REQUIRED EQUIPMENT FOR JOUR 302/303 – REPORTING  
Spring 2016

The USC Annenberg School of Journalism Convergence Core Curriculum broadcast reporting and production classes require you to record video. Although Annenberg will loan you most of the equipment needed, you will need to buy headphones, a hard drive and an SDHC card (as described below) before or during the first week of classes. The total cost of this required equipment and supplies is $150.

We also suggest the purchase of a digital voice recorder, but it is not necessary. For more information, please see below.

You will use these items in your advanced journalism classes (not just the core), so you should buy the best equipment and supplies you can afford.

Annenberg will loan you an equipment package worth over $800 that includes a video camcorder, two camera batteries, a lavaliere microphone, a handheld microphone, a tripod, an operating manual and a camera bag. You will be responsible for any losses or damage. You will get more information about this equipment during class.

Feel free to email asctech@usc.edu if you have any questions about the specifications of the items listed below.

1. **Headphones - +/- $30**

   You will need headphones to monitor the sound as it is recorded when you shoot a broadcast story.

   Required Specifications:
   - 1/8” mini-plug
   - Closed-ear type cushions

   Example Model:
   Over the ear units are recommended, such as the Sony ZX Series “on-ear” headphones. No earbuds.

2. **SDHC flash memory card - +/- $20**

   The cameras you use record on an SDHC Card.

   Required Specifications:
SDHC memory card (minimum 16 GB, Class 10 or higher) for video work.  

*NOTE: Name brands such as SanDisk Extreme and Kingston are recommended.*

Sample Brands:  Kingston, Lexar, SanDisk Extreme, Transcend

3. **A portable USB hard disk drive- +/- $100**

This drive will be used while working on assignments on the school’s Mac computers.

Required Specifications:
- USB 3.0 (or Thunderbolt for Mac), 1 terabyte (1 Tbyte) or greater.

- Sample Brands: GDrive, Seagate FreeAgent GoFlex, Western Digital MyPassport (about $100-120)

Recommended drives:
- Fastest:
  G-Drive Mobile with Thunderbolt/USB 3.0, 1TB, 7200rpm, about $200.00
  [http://www.g-technology.com/products/g-drive-mobile-thunderbolt](http://www.g-technology.com/products/g-drive-mobile-thunderbolt)

- Sturdy and fast:
  G-Drive Mini USB 3.0, 1TB, 7200RPM, about $170.00
  [http://www.g-technology.com/products/g-drive-mini](http://www.g-technology.com/products/g-drive-mini)

- Budget:
  G-Drive Mobile USB, 1TB, 7200RPM, about $100.00
  [http://www.g-technology.com/products/g-drive-mobile-usb](http://www.g-technology.com/products/g-drive-mobile-usb)

4. **Optional: Digital voice recorder - +/-$180**

A digital voice recorder can be used to record interviews for your print reporting assignments. Additionally, you may be posting snippets of interviews or short audio comments online, so we suggest you purchase a digital voice recorder.

Required Specification:
- The ability to download files to your computer

Recommended Models:
- Minimum req.: Smartphone (iPhone5 or newer Droid)  
  - Recommended: Tascam DR-40 or higher Tascam model preferred (about $180 and higher)

*Note: If you take an Annenberg radio class or work at Annenberg Radio News, you will use professional-quality digital voice recorders that you will check out from Annenberg as needed.*