

Performance in Telecommunication

RTV 3601 (TV1) W 8:30-9:20am, F 8:30-1025am

Weimer G030

Instructor: Harrison Hove

Email: hchove@ufl.edu

Office phone: (352)294-1371

Twitter, Slack: @harrisonhove

Office Hours: T, W, R 1-2pm in Weimer 2309 (inside the INC), or by appt.

PURPOSE OF COURSE:

To help students improve on-air performance in radio and television news. Special emphasis is placed on voice, delivery, live reporting, anchoring, and appearance. Students will gain practical experience reading the teleprompter and performing in front of the camera as well as voicing for radio. You should see noticeable improvement in your presentation skills.

COURSE GOALS:

The goal of this course is to build a skill set that will enable you to work for a broadcast news organization. This includes:

1. Synthesizing theory and putting into practice.
2. Proper breathing, delivery and diction for voicing stories for radio and television.
3. Enhance live reporting and standup skills.
4. Understand verbal and non-verbal communication techniques.
5. Apply knowledge during real world simulations.
6. Combining all above goals to produce scripts and packages that can be used for WUFT

REQUIRED READING:

The textbook will reinforce material taught in class. Our book can also be used as a resource with many examples to help facilitate understanding.

Required (digital copy will be provided): *On Camera: How to Report, Anchor, and Interview*.
By: Nancy Reardon. Second Edition. Again, Ebook will be sent to you via email and possibly made available on canvas.

Optional, but Recommended: *Write Like You Talk: A Guide to Broadcast News Writing*. By: Jeff Butera (available to order at www.WriteLikeYouTalk.com)

GRADING:

Grading will be very strict in this course to mirror the pressure professional broadcast journalists face. The point-based grading scale in this class is: 93 - 100 (A), 90 - 92.99 (A-), 87 - 89.99 (B+), 83 - 86.99 (B), 80 - 82.99 (B-), 77 - 79.99 (C+), 73 - 76.99 (C), 70 - 72.99 (C-), 67 - 69.99 (D+), 60 - 66.99 (D), Below 60 (E). Note that there is *no rounding* in the points system. UF grading policies: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

The following are the components of your grade for the term:

Participation: 30 points

Critiques: 30 points

Essay 1: 10 points

Essay 2: 10 points

Self Reflection: 20 points

*Please note: critiques are a vital part of this course and the broadcast news industry. The instructor reserves the right to show your projects publicly both on UF media properties and in class, which will be followed by public critiques. All critiques are meant to be constructive in nature and designed to facilitate professional growth.

Participation: This score is a combination of attendance and giving a good faith effort during any and all in class exercises and discussions.

Critiques: Verbal and written critiques are necessary and fuel professional growth. Your self-critiques and colleague critiques will be conducted weekly. In the case of a written critique, students are expected to provide a paragraph or two of substance that highlights **multiple** aspects of performance (voice, appearance, overall presentation, etc....).

Essay 1,2: A **2-3 page** (Times New Roman, Size 12 font, standard margins) essay critiquing one on-air personality featured during one news, sports, or weathercast during a regularly scheduled

newscast. Multiple aspects of the talent's performance must be addressed in an in-depth manner. You must take aspects of performance discussed in class and evaluate these aspects of performance.

Self Reflection: A **3-5 page** (Times New Roman, Size 12 font, standard margins) paper analyzing aspects of your own performance. You must discuss all aspects of your performance based on the topics covered in class. You need to discuss the positives and negatives of each aspect. You must then conclude your paper with a plan of action. Tell me what areas need to continue to improve and how you plan to make this happen.

The instructor reserves the right to offer extra credit assignments, which all students will have the opportunity to complete.

ABSENCES: Requirements for class attendance, newsroom shifts, and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found her: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx> Students **will not** be permitted to make up in class assignments when absences are **unexcused** (including vacation or illness without doctor's note). Because project due dates are assigned in this syllabus at the beginning of the term, all work must be submitted by these deadlines. If you are absent on these days, you will need to submit the work ahead of time or make arrangements with the course instructor BEFORE the deadline. **Lastly, students will incur a five point FINAL grade deduction for each unexcused absence starting at the third unexcused absence. This includes any combination of class meetings AND newsroom shifts.**

Note: Students are NOT allowed to turn in any project work for this class that has also been used or will be used as an assignment, project, report or interview for any other class without prior agreement from the instructor.

Missed deadlines result in loss of points. Students will lose one point for each hour an assignment is late during the first five hours. After that, a student will lose five points per day. For Projects this means links must be emailed and hard copy scripts must be submitted on time or the assignment is NOT complete. Example: If an assignment is worth 20 points and it is turned in two days late, a student can only earn a maximum of 10 points.

WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Not all classes fit your schedule or your academic plan, and I understand that. Please know, however, that I very much wish to meet with you before you drop (especially the deeper we get into the semester) to see what we can do to work through any challenges together. If you do have questions about how to drop or the impact on your transcript or financial aid, please visit the Academic Advising website.

SYLLABUS

Every effort has been made to create a syllabus that is as comprehensive and accurate as possible, but each class is a living entity and changes may arise. Please know I will notify you in writing as soon as any syllabus change may arise.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

Honesty Policy – UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Note that failure to comply with this commitment will result in disciplinary action compliant with the UF Student Honor Code Procedures.

See <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/procedures/honorcode.php>

Campus Resources

Health and Wellness

UF Counseling Services –Resources are available on-campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals. The resources include:

- UF Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Rd, 392-1575, <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, counseling services and mental health services.
- U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or call (352)392-1575 so a team member can reach out to the student.
- Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS). Student Health Care Center, 352-392-1161
- University Police Department 352-392-1111 or 911 for emergencies. www.police.ufl.edu

Academic Resources

- Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601, career and job search services.
- E-Learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or email learning-support@ufl.edu
- Library Support, cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask
- Teaching Center, Broward Hall 352-392-2010. www.teachingcenter.ufl.edu
- Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall (352)846-1138. This service offers help with brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. www.writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio
- Student Complaints: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities – Students Requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. That office will provide the student with documentation that he/she must provide to the course instructor when requesting accommodation.

SOFTWARE USE

Software Use – All faculty, staff and student of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

EVALUATIONS

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

COURSE SCHEDULE

(tentative, subject to change as needed) Reading should be complete before attending class.

Week 1 (8/22, 8/24)

8/22: Syllabus introduction

8/24: Aspects of performance, overview and examples.

Week 2 (8/29, 8/31)

8/29: Voice instruction

8/31: Voice exercise

Week 3 (9/5, 9/7)

9/5: Voice critique

9/7: Voice exercise

Week 4 (9/12, 9/14)

9/12: Ad lib instruction, Interview instruction

9/14: Ad lib exercise, discussion/critique

Week 5 (9/19, 9/21)

9/19: Anchoring instruction Stand up instruction

9/21: Anchoring exercise (News in 90 style), discussion/critique

Week 6 (9/26, 9/28)

9/26: Stand up instruction

9/28: Stand up exercise

Week 7 (10/3, 10/5)

10/3: Live shot instruction

10/5: Live shot exercise, discussion/critique

Week 8 (10/10, 10/12)

10/10: **ESSAY #1 Due at start of class**, Talent critiques

10/12: Telecom Advisory Council Visit

Week 9 (10/17, 10/19)

10/17: Breaking news coverage

10/19: Breaking news exercise, discussion/critique

Week 10 (10/24, 10/26)

10/24: Cross talk instruction

10/26: Cross talk exercise/critique

Week 11 (10/31, 11/2)

10/31: Clothing, hair, makeup instruction

11/2: No Class- Homecoming

Week 12 (11/7, 11/9)

11/7: **ESSAY #2 Due at start of class**, Guest speaker

11/9: Anchoring exercise

Week 13 (11/14, 11/16)

11/14: Talent critiques (watch, discuss)

11/16: Anchoring exercise

Week 14 (11/21, 11/23)

No Class- Thanksgiving Holiday

Week 15 (11/28, 11/30)

11/28: Guest speaker

11/30: Final thoughts

Week 16 (12/5)

12/5: No Class, turn in your **self reflection paper due by 5:00pm Eastern time** Wednesday, December 5 via email hchove@ufl.edu

Please note: This schedule is subject to change