**JCO 2203** **NEWS REPORTING AND WRITING II (BROADCAST AND ONLINE)**

**COURSE NAME: NEWS REPORTING AND WRITING II (BROADCAST AND ONLINE)**

**COURSE CODE: JCO 2203**

**CREDIT UNITS: 3**

**CONTACT HOURS: 45**

**TYPE OF COURSE: CORE**

**Course Description:**

Building on News Reporting and Writing I, this course introduces students to the techniques of gathering, analyzing, and writing news and features for radio, television, and online audiences (including community broadcasting). It prepares students to report, write and present news, features, and interviews for radio, television and community radio. Students will learn to use audio and video recorders and editing systems in the production of news stories, how to interview for tape, how to write for the ear and to pictures, and the basic elements of on-air performance. The course introduces students to the multi-media world of news production. Students learn hands-on broadcast news writing, reporting and production skills. The course deals with the key principles and issues of

broadcast news-gathering including how news organizations research, report and produce their stories in the fast-changing world of international news and global programming. Ethical standards and responsibilities in electronic and online journalism will be discussed and applied. With opportunities for guidance from professional broadcasters and online news specialists, students will produce their own news output for radio, television and online. They will be taught how to record for radio, film for TV, and how to edit stories. Students will be guided to research and produce TV and radio documentaries of their choice.

**Course Objectives**

1. To help the students learn the conceptual or theoretical aspects of audio, audiovisual, and online/digital media.

2. To differentiate among print, electronic, and online news and the techniques used in reporting and writing for each.

3. To enable students to use audio and video recorders and other related equipment.

4. To help students learn how to practice newsgathering and writing techniques for broadcast and online/digital media.

5. To involve students in practical exercises based on editing of audio and audio visual recordings.

6. To develop interviewing techniques and skills for radio, TV, and online/digital media.

**Course Outline:**

**1.** Introduction to the course and to basics of broadcast reporting and writing

2. News: definition, values, elements, characteristics, structure

3. News sources and audiences

4. Writing for the ear: difference between news writing for print media and broadcast media

5. Introduction to the newsroom: structure, functions, culture

6. The basics of reporting: getting the news stories

7. Tools of news gathering: handouts, news releases, covering speeches, etc.

8. News writing techniques including the news angle, 5 Ws and H, the intro, focus

9. Facts and opinion, clichés, corroboration, attribution, multi-angled stories vs. one-angled stories

10. Developing the story: beginning, middle and end, accuracy

11. Ethics: sourcing and verifying news, cross confirmation, apologies, trust- building

12. The interview: skills, different types, phases

13. Focusing on dispatches: dispatch writing exercises, elaborating cue and body of a dispatch through examples

14. Breaking news: characteristics, the race to be No.1 in breaking news

15. Community broadcasting: definition, characteristics, values, needs and prospects

16. Community-based programs: themes, issues, features and principles

17. Ethics of community broadcasting

**Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this course, the students should be able to:

1. Put together news packages including features, interviews, vox pops, magazines and documentaries based on their understanding of audience patterns and information processing.

2. Apply broadcasting techniques to the new/digital media.

3. Work in a dynamic multi-media environment by combining their print, electronic, and online/digital journalism skills.

**Methods of Teaching/Delivery:**

• Interactive lectures

• Discussions

• Small group exercises

• Workshops

• Fieldwork

• Individual and group presentations

**Methods of Assessment:**

• Progressive assessment 100%

**Readings/Reference Materials/Learning Resources:**

• Barnas, F. & White, T. (2010). Broadcast News Writing, Reporting and

Producing, 5th edition. London: Focal Press.

• Boyd, A., Stewart, P., & Alexander, R. (2008). Broadcast Journalism: Techniques of Radio and Television News, 6th edition. Amsterdam: Elsevier/Focal Press.

• Dominick, J. R. (2002). The Dynamics of Mass Communication. Media in the Digital Age. New York: McGraw Hill.

• Quinn, S. (2005). Convergent Journalism: The Fundamentals of

Multimedia Reporting. New York: Peter Lang Publishing.