

Washtenaw Community College Comprehensive Report

JRN 217 Introduction to Feature Writing Effective Term: Winter 2015

Course Cover

Division: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

Department: English/Writing

Discipline: Journalism

Course Number: 217

Org Number: 11300

Full Course Title: Introduction to Feature Writing

Transcript Title: Intro to Feature Writing

Is Consultation with other department(s) required: No

Publish in the Following: College Catalog , Time Schedule , Web Page

Reason for Submission:

Change Information:

Consultation with all departments affected by this course is required.

Rationale: Course changes in conjunction with assessment results.

Proposed Start Semester: Fall 2014

Course Description: In this course, students write articles such as profiles, obituaries, and human interest stories with an emphasis on various feature writing and reporting techniques. These may include narrative leads, circle kickers, interviews with multiple sources, online research and crowd-sourcing using social media. Media law and ethics are also examined. This course was previously ENG 217. The title of this course was previously Feature Writing.

Course Credit Hours

Variable hours: No

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: Instructor: 45 **Student:** 45

Lab: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0

Clinical: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0

Total Contact Hours: Instructor: 45 **Student:** 45

Repeatable for Credit: NO

Grading Methods: Letter Grades

Audit

Are lectures, labs, or clinicals offered as separate sections?: NO (same sections)

College-Level Reading and Writing

College-level Reading & Writing

College-Level Math

No Level Required

Requisites

Prerequisite

JRN 111 minimum grade "C"

General Education

Request Course Transfer

Proposed For:

Central Michigan University
Eastern Michigan University
Ferris State University
Grand Valley State University
Jackson Community College
Michigan State University
Oakland University
University of Detroit - Mercy
University of Michigan
Wayne State University
Western Michigan University

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Choose appropriate topics for feature stories.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Portfolio review

Assessment Date: Spring/Summer 2017

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: all

Number students to be assessed: all

How the assessment will be scored: Attached rubric

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: Eighty percent of students will score 2 out of 2 on this outcome.

Who will score and analyze the data: Writing faculty and/or staff with journalism experience will score the portfolios.

2. Identify, locate and use multiple sources of information for feature stories.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Portfolio review

Assessment Date: Spring/Summer 2017

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: all

Number students to be assessed: all

How the assessment will be scored: Attached rubric

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: Eighty percent of students will score a 2 out of 2 on this outcome.

Who will score and analyze the data: Writing faculty and/or staff with journalism experience will score the portfolios.

3. Write stories with beginnings and endings, structured according to common feature writing conventions.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Portfolio review

Assessment Date: Spring/Summer 2017

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: all

Number students to be assessed: all

How the assessment will be scored: Attached rubric

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: Eighty percent of students will score 2 out of 2 on this outcome.

Who will score and analyze the data: Writing faculty and/or staff with journalism experience will score the portfolios.

4. Write stories of length and depth suitable for magazines or other long-form media.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Portfolio review

Assessment Date: Spring/Summer 2017

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: all

Number students to be assessed: all

How the assessment will be scored: Attached rubric

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: Eighty percent of students will score 2 out of 2 on this outcome.

Who will score and analyze the data: Writing faculty and/or staff with journalism experience will score the portfolios.

5. Write stories without violating media law or tenets of ethical journalism.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Portfolio review

Assessment Date: Spring/Summer 2017

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: all

Number students to be assessed: all

How the assessment will be scored: Attached rubric

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: All students will score 2 out of 2 on this outcome.

Who will score and analyze the data: Writing faculty and/or staff with journalism experience will score the portfolios.

Course Objectives

1. Define feature writing.
Matched Outcomes
2. Identify the differences between feature writing and other types of journalistic writing.
Matched Outcomes
3. List topics appropriate for feature writing.
Matched Outcomes
4. Write at least three articles on topics suitable for feature writing.
Matched Outcomes
5. Identify live, print and online sources of information for appropriate feature article topics.
Matched Outcomes
6. Incorporate at least two different sources into the feature articles they write.
Matched Outcomes
7. Identify, discuss and analyze examples of narrative structure, especially with regard to the beginnings and endings of feature articles.
Matched Outcomes
8. Use narrative and/or other organizational techniques common to feature writing.
Matched Outcomes
9. Identify ways in which online features differ from print features.
Matched Outcomes
10. Practice conversion of print features to online features.
Matched Outcomes
11. Identify the basic elements of libel, copyright infringement, privacy invasion and conflict of interest.
Matched Outcomes
12. Write articles free of these legal and ethical problems.
Matched Outcomes
13. Identify the presence of such problems in other stories and/or scenarios.
Matched Outcomes
14. Read and analyze examples of long form feature articles.
Matched Outcomes

New Resources for Course

Course Textbooks/Resources

Textbooks

Harrower, Tim. *Inside Reporting*, 3rd ed. McGraw Hill, 2012

Manuals

Periodicals

Software

Equipment/Facilities

Level II classroom

<u>Reviewer</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Date</u>
Faculty Preparer: <i>David Waskin</i>	<i>Faculty Preparer</i>	<i>Jun 17, 2014</i>
Department Chair/Area Director: <i>Carrie Krantz</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Jul 17, 2014</i>
Dean: <i>Dena Blair</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Jul 28, 2014</i>
Vice President for Instruction: <i>Bill Abernethy</i>	<i>Approve</i>	<i>Sep 16, 2014</i>