Broadcast Journalism Course Descriptions and Career Recommendations

JOUR 402 Broadcast Reporting
The class will focus on writing and reporting well-balanced, comprehensive and visually compelling stories. Undergraduate and graduate students research, report, write, shoot and edit stories. During TV day-of-air shifts in the Annenberg Media Center, students learn how to meet the same deadlines that professional reporters handle in small, medium and large markets. They also put together feature packages and could get the chance to do live shots for the nightly newscasts.

This class is a MUST for any student who wants to be a TV reporter in news, sports or entertainment. It is also strongly recommended for students who want to learn how to field produce packages.

JOUR 403 Television News Production
Students sharpen news judgment, communication and leadership skills by producing live day-of-air television newscasts and creating digital content. They make editorial and formatting decisions about news coverage, stories and presentation while managing reporters, anchors, writers, editors and many others under deadline pressure. JOUR 403 producers will write, copy edit and supervise live shots. Students have used skills learned in JOUR 403 to excel in jobs including news producing, news reporting, sports producing and network segment producing.

This class is a MUST for any student who wants to be the producer of a TV or digital newscast or other live program. It is STRONGLY recommended for students who want to be on camera reporters, sports producers or local/network segment producers.

JOUR 405 Non-Fiction Television
This class introduces students to the process of producing a documentary for digital and broadcast platforms. Students produce a long form story (10-15 minutes) that is a result of in-depth reporting. During the semester, students research and pitch story ideas, learn to use advanced camera technology, shoot their stories, learn to write a long-form script, learn advanced editing techniques, and edit their projects. The steps in JOUR 405 are the same kinds of steps that lead to the types of programming that can be found on digital platforms and broadcast networks such as HBO, Discovery, National Geographic and other nonfiction networks. Stories from JOUR 405 are eligible to be shown on Impact, the award-winning newsmagazine and documentary series produced by Annenberg students.

This course is a MUST for anyone who wants to do magazine format or documentary production.

JOUR 409 Radio Storytelling and Podcasts
Learn techniques for audio journalism, an increasingly popular and growing field. This course covers the effective use of sound, the art of the interview, writing for the ear, digital audio editing, vocal delivery and how to craft stories that people want to listen to. Students must do four radio day-of-air shifts in the Annenberg Media Center. They will also produce features, including non-narrated and non-traditional and learn about the expanding world of podcasting.

This course is a MUST for anyone who wants to work in public or commercial radio or podcasting.