

## **RTV4301 – Electronic News Media 2 (TV1)**

Summer, 2016

Instructor: David Snyder

Office Hours: By appointment

Office Location: Weimer Hall (Innovation News Center)

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### **PREREQUISITES:**

To qualify for RTV4301, students must have completed RTV3303, Electronic News Media 1 (Radio News 1) with a grade of “C” or better. Otherwise, you’ll have to take this class in another semester.

### **PURPOSE OF COURSE:**

You will learn how to write, shoot, edit, and report TV news/sports reports. You are expected to leave this course ready for TV2, where you will produce news packages that can be aired on that day’s newscast. You must give equal attention to all phases of the news-gathering and news-delivering process. You should leave this course as skilled in editing as you are in working on camera. You will learn how to use the cameras and how to edit what you shoot.

Three Projects are due during the semester. They will weigh heavily in determining your final grade. You will also be graded on classroom Assignments, Quizzes, and reporting shifts for WUFT.

This is a very “hands-on” course. I strongly encourage everyone to concentrate on developing skill and speed as video editors. This will require you to spend time practicing your editing skills on your own time.

You will need to spend some time shooting video as well. I advise you to spend a couple of hours “out in the field” with a camera before you attempt to shoot your first project. It is your responsibility to decide the focus of your projects and then submit your project ideas to me via e-mail for approval. After your project idea is approved, you can schedule your interviews.

You will be assigned four hours per week in the WUFT-TV newsroom to work as a reporter, photographer, and editor, after you have completed the lab training shifts. If you miss any of your WUFT reporting shifts, you must make them up. If not, you will receive a zero for each missed shift.

### **SUCCESS:**

I can guarantee success in this course for almost anyone who does the following:

- Attend every class
- Take notes
- Ask questions
- Meet deadlines
- Stay in touch

Since we meet so few times, **each** class is crucial. We don’t have time to mess around--everything we teach you in this course will be valuable to advance your career.

### **PROJECTS:**

Projects #1-3 are due at 5pm Eastern Time on assigned Due Date. Project #2 is due at the start of class on Due Date. Deadlines are inflexibly firm, precisely as they are in real-world television. In

the process of finishing your project you should expect to adapt to uncertainty and changing circumstances. Unless otherwise noted, you will upload your video to your YouTube channel and send me the link in email. You will also send me written assignments in the same email.

**Project #1:** VOSOT (VO/B/VO). Running Time: :45 Required elements: Script, VO, Soundbite and trailing VO. Turn in ENPS script and edited QuickTime movie.

Note: VO/B/VO projects cannot be about any of the following events – no walk-a-thons, dance marathons, fundraisers, fairs, art shows or blood drives. And no animal stories are allowed...no therapy horses, animal sanctuary, humane society, pet shelter or animals without homes stories.

**Project #2:** Script Writing. You will be given the information and soundbites to write a package script in proper ENPS format.

**Final Project #3:** Package. Running Time: 1:30-1:45 (not including anchor intro and tag) Required elements: At least three bites from at least two interviews with different people. One bridge standup. One matched-action sequence (noted on script). Story structure must include a central character. Sequences must include at least three different shots and all from different angles or you will receive a zero for your project. One instances of NAT SOT full (with correct command on script). Turn in script and edited QuickTime movie. Web version of story: 450 to 550 words. **(See “Project Survival” page on the course blog for helpful tips/reminders about project requirements)**

Note: TV 1 students are NOT allowed to turn in any project work to me that has also been used or will be used as an assignment, project, report or interview for any other class or station assignment for any radio or television course or lab. Your work in this class must be unique to this class and not be used for any other course or come from any other course. No exceptions. Using work from another class, lab, project, or station assignment for this class will result in a zero grade for the project or assignment in TV1.

**Deadlines** are ABSOLUTELY INFLEXIBLE. They are not fluid in the world of broadcasting and will not be in this class. It would be a disservice to you if I required any less. Start your work early and plan on problems popping up that will delay you. Reporting is full of uncertainties and changing conditions; you need to be prepared to adapt to them. Any work turned in late loses 5% per late hour. Fact errors will significantly lower your grade and could, in some cases, result in failure of the assignment/project. Stories with conflicts of interest of the reporter will result in automatic failure. Grades on stories can be lowered (e.g. to zero) as the result of students misrepresenting themselves or otherwise being unprofessional while working on story assignments.

#### **WEEKLY COURSE PLAN:**

This is ALWAYS subject to change, so it is important to be flexible.

#### **Week 1 (May 9):**

- Course Introduction

- Syllabus Review
- Equipment Policy review/students will sign gear liability pledge
- Developing and Pitching Story Ideas lecture
- Camera demonstration

### **Week 2 (May 16):**

- Quiz #1: Pitching Story Ideas
- Quiz #2: Camera
- How To Shoot Video
- Matched-action sequences, action-reaction, wide-medium-tight shooting
- What Is and How To Write a VOSOT (VO/B/VO)
- Assignment #1: Shoot video/interview to edit next a VOSOT next week

### **Week 3 (May 23):**

- Quiz #3: Shooting Video & VOSOTs
- How to shoot and conduct an interview
- Final Cut edit training for VOSOT (VO/B/VO) stories using Assignment #1 footage
- Project #1 assigned: Shoot/write/edit VOSOT (VO/B/VO)

### **Week 4 (June 6):**

- Quiz #4: Interviews
- Newsroom shifts/expectations
- ENPS training
- Project #1 Pitches due

### **Week 5 (June 13):**

- Project #1 Due
- Package Writing/Structure lecture
- Storytelling lecture
- Assignment #2: Lead-Writing exercise
- Project #2 assigned: Writing Package Script

### **Week 6 (June 27):**

- Assignment #2 due
- Quiz #5: Writing & Storytelling
- Write The Throw & Wrap Up Line exercise
- Assignment #3: Write The Throw & Wrap Up Line exercise (based on above)
- Assignment #4: Shoot/edit matched-action sequences, action-reaction, wide-medium-tight shooting in class

### **Week 7 (July 11):**

- Edit Training for packages using "Fishing For Success" media
- Assignment #3 due

- Project #2 Due

**Week 8 (July 18):**

- Shooting on Phone Camera lecture
- Review Shooting Rules/Techniques
- Review Package Structure
- Shooting Standups lecture
- Video examples of informative/demonstrative standups
- Assignment #5: Re-write Project #2 script
- Project #3 assigned: Package

**Week 9 (July 25):**

- Assignment #5 due
- Quiz #6: Shooting on Phone Camera & Standups
- Assignment #6: Shoot/edit standups in class
- Project #3 Pitches due

**Week 10 (Aug 1):**

- “How to End a Package” exercise
- What Should Your Reel Look Like lecture
- Contracts lecture
- Preparing for TV 2
- Writing for the Web lecture
- Project #3 Due

*Note:* Reporting shifts begin Monday, \_\_ and end Friday, \_\_. The week of \_\_ is the designated makeup shift week. Makeup shifts must be approved in advance.

**GRADES:**

**Grade percentages:**

Assignments – 20%

Quizzes – 20%

Newsroom Work – 20%

Projects – 40%

Whether You Are Nice To Me – 0.5%

**Grade scale:**

A 94-100

A- 90-93

B+ 86-89

B 83-85

B- 80-82

C+ 77-79

C 74-76

C- 70-73  
D+ 67-69  
D 64-66  
D- 60-63  
E 59-30  
SNYDER 29-Below

**Posted Grades:**

Grades will be posted in Canvas. Here's how to find your scores:

Open your Internet browser and navigate to <https://lss.at.ufl.edu>

NOTE: If you are going to create a bookmark for e-learning login, please bookmark <http://lss.at.ufl.edu>, not the actual login page or the "My Workspace" page once you are in eLearning.

- Click the big orange "e-Learning login" button
- Login using your Gator Link username and password. After logging in, you will be taken to your "My Workspace," where you can access the course(s) and/or project site(s) in which you are enrolled. You will see them listed across the top of the screen

There is no extra credit material offered for this course.

**ATTENDANCE:**

As noted in the attendance agreement, all classes and labs are mandatory. Every unexcused absence will result in a loss of TEN points from your OVERALL FINAL GRADE (for example: two unexcused absences will drop your final point total by 20 points.) Students can be excused from class for the following reasons if and only if they have appropriate documentation: participation as athletes in university-related athletic activities (must have official letter from relevant UF offices or coaches), illness (must have official doctor's note with doctor's contact info and original signature – these will be verified by the instructor), or family emergencies (relevant document of proof is required).

You will NOT be excused for any of the above reasons without documentation. And you will not be excused for any job interviews, regularly scheduled medical or dental exams, work-related schedule conflicts, or work in other courses.

Similar consideration will be made for missed newsroom reporting/shooting shifts but those shifts MUST be made up in order to avoid receiving a score of zero for any missed newsroom shift.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

**Websites to know:**

[Wuft.org/newsroom](http://Wuft.org/newsroom)

[89steps.wordpress.com](http://89steps.wordpress.com) – This is the Official Blog of TV1

**Make-Up Quizzes and Assignments:**

Students will be allowed to make up missed exams or turn in projects late only in the event of a personal or family emergency, such as a serious family illness. Students must provide

documentation of said emergency to be granted project extensions or make-up exam dates. Turning in your projects late is the equivalent of missing your slot in a newscast. In the real world, this can get you fired. Projects are due by 5:00 on the due date. Any work turned in late loses 5% per late hour and 10% per late day. If you miss a quiz or class assignment, you will receive a zero. Quizzes and assignments can be made up if you missed the original class time because of illness or a family emergency ONLY IF YOU PROVIDE APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTATION. Make-up quizzes and assignments must be done within two weeks. After that time, you will receive a zero.

**SD Cards:**

You will be given an SD card to shoot your projects. You will also need an inexpensive set of headphones or earbuds. These can be plugged into the camera and are valuable in making sure that you have audio when shooting your projects. These will also be needed for edit training and must be brought to all classes.

IMPORTANT!! SD CARDS CANNOT BE FORMATTED OR CLEARED IN CARD READERS IN THE LABS OR IN YOUR PERSONAL COMPUTERS OR LAPTOPS. ANY VIDEO ON YOUR CARDS THAT IS UNWANTED/UNNEEDED MUST BE CLEARED BY RE-FORMATTING YOUR CARDS IN THE TV 1 CAMERAS. IF YOU NEED HELP WITH THIS, EQUIPMENT MANAGER STEVE KIPPERT CAN ASSIST.