



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

Description: Broadcast Newsroom						
Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
JRN	3002	50708	1, 2006	ONC	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	FOART
Academic org:	FOA004
Student contribution band:	1
ASCED code:	100703

STAFFING

Examiner: Craig Burgess

Moderator: Dianne Jones

REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: JRN2002 and JRN2005

SYNOPSIS

This course focuses on furthering the theory and practice of radio or television journalism through a major current affairs project. The theoretical context provides for an increased understanding of the role of current affairs and addresses major contemporary media issues such as ethics, laws and regulations. Students will develop story ideas, initiate proposals, conduct research and produce professional standard reports suitable for airing on a current affairs program. They will be required to provide a reflective justification report of 1000 words for the project they choose. Students will be given professional support and guidance from the lecturer and DEC media unit staff to advance the skills learnt in Broadcast Reporting. In addition students will complete five Newsbreak shifts over the course of the semester.

OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course the student will:

1. have acquired knowledge and techniques at an advanced level of a major broadcast journalism method; (assessment items 2, 3 & 4 refer)
2. be able to identify the information and resources needed to complete a current affairs report in the journalism medium of broadcast; (assessment items 2, 3 & 4 refer)
3. be able to prepare a current affairs report of professional standard for broadcast; (assessment items 2, 3 & 4 refer)
4. be able to make decisions on a broad range of ethical issues involved with the practice of broadcast journalism. (assessment item 1 refers)

TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Research theory	10.00
2.	Planning and resources	10.00
3.	The theory of investigative reporting	10.00
4.	Ethical broadcasting	10.00
5.	Writing	20.00
6.	Field reporting	20.00
7.	Editing/production	20.00

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

Alysen, B 2000, *The electronic reporter: broadcast journalism in Australia*, Deakin University Press, Geelong, Vic.

Fogg, C 2005, *Release the hounds: a guide to research for journalists and writers*, Allen & Unwin, Australia.

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 - techniques of radio and TV news*, 5th edn, Focal Press, Oxford.

Tanner, S 2002, *Journalism Investigation & Research*, Longman, NSW.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessment	10.00
Directed Study	10.00
Project Work	130.00
Tutorials	13.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
NEWSBREAK	20.00	20.00	06 Mar 2006 (see note 1)
PROJECT JUSTIFICATION REPORT	20.00	20.00	30 Mar 2006 (see note 2)
DRAFT SCRIPT AND RAW TAPES	20.00	10.00	10 May 2006 (see note 3)
FINAL SCRIPT & CRNT AFRS RPT	20.00	50.00	03 Jun 2006 (see note 4)

NOTES

1. NB - NEW ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS: All Faculty of Arts assignments must be lodged in the Faculty Assessment Centre on the Ground Floor of Q Block no later than 12 noon on the due date. Newsbreak Assessment consists of five reporting assignments over the course of the semester.
2. The project justification must be submitted by the due date and time.
3. Students will be advised of assignment expectations.
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IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:
It is the student's responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities (such as lectures, tutorials, laboratories and practical work) scheduled for them, and to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration. Normal class attendance for this course consists of one one-hour lecture and one two-hour tutorial per week.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
To complete each of the assessment items satisfactorily, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for each assessment item.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
DEADLINES - EXTENSIONS WILL NOT BE GRANTED ON ANY GROUNDS.
In fully documented cases of extreme medical disability, other production assignments of equivalent value will be set, ON CONDITION THAT the student fully informs the Examiner of such a need at the earliest convenient time.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
To be assured of receiving a passing grade, students must demonstrate, via the summative assessment items, that they have achieved the required minimum standards in relation to the objectives of the course by submitting and passing all of the summative assessment items.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of the marks (or grades) obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:
There is no exam for this course.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:

Given the details under (6) above, there are no deferred exams for this course. However, if any deferred/makeup work is granted, it would have to be submitted by a date set by the examiner.

8 University Regulations:

Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm> or in the current USQ Handbook.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 9 (a) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must lodge the assignment at the USQ. (b) Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be despatched to USQ within 24 hours if requested by the Examiner. (c) In accordance with University's Assignment Extension Policy (Regulation 5.6.1), the examiner of a course may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances such as documented ill-health. (d) Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in the course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of the course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM Incomplete-Makeup). An IM grade will only be awarded when, in the opinion of the examiner, a student will be able to achieve the remaining objectives of the course after a period of non-directed personal study. (e) Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or sit for an examination at the scheduled time, may apply to defer an assessment in the course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded: IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination; IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Correct English is essential in Journalism. Errors of spelling, grammar and punctuation will be penalised when assignments are marked. Severe deficiencies could mean failure in the course.
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