



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at <http://www.usq.edu.au/coursespecification/current>.
Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

Description: Broadcast Newsroom

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
JRN	3002	74573	1, 2008	ONC	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	FOART
Academic org:	FOA003
Student contribution band:	1
ASCED code:	100703

STAFFING

Examiner: Dianne Jones
Moderator: Aidan Burke

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;
2. be able to identify the information and resources needed to complete a current affairs report in the journalism medium of broadcast;
3. be able to prepare a current affairs report of professional standard for broadcast;
4. be able to make decisions on a broad range of ethical issues involved with the practice of broadcast journalism.

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 2005, *The electronic reporter*, 2nd edn, UNSW Press, Sydney.

Tanner, S 2002, *Journalism investigation & research*, Longman, NSW.

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.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

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

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
PROJECT JUSTIFICATION REPORT	20.00	20.00	28 Mar 2008 (see note 1)
NEWSBREAK	100.00	20.00	08 May 2008 (see note 2)
DRAFT SCRIPT AND RAW TAPES	20.00	10.00	08 May 2008 (see note 3)
FINAL SCRIPT & CRNT AFRS RPT	20.00	50.00	03 Jun 2008 (see note 4)

NOTES

1. The project justification must be submitted by the due date and time. This assignment is aligned with all of the Objectives.
2. Newsbreak Assessment consists of five reporting assignments over the course of the semester. This assignment is aligned with Objectives 1 and 4..
3. Students will be advised of assignment expectations. This assignment is aligned with all of the Objectives.
4. Students will be advised of assignment expectations. This assignment is aligned with all of the Objectives.

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 successfully complete an individual assessment item, a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks or a grade of at least C-. This statement must be read in conjunction with Statement 4 below.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
If students submit assignments after the due date without extenuating circumstances and without prior approval, then a penalty of a maximum of 5% of the assigned mark may apply for each working day late, up to a maximum of 10 working days, at which time a mark of zero can be recorded for that assignment.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
To be assured of receiving a passing grade, a student must achieve at least 50% of the total weighted marks available for the course.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the aggregate of the weighted marks 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>

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) 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. (c) In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area, such as a Show holiday, the due date for the assignment will be the next day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the examiner's convenience. (d). 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. (e) 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. (f) 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. (g) 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 The journalism course maintains high standards of spelling, punctuation, syntax and style. Faults in any of these could render a project or proposal unacceptable.
- 2 If assignments in the course require the use of surveys, interviews, etc., students should be aware of the University and Faculty of Arts ethical requirements/guidelines. (The course syllabus distributed to students in the first week of teaching provides this information.)
- 3 Students can expect that questions in assessment items in this course may draw upon knowledge and skills that they can reasonably be expected to have acquired before enrolling in the course. This includes knowledge contained in pre-requisite courses and appropriate communication, information literacy, analytical, critical thinking, problem solving or numeracy skills. Students who do not possess such knowledge and skills should not expect to achieve the same grades as those students who do possess them.
- 4 Students will require access to email and must have internet access to USQConnect for this course.