JOU 4201 News Center Practicum; Fall '25 WUFT News Team (Course Hours Vary)

Instructor: Alicia Coleman
Class Schedule: MTWTHF 11:30PM – 6:30PM
Location: Innovation News Center
Office Hours: MTF 10:00AM – Noon or By Appointment
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Course Description: Supervised assignment of a reporter and anchor for the WUFT Midday and WUFT First at 5 newscasts. Requires between four and eight hours per week in the newsroom. **Prerequisite:** To qualify for JOU 4201, students must successfully audition and be approved to join the course by the instructor.

Textbook
There is no required textbook, but it is recommended you purchase the latest version of the AP Stylebook.

Course Details
You will report and/or anchor for WUFT Midday and First at 5 newscasts each week.
Midday anchors will produce weekly VOSOTS to air during First at 5, and First at 5 anchors will produce two packages to be aired during the fall semester.

Course Learning Objectives
By the end of this course, students will be able to exhibit the following skills and abilities:
- Writing news stories using Associated Press style techniques as a guide
- Ability to capture usable video and audio for television
- Can demonstrate newsworthy values in providing story details
- Ability to execute research in the newsgathering process.
- Developing a unique on-air presence to capture audiences' attention

Anchor Critique Sessions
Students will schedule a session to review their work during the semester. One session will take place prior to the homecoming break, and the last session will take place after the Thanksgiving break.

Grading

You are graded on the skills you exhibit and improvements throughout the semester. Work to get better each show you are involved in so that your broadcast will become free of mistakes and conversational. We will go over critiques immediately following the end of the broadcast but will have more detailed critiques during our one-on-one sessions.

Important Dates For Fall

- September 1st: Labor Day (Campus is closed)
- September 2nd – First @ 5 newscasts begin
- September 8th – Midday newscasts begin
- October 17th – Homecoming (No newscast)
- November 24th – 29th – Thanksgiving break
- December 3rd – Final newscasts

Use of Artificial Intelligence

The College of Journalism and Communication will adhere to the WUFT policy on the use of Artificial Intelligence within the newsroom. Please familiarize yourself with the policy which can be found here: Artificial intelligence usage at WUFT News

UF Honor Code

University of Florida students are required to adhere to "The Orange Book." You can find the honor code and conduct code here: Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code | SCCR (ufl.edu)

The university's honesty policy regarding cheating and plagiarism:

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 Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and possible sanctions. Click here to read the Conduct Code. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Accommodation

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodation should connect with the disability Resource Center. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs as early as possible in the semester. You can find how to get started here: Get Started with the DRC - Disability (ufl.edu)

Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit U Matter, We Care website to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need or visit the Student Health Care Center website.

University Police Department: Visit UF Police Department website or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website.

GatorWell Health Promotion Services: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the GatorWell website or call 352-273-4450.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

Library Support: Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints On-Campus: Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.

On-Line Students Complaints: View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process.

*****This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Such changes will be communicated verbally and through your Canvas course shell.*****