Description: Public Affairs Reporting

<table>
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<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-Nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<td>JRN</td>
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<td>10980</td>
<td>1, 2002</td>
<td>ONC</td>
<td>1.00</td>
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Academic Group: FOART
Academic Org: FOA004
HECS Band: 1
ASCED Code: 100703

STAFFING
Examiner: Dianne Jones
Moderator: Neil Lomas

PRE-REQUISITES
Pre-requisite: JRN 2000

SYNOPSIS
Public Affairs Reporting is an advanced reporting course stressing the watchdog role of the press and utilising investigative techniques, including computer-assisted reporting, Internet and other on-line searching. Students undertake in-depth practical assignments. Topics will include local, state, national and international government and politics, defence, immigration and multiculturalism, health, education and welfare, the environment science, industrial issues, economics and finance.

OBJECTIVES
On successful completion of this course students should be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of the theories behind the watchdog role of the press in western society;
- demonstrate an understanding of public affairs, including local, state, national and international government and politics, defence, immigration and multiculturalism, health, education and welfare, the environment, science, industrial issues, economics and finance;
- demonstrate an ability to report public affairs at local, state and national levels;
- apply computer-assisted reporting techniques to journalistic research.
TOPICS

Description Weighting (%)  
1. Theories of the role of the press in society 20.00  
2. Journalism research techniques 10.00  
3. Using computer-assisted reporting for public affairs 20.00  
4. Reporting local, state, national and international politics 20.00  
5. Reporting other social institutions 20.00  
6. Issues in public affairs 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.


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.


STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Directed Study</td>
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<td>Lectures</td>
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<td>Private Study</td>
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<td>Tutorial</td>
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## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks Out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
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<th>Due Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>REPORT 1</td>
<td>999.00</td>
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### NOTES:

1. Further details about the due dates are detailed in the assessment section of the Course Specifications.
2. Further details about the due dates are detailed in the assessment section of the Course Specifications.
3. Further details about the due dates are detailed in the assessment section of the Course Specifications.
4. Further details about the due dates are detailed in the assessment section of the Course Specifications.

### OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1. Students must submit and pass all items of assessment. Failure to do so will result in a fail grade for the course.
2. All submissions must be submitted by 5pm on the due date. 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; if the final accumulated percentage across all items of assessment is within the Pass range, then the final grade is Pass[C], etc. However, students must achieve a passing grade on all items of assessment in order to be considered for a passing grade in the course.