



The University of Southern Queensland

Course Specification

Description: News Reporting

Subject	Cat-Nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
JRN	2000	15014	2, 2002	EXT	1.00	TWMBBA

Academic Group:	FOART
Academic Org:	FOA004
HECS Band:	1
ASCED Code:	100703

STAFFING

Examiner: Dianne Jones
Moderator: Craig Burgess

PRE-REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: JRN 1000

SYNOPSIS

The philosophical rationale behind the free flow of information will be studied from practical and theoretical perspectives. Students will receive theoretical instruction and practice in interviewing and reporting. They will learn how to retrieve information from government, the courts, business, sports organisations and other social institutions. The journalist's role in society will be defined and explored through the use of research techniques involving the Internet, Freedom of Information, property and company searches and the use of newspaper databases. To successfully complete this course students must have access to the Internet.

OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course students will:

- Have built on print writing skills learned in Introduction to Journalism and have learned how to write basic news for radio;
- Have produced news stories under deadline conditions for print to a publishable standard and for radio to a broadcast standard;
- Have developed information gathering skills, especially in the area of interviewing;
- Have gained a greater understanding of the journalist's role in society.

TOPICS

Description	Weighting (%)
1. Attribution, direct & indirect quotes	10.00
2. Interviewing techniques	10.00
3. Building source material	5.00
4. Fairness	5.00
5. Internet news reporting	5.00
6. Reporting for broadcast	10.00
7. Broadcast news writing style and mechanics	10.00
8. The legal system	10.00
9. Covering the courts	10.00
10. Defamation and contempt	5.00
11. Government processes	10.00
12. The journalist's role in society	10.00

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED:

Books can be ordered by fax or telephone. For costs and further details use the 'Book Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> by entering the author or title of the text.

Pearson, M. 1997, *The Journalist's Guide to Media Law*, Allen & Unwin, Sydney.

White, S 1996, *Reporting in Australia*, 2nd edition, Macmillan, South Melbourne.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessment	30
Directed Study	30
Private Study	30
Project Work	60

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks Out of	Wtg(%)	Required	Due Date
PRINT REPORT	100.00	20.00	Y	16 Aug 2002
RADIO REPORT	100.00	20.00	Y	06 Sep 2002
COURT REPORT	100.00	30.00	Y	04 Oct 2002
ROUNDS REPORT	100.00	30.00	Y	01 Nov 2002

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Students must submit all items of assessment. Failure to do so will result in a fail grade for the course. All items of assessment must be submitted in typed or word processed form, and in a 12 point font.
 - 2 All submissions must be despatched by the due date and time. Late submissions will not be accepted unless accompanied by a valid medical certificate.
 - 3 Assignments not despatched by the due date will receive a mark of zero.
 - 4 Extensions will not be approved for any item of assessment unless a valid medical certificate is presented with the request.
 - 5 The final grade will be determined on the basis of the total accumulated points, ie if the final total of all items of assessment is within the Pass range, then the final grade is Pass (C).
 - 6 Assignments requiring the use of interviews, surveys etc. must meet University ethical requirements and the examiner must be satisfied these requirements have been met.
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