



The University of Southern Queensland

## Course Specification

### Description: News Reporting

Subject	Cat-Nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
JRN	2000	15016	2, 2002	ONC	1.00	WIBAY

<b>Academic Group:</b>	FOART
<b>Academic Org:</b>	FOA004
<b>HECS Band:</b>	1
<b>ASCED Code:</b>	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 edn, Macmillan, South Melbourne.

### **STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS**

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessment	60
Directed Study	30
Lectures	13
Private Study	32
Tutorial	26

## 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	07 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.
  - 2 All submissions must be handed in by the due date and time. Late submissions will not be accepted unless accompanied by a valid medical certificate.
  - 3 Assignments not handed in by the due date and time 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 total of all items of assessment is within the Pass range, then the final grade is Pass (C). However, students must achieve a passing grade on assessment items 1, 2, 3 and 4 in order to be considered for a passing grade in the course.
  - 6 Assignments requiring the use of interviews, surveys, Internet databases etc. must meet University ethical requirements and the examiner must be satisfied these requirements have been met.
  - 7 All assignments must be submitted in typed or word processed form, and in a 12 point font.
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