The Midday Reporter – Spring 2026
JOU4201 with Kalisha Whitman | The Journalism Educator

College of Journalism and Communications | University of Florida
📍 Innovation News Center

Course Overview

The Midday Reporter is a newsroom practicum that develops live television reporters through a structured, real-world training model. Students learn newsroom systems, producing, anchoring and broadcast storytelling to through promotions in newsroom while gaining experience in live execution for Midday and First at Five.

Course Structure & Phases

Phase I — Foundational Training

- Learn newsroom systems & daily workflow
- Practice broadcast writing, timing, and performance
- Shadow Midday operations
- Goal: Understand live-TV structure and newsroom communication

Phase II — Tease Reporter

- Produce & anchor the First at Five Tease
- Focus on delivery, pacing and concise writing
- Collaborate with producers & directors

Phase III — Midday Reporter

- Produce and Anchor story for the A-block
- Produce & anchor the First at Five Tease

Bonus Phase (Optional)

- Produce a full PKG for air, including field reporting, shooting and editing

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Write, produce, and deliver live television content with accuracy and clarity
- Demonstrate confidence and poise during live broadcasts
- Use newsroom systems and technology at a professional level
- Apply strong editorial judgment in the field and newsroom
- Collaborate effectively within a live-TV production environment

Evaluation & Grading

- Phase I Completion 20%
- Tease Reporter Performance 25%
- Midday Reporter Story + Live Delivery .. 35%
- Professionalism & Participation 10%
- Optional PKG Attempt .... Bonus (up to 10 pts)

Required Materials

- No textbook required
- iPhone or approved mobile journalism device
- Adobe Cloud and ENPS access (provided through INC)
- Headphones for editing
- Recommended: Portable phone tripod External mobile mic (checked out from equipment room)

Academic Policies & Resources

About Your Instructor | Meet for Office Hour Fridays by Appointment