

## COURSE OUTLINE

**Course Description:** This course introduces students to the basic principles of journalistic writing for a variety of digital formats such as e-zines, digital newspapers and podcasts. Students discuss genres, research sources, news value, editing, interview techniques, ethics and legal issues. Students will apply this knowledge to research and write accurate news stories to communicate information to a specified audience while adhering to legal and journalistic principles..

Ω *Please note: the College electronically stores this outline for five (5) years only. It is **strongly recommended** you keep a copy of this outline with your academic records. You will need this outline for any future application/s for transfer credit/s to other colleges/universities.*

### 1. Instructor Information

|     |               |                      |                    |  |
|-----|---------------|----------------------|--------------------|--|
| (a) | Instructor:   | Andy Bryce           |                    |  |
| (b) | Office Hours: | Tuesday 1:00-3:00    |                    |  |
| (c) | Location:     | Y315B                |                    |  |
| (d) | Phone:        | 250-370-3394         | Alternative Phone: |  |
| (e) | Email:        | Bryce@camosun.bc.ca  |                    |  |
| (f) | Website:      | www.andyjaybryce.com |                    |  |

### 2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course a student will be able to:

1. Write accurate, genre-appropriate news stories in a variety of digital formats.
2. Apply interview and research techniques to gather information.
3. Re-write and edit stories for conciseness and clarity.
4. Discuss ethical and legal issues in journalism and apply an understanding of these to writing assignments.
5. Define news topics and intended audience, and apply appropriate criteria to determine journalistic value and mode of communication.

### 3. Required Materials

None

### 4. Course Content and Schedule

*(This section can include: class hours, lab hours, out of class requirements and/or dates for quizzes, exams, lectures, labs, seminars, practicums, etc.)*

Lecture: Wednesday 9:30-10:20

Lab: Wednesday 10:30-11:20

Online: one hour a week at student discretion

Out of Class:

Quizzes: November 5

### 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

- (a) Assignments: 80%
- (b) Tests: 15%
- (c) Exams: N/A
- (d) Attendance and Participation: 5%

**6. Grading System**

**Standard Grading System (GPA)**

| Percentage | Grade | Description   | Grade Point Equivalency |
|------------|-------|---|-------------------------|
| 90-100     | A+    |   | 9                       |
| 85-89      | A     |   | 8                       |
| 80-84      | A-    |   | 7                       |
| 77-79      | B+    |   | 6                       |
| 73-76      | B     |   | 5                       |
| 70-72      | B-    |   | 4                       |
| 65-69      | C+    |   | 3                       |
| 60-64      | C     |   | 2                       |
| 50-59      | D     | Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite. | 1                       |
| 0-49       | F     | Minimum level has not been achieved.  | 0                       |

**Temporary Grades**

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at [camosun.ca](http://camosun.ca) for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

| Temporary Grade | Description  |
|-----------------|--|
| I               | <i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.  |
| IP              | <i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 <sup>rd</sup> course attempt or at the point of course completion.) |
| CW              | <i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.  |

**7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course**

**LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS**

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services, or the College web site at [camosun.ca](http://camosun.ca).

**STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY**

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services, and the College web site in the Policy Section.

**PLANNING FOR FALL 2014\***

| WEEK            | CONTENT  | LABS   | ONLINE                |
|-----------------|--|--|-----------------------|
| 1<br>S 1-5      | Introduction – media landscape – why journalism<br>API site – quote it<br>- Attributes of successful journalists | Group work and Presentations<br>Ethical case from Media<br>Writing chpt 1. | Self Reflection       |
| 2<br>S 8-12     | Characteristics of news stories  | Assigning News Value   | Finding news stories. |
| 3<br>S 15-19    | Article Assignment – finding stories   |  |                       |
| 4<br>S 22-26    | Words<br>Sentences<br>Active Voice vs Passive  |  |                       |
| 5<br>S 29 – O 3 | Word and Sentence Exercises  | Sentence Exercises - 10%   |                       |
| 6<br>O 6-10     | Leads<br>Function of leads -   | Writing leads  |                       |
| 7<br>O 13-17    | Writing Leads Assignment   | Leads Assignment – 10%   |                       |
| 8<br>O 20-24    | Libel and Slander/Copyright  | Libel and Slander/Copyright  |                       |
| 9<br>O 27-31    | Libel and Slander review/Writing Assignment (short)  | Car Accident Assignment – 10%  |                       |
| 10<br>N 3-7     |  | Legal Test 15%   |                       |
| 11<br>N 10-14   | Situational – fact sheet   | Fact Sheet Assignment – 10%  |                       |
| 12<br>N 17-21   | Interviewing   |  |                       |
| 13<br>N 24-28   | Situational – I run a news conference  | News Conference Assignment – 10%   |                       |
| 14<br>D 1-5     | Wrap Up  | Article Due  |                       |

\*Please refer to D2L regularly for changes in this schedule