

Advanced Reporting

JOU 4111

Section 099B

WINGO WIN A 50G FORTUNE TODAY!

50¢
Sun. 40¢
Special
Part of evening 40¢
Special
Partly cloudy, 40-50
Sun. 40¢
TV listings: P. 103

NEW YORK POST METRO
TODAY'S RACING

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HEADLESS BODY IN TOPLESS BAR



Gunman forces woman to decapitate tavern owner
PAGE TWO

**SENATE OKAYS
PREZ'S PICK FOR
ARMS CONTROL**
PAGE FIVE

Koch plans to hire 1,000 more cops
PAGE THREE

**TAXING DAY FOR
1 MILLION IN N.Y.**
PAGE SEVEN

Taken kickin' and screamin'
An angry Joan Smith Babin tries to kick a photographer preparing an interview with her in the murder last year of Grace Woodhouse near Lighthouse Gardens. Babin, a 30-year-old ex-con, is accused of crashing the 30-year-old victim during a tonight robbery attempt on a doorway in the Westbeth-Arsona Hotel in midtown. Story on Page 14.

Just when you thought it was safe to go back to the classroom....

Professor Mike Foley
Master Lecturer
Fall 2014

GRADING: I won't *grade* stories in the traditional JOU 3109C and JOU 3101 sense. (Aren't you glad?) I will *edit* stories, make suggestions for improvement and return them so you can get them ready for publication. Over the course of semester, students must produce three stories. (This figure can be modified based on the scope and depth of the stories.) The goal is to get stories published or, at least, in publishable shape. You and I will work together to get them published when we agree they are ready and will appeal to an editor. In general, the grading will be as follows:

Maximum points: 100

Class discussion project (see next page): up to 10 points
Class participation: 15 points
Each story: up to 25 points

To pass, **you must turn in three stories**. One must be **government-related** in some way. One must be a **personality profile** on an interesting person or a person who has had something interesting happen to him or her or a person who does something interesting. The third story is a topic of your choice. You must get your topics approved **in advance** by me.

CLASS PARTICIPATION: Read the assignments and be prepared to discuss them in class. Fair warning: You will be called on to talk, so be ready to contribute. Your participation in the discussions is important and necessary if you want a good grade.

Given the **subjective nature** of the course and its content, individual cases could vary. (*Everyone* is an individual case.) Sloppy, unprofessional, last-minute and substandard stories will not be considered. I expect a good-faith effort. (C'mon. This is what you want to do with your life, right?)

DEADLINES:

First story due: **Sept. 18**

Second story due: **Oct. 16**

Third story due: **Nov. 13**

Deadlines for rewrites will be set after I edit your stories.

*******Last copy accepted: Nov. 25*******

Note: If you miss a deadline without advance approval, your opportunity to turn in that story—and pass the course—is lost.

CLASS DISCUSSION PROJECT

Students will research, prepare and present to the class a report on an aspect of the newsgathering and/or writing process. Topics are up to you, but must be cleared in advance with me. Here are some general topics that could be covered, but the list is by no means complete. Surprise me. The project should involve a *specific aspect or issue* within the topic—not the entire topic.

Interviewing	Rewriting/polishing
Writing ledes	Inverted pyramid
Organizing stories	Anecdotal ledes
Writing endings	Foreign correspondence
Getting/choosing good quotes	Projects and/or series
Finding sources/getting to talk to them	Feature writing
Finding good stories	Sports writing
Writing description	Business writing
Writing narrative	A good editor
Covering a beat	A good internship
Writing on deadline	Entrepreneurial journalism
Narrative	

Students can gather and use material from talking to professional journalists, reading about the topic and even relating their own experiences. What I am looking for is some good advice for your fellow students and material to frame class discussions. You don't need to fill a class period. In fact, **15-30 minutes'** worth is about right. You should have enough material to share and lead a class discussion of techniques, skills and talents that good reporters use to get and write good stories.

You are welcome to stop by my office or e-mail me any time to talk about any aspect of the class.

Official UF stuff (Boring but important)

The University of Florida Honor Code was passed by the Student Body in 1995.

Preamble: In adopting this Honor Code, the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students who enroll at the University commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the Honor Code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action. A student-run Honor Court and faculty support are crucial to the success of the Honor Code. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon the community acceptance and enforcement of the Honor Code.

The Honor Code: We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. 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."

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation."