multimedia viewings, and student-engaged, collaborative classroom and online learning methods.

Journal 339: Video Content Creation (formerly Broadcast News Reporting)

(4 cr.) Cap. 16

Prereq: Journal 300.

TTh 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Kyle

ILC S308

This 4-credit hour video content creation class is an introduction to visual storytelling, writing, videography, and editing. These skills are crucial in any television newsroom/sports department or for producing professional quality videos for the web, advertising or advocacy. You'll have the opportunity to create videos that will help build your portfolio for whatever your journalistic goals might be. You'll learn to shoot professional quality video, how to write for broadcast, and how to edit with professional software. *This course fulfills one of the advanced writing/reporting courses the Journalism major requires for Pre-Fall 2018 requirements. Fulfills multimedia requirement for students beginning at UMass in Fall 2018 or later.*

Journal 383: Entrepreneurial Journalism

(3 cr.) Cap. 16

Junior and senior Journalism majors only.

Juniors and seniors of other majors may be enrolled with instructor consent.

MW 2:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Roche

ILC S407

How do we keep fact-based journalism going? In this class, students explore the answer to that question by looking at, and developing their own, digital news startups. We'll learn about business models of successful and

unsuccessful digital news outlets as well as the “news entrepreneurs” who are navigating the new digital landscape of news. You’ll pick up new tech tools, as well as skills in collaboration and public speaking. The “final” for this course is a pitch competition, where you’ll present your idea to a media entrepreneur. Several other shorter projects will also be required. Attendance in the classroom is required.

Journal 390SD: Short-Form Documentary

Prereq: Journal 300

(4 cr.) Cap. 16

MW 9:05 a.m. - 11:05 a.m.

Kyle

ILC S308

This class is where documentary filmmaking and traditional journalism meet. Here we give the headlines depth, alternate perspectives, ask deeper questions and explore topics of interest to the producer. David Wilson, a co-founder of the True/False Film Festival calls this a “new era of journalism.” The challenge of the modern day video is no more than 5 minutes. This course will teach you how to produce short, sharp, strong micro-documentaries. The course will introduce, through hands-on assignments, important skills to move beyond basic video and audio work, giving students multiple experiences in producing and directing their own documentary content. *This course fulfills one of the advanced writing/reporting courses the Journalism major requires for Pre-Fall 2018 requirements. Fulfills multimedia requirement for students beginning at UMass in Fall 2018 or later.*

Journal 391J: Food Writing

Prereq: Journal 300

(4 cr.) Cap. 16

TTH 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Connare

ILC S412

This course approaches food writing from a news reporting perspective. The Pioneer Valley is home to a network of food producers, from farmers and cheesemakers to brewers and beekeepers. Students will travel into the field to meet people who make and grow what we eat, conducting interviews and collecting information to synthesize into multimedia stories for publication around themes such as health, history, travel, ecology, animal welfare, social change, nutrition, and home cooking. Students will experience the full spectrum of food writing--blogs, magazine articles, personal essays, reviews, recipe-centered pieces, social and cultural commentary--and create stories in a variety of these forms. *This course fulfills one of the advanced writing/reporting courses the Journalism major requires.*

Journal 392P: Writing for Public Relations

Prerequisite: Journal 300

(4 cr.) Cap. 16

TTh 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Donohue

ILC S413

Public relations writing requires a narrative arc and good storytelling in which essential information gets delivered, along with a feeling of positive connection to an organization. Students in this course will learn how to translate an institutional mission statement into various narratives. They will learn how to gather information in a complex environment, and how to evaluate that information according to constituency needs. Writing projects will be required, ranging from basic press releases and news briefs to interviews, speeches, profiles, a roundtable report, a position paper, first-person essays, and possibly a full-length magazine feature story. Course materials will include

examples of excellent magazine writing, and books and articles on effective public relations programs. *This course fulfills one of the advanced writing/reporting courses the Journalism major requires.*

Journal 392S: Opinion Writing: Columns

Prereq: Journal 300

(4 cr.) Cap. 16

TTh 10:00 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Pasha

ILC S413

Basic training in writing editorials, columns and broadcast commentary with an emphasis on political and social policies, how to encourage the persuaded, nudge the neutral and discomfit the opposition. The ability to write quickly will be stressed. Several short (two-page) papers. *This course fulfills one of the advanced writing/reporting courses the Journalism major requires.*

Journal 392T: Issues in Sports

Open to junior & senior Journalism majors

(3 cr.) Cap. 30

TH 5:45 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

Janovy

ILC N255

The range of news topics in sports—concussions, performance-enhancing drugs, money, gambling, cheating, college conference realignment, sex scandals, homophobia, racism, crime, labor, etc.—requires journalists to be prepared to determine how those issues will be covered. In doing so, journalists face their own collection of ethical, legal and financial questions, their own potential conflicts of interest, their own bosses and internal company political pressures. This class will cover a wide variety of those issues and more in sports. Students will be expected to fully participate in weekly discussions on current topics in the news, including ethics, reporting, writing, newsroom management, diversity, etc. Students will create their own blogs for class and must report, write and present a long-form, multimedia story as their final.

Journal 397DJ: Data-Driven Storytelling

Sophomore, junior and senior Journalism majors only

Prereq: Journal 300

(3 cr.) Cap. 16

MW 4:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Zamith

ILC S413

How can journalists use data to find stories? How can they tell stories through data? This hands-on course provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary to begin gathering, analyzing and visualizing interactive, data-driven stories. Students will work in small groups to tackle questions pertaining to ethical data sourcing, data analysis and making data meaningful for the public. They will also produce their own exciting and thought-provoking digital news stories. Prior experience with advanced statistics, web design or computer programming is neither assumed nor necessary, and course content will adapt to students' collective skills. However, a willingness to experiment, learn new technologies and embrace iteration in a cooperative environment is a must. *Fulfills multimedia requirement.*

Journal 397G: Multimedia Journalism**(4 cr.) Cap. 16**

Prereq: Journal 300 and 301, or instructor consent

MW**12:20 p.m. - 2:20 p.m.****Fox****ILC S405**

Almost all journalism job descriptions these days require some level of multimedia experience. In this class, students will continue to develop their online writing skills through blogging while at the same time learning how to create packages and tell stories with audio and video. This class will focus on ways to merge the traditional methods of storytelling and present them on the Web. Students will learn what makes for good Web presentations and will be introduced to tools to help them with editing photos, video, and audio. Students will enhance their skills in what makes for a good web link and a good web headline and will discuss the business and ethical implications of publishing online. *This course fulfills one of the advanced writing/reporting courses the Journalism major requires or can be used for a multimedia requirement.*

Journal 425: The Politics of Sport**(3 cr.) Cap. 30****TTh****4:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.****McBride****TBA**

This course examines how the politics of gender, sexual identity and race play out in the arena of sports. Through readings, writing, documentary viewing and discussion, students will explore the ways in which sports either constructs or breaks down barriers among individuals and groups and how journalism is involved in the process.

Journal 435: Web Design for Journalists**(3 cr.) Cap. 16**

Prereq: Journal 300 and 301 or 397G, or instructor consent

TTh**10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.****Josh Braun****ILC S413**

Not long ago a journalist could get by with little more than a notebook, a pen, and his or her wits. Today, working in the media demands that students know an assortment of web design and web building skills. Students will learn basic web design, HTML and CSS skills, and by the end of the semester, they will be able to build a basic website, including how to incorporate JavaScript plugins. The course will also cover online ethics, mobile strategy, search engine optimization, and the role of social media in successfully publishing journalism work online. *Fulfills multimedia requirement.*

Journal 445: Journalism & Law**(3 cr.) Cap. 30**

Open to junior and senior Journalism majors

TTh 1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**List****TBD**

Students will become familiar with legal concepts underlying freedom of the press: censorship, obscenity, libel, privacy, free press/fair trial, contempt, access and other legal problems affecting the mass media. The case study approach generally is used, but the emphasis is on the principles and philosophy underlying various aspects of communication law as these affect the daily work of journalists. *Fulfills concepts/critical thinking requirement.*

Journal 460: Journalism Ethics (fulfills I.E. requirement)

Sophomore, junior and senior Journalism majors only

(3 cr.) Cap. 30**Sect. 1 TTH 8:30 - 9:45 a.m.****List****TBD****Sect. 2 TTH 1:00 - 2:15 p.m.****Braun****TBD**

This course focuses on responsible journalism—no matter the medium. Its aim is to help those who plan to become journalists make ethical decisions and those who are consumers of the news recognize and appreciate responsible journalism. Students will develop an understanding of the ethical questions faced by journalists in a democratic society at a time when journalism is shifting from print/broadcast to online and when much of the mainstream media is focused on profit over news values and on entertainment over substance. Discussion will include: foundational ethical principles, the shift to online journalism, accuracy and fairness, relationships with sources, diversity, conflicts of interest, privacy, deception and photojournalism. *Fulfills concepts/critical thinking requirement.*

Journal 490RP: Reporting for Radio and Podcast II**(4 cr.) Cap. 16**

Prerequisite: JOURNAL 393N Reporting for Radio and Podcast

MW 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.**Leland****ILC S413**

This course will build on the fundamentals of the introductory audio journalism course, allowing students to report multiple in-depth, long-form journalistic and documentary audio projects. Emphasis will be placed on producing professional-quality work along with strategies for successfully placing that work with a paid journalistic outlet. Rigorous attention will be paid to story-idea generation, writing, structure, reporting, revision, and sound design in a supportive workshop environment, which will also encourage students to develop the skills needed to find work as an editor, learning how to reshape and strengthen narrative work by their peers. The course will include extensive listening from across audio genres, as well as historical and theoretical readings in journalism and sound studies.

Journal 490IC: Public Relations and Integrated Communication Cases**(3 cr.) Cap. 16**

Prerequisite: JOURNAL 335 Principles of Public Relations

MW 2:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.**Donohue****ILC S407**

This seminar-style class uses research, analysis and discussion of cases and campaigns to expose students to the professional practice of public relations and integrated communication management. Students will learn how to identify, explain and apply what they've learned to different publics/stakeholders as well as communication and business scenarios.

Journal 491CJ: Community Journalism II**(3 cr.) Cap. 15**

Open to sophomore, junior & senior Journalism majors

Wed 12:20 p.m. - 3:20 p.m.**McBride****ILC S414**

This course continues the work begun in Community Journalism 1, an intermediate reporting class that sends students to ghettos, barrios and poor white and working class communities in the region. The working-class, the

poor, and minority populations are often overlooked by the mainstream media. This course puts students into the homeless shelters, food pantries, health clinics, and public schools in hope of finding solutions and answers from the real experts. This class includes intensive fieldwork, substantial news writing, and devotion to reading. **We will travel to the High School of Commerce once a week** to work on collaborative news projects with the high school students.

Journal 492M: Magazine Writing

(4 cr.) Cap. 16

Prereq: Journal 300

MW 11:15 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Leland

ILC S413

This course will introduce you to the different styles and genres of magazine writing, including travel, food, the personal essay, the profile and the issues piece. We will tell these stories in a digital-first format that goes beyond text to include photos, audio and video. We'll also work on audience engagement and use social media to connect readers to the work we produce in this class. The best work will be published on Amherst Wire. *This course fulfills one of the advanced writing/reporting courses the Journalism major requires.*

Journal 495N: Broadcast News Reporting II

(4 cr.) Cap. 16

Prereq: Journal 300 and 339/395N or instructor consent

TTh 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Kyle

ILC S308

The goal of this class is to take students beyond the simple mechanics of broadcast storytelling and into the area of craftsmanship and prepare them for the myriad of situations and stories a general assignment reporter will face on a daily basis. Students will become accomplished in all areas of newsroom work and will learn to produce quality broadcast journalism on deadline. *This course fulfills one of the advanced writing/reporting courses the Journalism major requires for Pre-Fall 2018 requirements. Fulfills multimedia requirement for students beginning at UMass in Fall 2018 or later.*

Journal 497G: Journalism Launchpad

(1 cr.) Cap. 25

Junior/senior seminar meets for the first five Wednesdays of the semester.

Wed

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Roche

TBA

Juniors and seniors face lots of decisions as they start to plan for life beyond UMass. In this course, we'll look at some of those issues, focusing on the decision-making process, and career exploration and development. We'll explore the career possibilities for Journalism majors, and through exercises and readings, students will develop a career plan and build a resume and online portfolio that highlights their strengths and interests. We'll also look at some areas like budgeting and interviewing and negotiating skills.

Journal 497P: The Politician & the Journalist

(3 cr.) Cap. 30

Open to students of all ranks and majors, including First-Year Students

Mon 9:05 a.m. - 11:35 a.m.

Neal

ILC N155

The relationships among reporters, publishers, and politicians, and how each uses the media. Using historical biographies and other texts, the class will examine past strategies by politicians and media figures. Topics include campaign strategies, Washington politics, day-to-day effectiveness in office, making arguments through the media, and how those not elected use the media. Taught by Congressman Richard Neal of the First District, Massachusetts, the class offers an opportunity for students to hear how elected officials work with the press.

Please note: For students who started at UMass pre-Fall 2018: Advanced writing and reporting classes are classes that are four credits AND require Journalism 300 as a prerequisite. A few courses carry four credits because they qualify as Gen Eds but do not require 300 - These classes are NOT advanced writing/reporting classes. See a journalism advisor for clarification your requirements.

Journalism classes are restricted to Journalism majors unless noted otherwise.

Other opportunities by permission only:

- Independent studies start with your faculty sponsor and must be approved by Undergraduate Program Director Raz Sibii and Department Chair Brian McDermott.
- Talk to Senior Lecturer/Internship Coordinator B.J. Roche about enrolling in an internship.
- For questions about honors contact Honors Program Director Rodrigo Zamith: rzamith@umass.edu