



Working at Annenberg Media through JOUR 206

REQUIRED MEDIA CENTER SHIFT FOR JOUR 207 and JOUR 307 STUDENTS

The JOUR 206 one-unit practicum gives journalism majors hands-on experience working as multimedia journalists. Students work four consecutive hours in a weekly lab shift reporting, writing and editing stories for student-led news outlets across different platforms, assigned by student editors and with guidance from experienced faculty and coaches. This course runs concurrently with JOUR 207, Reporting and Writing I and JOUR 307, Reporting and Writing II. The practicum is credit/no-credit.

Journalism majors spend two semesters fulfilling the JOUR 206 lab shift with Annenberg Media. One semester is in “Live Production” working for daily television and radio broadcasts. One semester is in “Community Reporting” writing for the web and other platforms about our communities: News about the university and on campus for most students enrolled in JOUR 207 and news about both USC and also the South Los Angeles community where USC is located for most students enrolled in JOUR 307. These can be taken in either sequence.

Lab shifts are slightly different depending on the time of day. Everyone will be trained on all the needed skills, and some shifts will use those skills more than others. Here is a brief breakdown:

Students in the **8:30 a.m. shifts** will attend the news meeting. They can pitch stories or take an assignment. They likely will be researching stories and making a lot of phone calls working to find, schedule and conduct interviews in person using camera or audio recorders or via Zoom.

Students in the **11 a.m. shifts** for “Live Production” will research stories, find, schedule and conduct interviews on camera and via Zoom. They will write stories for the ARN and ATVN broadcasts and edit audio and video for the shows that evening, and, sometimes, mid-day headlines. Students in “Community Reporting” will be conducting interviews, doing more research and writing.

Note: Tuesday and Wednesday sections are from 11:30 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.

Students in the **2 p.m. shifts** will be working to meet early afternoon deadlines. Students in “Community Reporting” might be finishing stories on deadline to be posted at uscannenbergmedia.com. Students in “Live Production” will be working on deadline to report, write and edit audio and video before the early evening ARN or ATVN broadcasts, which are streamed live on YouTube.

Lab shifts begin the first week of classes with a series of mandatory trainings. **Over the course of the semester you also will be required to complete three “Optimizing Inclusion” modules in Blackboard from the USC Race and Equity Center.**

The course is credit/no credit. In order to pass the course, you must attend all lab sessions and contribute to the newsroom as required. Your instructor will take attendance, assist in hands-on training and help you execute assignments from the student leaders who are competitively hired by Annenberg Media each semester. (If you are interested in applying for one of these roles in the future, please visit resources.uscannenbergmedia.com for details.)

All students enrolled in JOUR 207 and JOUR 307 must complete a required Media Center shift. Working as a television or radio anchor, or as a paid student leader for Annenberg Media does not fulfill the requirement. There are some limited exemptions from the required Media Center shift for a few positions at the Daily Trojan. These must be approved in advance by Media Center Director Christina Bellantoni (christina.bellantoni@usc.edu). Jobs, internships or other outside commitments cannot be substituted for the JOUR 206 shift.

REQUIRED ATTENDANCE FOR JOUR 206 STUDENTS

The Media Center lab shifts begin during the first week of the semester, which are spent in mandatory training.

If you cannot make your shift, you should notify your instructor as soon as possible. Missed shifts must be made up within two weeks of your absence. (There are some limited exemptions, including religious holidays.) Students will not pass the class without attendance and effort at each shift.

We're excited to work with you! If you have questions, please reach out to Media Center Director Christina Bellantoni at christina.bellantoni@usc.edu / ANN 205C on MC second floor.