



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 USC and off-campus communities. 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 for “Live”:

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, including using camera or audio recorders, or via Zoom.

Students in the **11:05 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 the **2 p.m. shifts** will be working to meet early afternoon deadlines. 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. During ARN rotation students will post their work to the website.

Here is a brief breakdown for “Community” — note shift times are changing this semester:

Monday to Thursday, the morning shift **starts at 9 a.m.**

Students in “Community Reporting” will attend a 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 or via Zoom.

Monday to Thursday, the afternoon shift **starts at 12:30 p.m.** Students may take a handover assignment and be conducting interviews, doing more research and writing. They will be expected to complete writing and finish stories on deadline to be posted at uscannenbergmedia.com.

There is a Tuesday evening shift that **starts at 5 p.m.** Students will take handover assignments and also cover events happening, including Undergraduate Student Government.

Lab shifts begin the first week of classes with a series of mandatory trainings. Students should attend lab shifts beginning in the first week of classes.

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 let your professor know and attend an info session at the end of the spring semester 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.