

Course Title : News Writing and Reporting I

Code	Course Type	Regular Semester	Lecture (hours/week)	Seminar (hours/week)	Lab (hours/week)	Credits	ECTS
COM 211	B	3	3	2	0	4.00	5
Lecturer and Office Hours			Rudi Dunga, Msc				
Teaching Assistant and Office Hours			Fatos Hakorja, Msc				
Language			Albanian				
Course Level			Bachelor				
Description			News Reporting and Writing I, is a skills-based immersion into journalism. Students will learn the foundations of journalism and the craft's two main components - reporting and writing of the news - and will explore how news is delivered through mobile devices, TV, radio, Web and printed publications				
Objectives			This course aims to expose you to basic journalistic principles, and to build fundamental reporting and writing skills. These goals are pursued in lectures, assignments, and reporting exercises that echo the situations professional journalists face. By the end of the course, you can expect to have a good grasp of the fundamental issues and methods of gathering news & writing news stories. You will also have the opportunity to improve your Albanian-language writing skills, in order to convey facts in straightforward and understandable fashion				
Course Outline							
Week	Topics						
1	Presentation of course. - Aims and objectives.						
2	The Nature of News - What is the news? - The role of journalism and the challenges facing - accuracy, fairness and objectivity.						
3	Redefinition of news: Citizen journalism and convergence - Citizen journalism - Convergence						
4	Interviewing - Gain Confidence - Preparing for an interview - broadcast interviews - Creation of the report - How to maintain accuracy						
5	What to quote directly - Problems in direct quotation - Attribution of direct and indirect quotations						
6	Collection and verification of information - accurate information: The basis of a good story - Sources of computerized information - other traditional sources						
7	Reporting in numbers - Inflation - Taxes - Understanding budgets - Mixing numbers with words - Use of international units						
8	Midterm Exam						
9	Inverted Pyramid - How to write leads - Organize writing - Thinking by an inverted pyramid						
10	The elements of good writing - Good stories begins with good reporting						
11	Alternatives of inverted pyramid - Chronology - Narrative of news - Structure of focus						
12	Necrology - Basic information and style of necrology - Sources of information						
13	Press Releases - Finding news in press releases - Types of press releases - How to treat a press release						
14	Collect and use of background - Contents of a stock - Specific and general knowledge - Always use background - Further Readings						
15	Speeches, Press conferences, Meetings - Preparation - Coverage of speeches, Press conferences and meetings - How to build and write article						
16	Final Exam						
Prerequisites							
Textbook			• "Raportimi dhe Shkrimi i Lajmeve", Missouri Group				

Other References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Gazetaria”, Stephan Russ-Mohl • “Gazetari Universal”, David Randall • “Writing and Reporting Media”, Carole Rich • “Raportimi dhe Shkrimi i Lajmeve”, Melvin Mencher (Columbia University)
Laboratory Work	
Computer Usage	
Other	

Learning Outcomes and Competences

1	Students acquire basic knowledge’s about news reporting and writing
2	Students will be able to use better sources of information, to structure the story for a newspaper, TV, radio, and long stories.

Course Evaluation Methods

In-term studies	Quantity	Percentage
Midterms	1	20
Quizzes	0	0
Projects	1	20
Term Projects	0	0
Laboratory	0	0
Attendance	1	10
Contribution of in-term studies to overall grade		50
Contribution of final examination to overall grade		50
Total		100

ECTS (Allocated Based on Student) Workload

Activities	Quantity	Duration (hours)	Total Workload (hours)
Course Duration (Including the exam week : 16 x Total course hours)	16	5	80
Hours for off-the-classroom study (Pre-study, practice)	14	2	28
Assignments	1	0	0
Midterms	1	10	10
Final examination	1	10	10
Other	0	0	0
Total Work Load			128
Total Work Load / 25 (hours)			5,12
ECTS			5