
COURSE PREFIX/NO: JOU 201
COURSE TITLE: News Writing
LEC HRS/WEEK: 3.0
LAB HRS/WEEK: 0.0
CREDIT HRS/SEMESTER: 3.0

[Distance Learning Attendance/VA Statement](#)
[Textbook Information](#)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a study of skills and techniques required in preparing copy for publication.

COURSE COMPETENCIES:

To complete this course successfully, a student will be able to:

1. Conduct basic research (library, field, etc.)
2. Plan and conduct interviews
3. Analyze and distinguish journalistic styles
4. Differentiate between soft and hard news
5. Develop various story assignments using the journalistic process
6. Edit and revise

MINIMAL STANDARDS

A minimum grade average of C (70%) is required to transfer credit to most colleges.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance policy: Students are responsible for attending all scheduled class meetings and for all materials covered and all assignments. Any student who is not in attendance the required 90% of scheduled class time may be withdrawn. Absences are counted from the first scheduled class. Ordinarily, late arrivals or early departures of fewer than 10 minutes may constitute a tardy. Three tardies may constitute one absence. Late arrivals or early departures of more than 10 minutes may constitute an absence.

Withdrawal from class: Any student may withdraw from the class after the add/drop period until midterm and receive a grade of W. After midterm, the student must contact the instructor to withdraw; a grade of W or WF at the time of withdrawal will be determined by the situation or reason for withdrawal.

Assignments: This course requires at least two tests, four writing assignments of varying lengths, and a journal of assigned media analyses. Each instructor will provide specific guidelines for his or her class.

Late or missed assignments: Any approved make-up, late, or revised work must be completed in a designed time and manner as directed by the instructor. An instructor may choose not to accept late or missed work or may limit the maximum credit allowed. Other

academic assistance or requirements: Any student who demonstrates an area of weakness or need for additional help may contact the instructor, Student Services, or the Tutoring Center.

Academic integrity: Academic dishonesty includes using another's work without giving credit to the source and cheating of any type. "Any student caught cheating or involved in any other academic dishonesty will be given a grade of zero and will be subject to further disciplinary action" (York Technical College Handbook and Catalog).

EVALUATION STRATEGIES/GRADING

Reading Journal	10%
Daily Grades (Homework, Classwork, Group work)	10%
Major Tests	20%
Writing Assignments	60%

Grading scale:

A = 90 - 100

B = 80 - 89

C = 70 - 79

D = 60 - 69

F = below 60

ENTRY LEVEL SKILLS: See prerequisite.

PREREQUISITES: ENG 101 with a minimum grade of C.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

The course will address the following:

- Distinguishing characteristics of news writing style
- Selecting and reporting the news
- Writing leads
- Using the Inverted Pyramid and Narrative styles appropriately
- Gathering news through research and interviews
- Writing features stories
- Writing for broadcast
- Analyzing the ethical and legal issues facing media

Disabilities Statement: Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Special Resources Offices (SR) at 803-327-8007 in the 300 area of Student Services. The SRO coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.