



The University of Southern Queensland

Course Specification

Description: Radio Journalism

Subject	Cat-Nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
JRN	2002	20987	1, 2003	ONC	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: JRN1000 and JRN2000

OTHER-REQUISITES

Prerequisites 94193+94200

SYNOPSIS

This course provides students with an introduction to the world of broadcast news. Students will learn about radio news and current affairs in Australia and overseas. The course will take a hands-on approach to teaching students how to write, report, prepare and present radio news under "real life" deadlines. Students will also learn to think independently, refine their news sense, operate within the community as journalists and make ethical decisions. Topics covered include: the history of radio journalism, writing for broadcast, interviewing techniques, voice production, and editorial decision-making.

OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course the student should:

- demonstrate an understanding of the major news events of the previous weeks, in particular, how these events were handled by the broadcast media;
- have an understanding of the role of the broadcast media in fostering public awareness of social issues and problems;
- demonstrate an awareness of the discipline needed to meet the pressure of coping with tight broadcast news deadlines;

- be able to isolate major news stories and to justify their possible inclusion in the front section of a metropolitan or regional radio station news bulletin;
- be able to write radio news stories based on his/her experience gained from exercises completed in tutorials and workshops, his/her own research material and interviews on local issues; and
- be able to interview and produce stories with recorded material.

TOPICS

Description	Weighting (%)
1. Current Affairs	10.00
2. Radio news technology	10.00
3. Broadcast news writing style	20.00
4. Interview techniques	10.00
5. Reporting skills	10.00
6. Constructing a news story	10.00
7. Voice production	10.00
8. Newsroom operations	10.00
9. Radio news in context	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.

The Macquarie Dictionary and Thesaurus. 2 Minidiscs. 2 blank cassettes (30 minute tapes). To complete the practical components of this course, you will require your own mini discs, audio cassettes and batteries. Do not purchase these items until you have consulted your lecturer.

Masterton, M., & Patching, R 1997, *Now the News in Detail*, 3rd edition, Deakin University Press, Victoria.

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

Boyd, A 2001, *Broadcast Journalism*, 5th edition, Focal, Great Britain.

Olle, A. & Pullan, R 1992, *On Interviewing*, ABC Enterprises, Sydney.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessment	63
Directed Study	45
Lectures	13
Private Study	15
Tutorial	26

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks Out of	Wtg(%)	Required	Due Date
NEWSBREAK	50.00	25.00	Y	04 Mar 2003 (see note)
RADIO NEWS STORY	100.00	15.00	Y	17 Apr 2003 (see note)
2,000 WORD ESSAY	100.00	20.00	Y	16 May 2003 (see note)
RADIO CURRENT AFFAIRS REPORT	100.00	20.00	Y	18 Jun 2003 (see note)
FINAL EXAMINATION	100.00	20.00	Y	END S1

NOTES:

- . Further details about the due dates are detailed in Other Requirements, Note 9.
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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 on 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. The only exception to that rule is the 2,000 word essay. Late submission of the essay will result in a 10 percent deduction in marks for each working day or part thereof it is late.
- 4 Extensions will not be approved for any item of assessment unless a valid medical certificate is presented with the request.
- 5 Students must complete all required Newsbreak shifts in order to be considered for a passing grade in the course.
- 6 Students who fail to turn up for an assigned Newsbreak shift will receive a mark of zero for the shift.

- 7 Students who present a valid medical certificate for a missed Newsbreak shift are required to make up that shift at a date determined in consultation with the lecturer.
- 8 Subject to meeting the requirements listed above, the final grade will be based on the aggregate of the marks for all assessment items.
- 9 ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE DATE 17 APRIL 2003 - TIME: NOON. ASSIGNMENT 2 NEWSBREAK: STUDENTS WILL BE ADVISED IN WEEK 1 CLASS OF THEIR ASSIGNMENT REQUIREMENTS. ASSIGNMENT 3 DUE DATE 16 MAY 2003 - TIME: NOON. ASSIGNMENT 4 DUE DATE 13 JUNE 2003 - TIME: NOON
- 10 The final grade is based on the aggregate of all assessment items and is assigned as follows: HD = 90-100, A = 80-89, B = 65-79, C = 50-64, F = 0-49
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