

RTV 3303 Electronic News Media One Spring 2013

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RTV 3303 is designed to offer instruction and training in news gathering, writing, interviewing and reporting. Special emphasis is placed on improving writing skills, basic news production, and actual radio reporting assignments. Students receive practical experience in the WUFT newsrooms.

Objectives and goals of the course include:

- (1) writing news stories acceptable for on-air use under deadline pressure
- (2) ability to record audio via phone or in-person, and edit audio
- (3) ability to write “sound stories”
- (4) an understanding of the variety of sources used at the stations
- (5) an opportunity, and an expectation that work produced in the class and in the newsroom can/will be used on air
- (6) opportunity to voice your work, live or recorded, on the air
- (7) a better understanding of news and current events
- (8) an understanding of web sites for research, as well as to produce content for radio station websites
- (9) and finally, “develop a nose for news”

Course Eligibility: You must be in the College of Journalism and Communication----you must have had a “C” grade in RTV 2100 and RTV 3007, and passed a typing/writing test. If you haven’t met this requirement, please come forward ASAP.

Required Equipment: digital recorder----these will be provided for you. You should have at least 4-6 double- A batteries. You will be issued an “SD” card for recording. It will be used for newsroom shifts and your projects.

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.”

Class demeanor expected: students will be expected to participate in class discussions, turn off all cell phones BEFORE class starts or be prepared to surrender cell phone to instructor if it goes off in class, and treat your instructor and classmates with respect. This includes comments on social media. Improper comments that violate the university code of conduct will be referred to the dean of student services. Be on

time for class----quizzes are given at start of class and are allotted a certain amount of time. If you miss them, or are late, you will be penalized.

The University of Florida Honor Code was voted on and passed by the Student Body in the Fall 1995 semester. The Honor Code reads as follows:

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."

For more information about academic honesty, contact, Student Judicial Affairs, P202 Peabody Hall, 392-1261.

Required textbook: no text, we will use material from a variety of sources.

Grading Components

Quizzes	15%
Project One	10%
Project Two	15%
Project Three	20%
Newsroom	25%
Test	10%
Class writing/assignments	5%

Grading Scale:	A	(93-100)
	A-	(91-92)
	B+	(88-90)
	B	(83-87)

B-	(81-82)
C+	(78-79)
C	(73-77)
C-	(71-72)
D+	(68-70)
D	(63-67)
D-	(61-62)
E	(below 61)

Newsroom Work: Training sessions will be held at night, and will be held the week of January 21st. They will be announced at our class on January 17th. Attendance is mandatory! You are required to work six hours per week during the semester, which is where your newsroom grade is derived. In **lieu** of a final exam, lab shifts extend through the end of finals week. **Mark this down!** This should not be a surprise at the end of the semester. **Newsroom shifts must be covered----check with news director with questions----basically, if you can't work, you will need to get someone to work for you. You need an excused absence from a doctor , counselor, clergy or appropriate person---and it should be requested to me BEFORE the absence. Same policy with class.**

Quizzes: are given at the start of each class. The quiz will come from the CNN web site , from the “World and U.S” categories, and from the Gainesville Sun web site of Wednesday , from the local and regional stories.

Class Projects

Project One:

**Wrap with two sound bites/70 seconds long
(more explanation in class)**

Project Two:

**Wrap with 3 sound bites/1:30 in length
Personalization of issue(more explanation in class)**

Project Three:

**Wrap with 4 sound bites/two pieces nat sound
2:00-3:00 in length**

COURSE SCHEDULE(there may be some changes based on availability of guests, etc.)

Week #1(1-10)	Intro to class, basic info/Writing refresher
Week #2(1-17)	Writing refresher. Leads practice, building on the lead, etc. *Training /News shifts to be announced. Assign project one.
Week #3(1-24)	Writing for wuft-fm newsroom. Procedures/stories, fact sheets. Training for newsroom at night.
Week #4(1-31)	Writing readers w/ sound bites for audio and Internet Interview techniques. Newsroom shifts begin.
Week #5(2-7)	Project #1 due .
Week #6(2-14)	Public affairs reporting/Personalizing issues Brainstorming exercise
Week #7(2-21)	Law enforcement. Spot news.
Week #8(2-28)	Courts/Libel
Week #9(3-14)	Project 2 due
Week #10(3-21)	Assign project 3. Nat sound.
Week #11(3-28)	Test..
Week #12(4-4)	Ethics discussion.
Week#13(4-11)	Project three due.
Week #14(4-18)	Conferences.

******NOTE: schedule subject to changed based on guest availabilities and other factors.**

Tom's tips for survival!!!!

- (1) Do more**
- (2) Assume it counts**
- (3) Pay attention to current events**
- (4) You don't need to know everything, you just need to find out somehow.**
- (5) Can't is not in my vocabulary!**

