

Topics in Advanced TV/Video: Producing News for the Web and TV
COMM4025/Spring 2008/4 credits
Thursday 1:30 – 4:30
Tenney 4-5

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Course Description

In this advanced production class students will focus on producing news for TV and streaming video on websites. Students in the class will be responsible for the production of the YNot News. Class meetings will focus on readings, lectures, demonstrations, exercises and hands-on work to facilitate these productions.

Prerequisite: COMM2050

Course/Learning Objectives

After the successful completion of this course the student should:

1. Demonstrate a strong foundation of visual and aural aesthetics for the process of media production
2. Be able to explain the process of pre-production, production and post-production
3. Be able to explain about the different approaches to and uses for the medium of video
4. Demonstrate basic skills in lighting, shooting and editing video
5. Demonstrate/be able to explain the underlying technical concepts of the video process
6. Demonstrate the use of proper media production terminology
7. Be able to work collaboratively within a creative process, taking on traditional production roles
8. Be able to speak about what he/she has created and place the work in a broader context

Required Text

Readings will be supplied for you in class or on Blackboard

Equipment

It is essential that you return equipment on time and in working condition. The second time you return equipment late your grade for the class will drop a full letter grade. The third time it will drop another letter grade, and if you return equipment late four times you will be dropped from the class.

Project Grading

Project grades are based on:

1. The technical and aesthetic merit of your shooting and editing
2. Creativity and content
3. Whether they were completed and turned in on time

We will create 5 episodes of the YNot news this semester. If you do not turn a contribution in on time and ready for inclusion in the episode, your grade in the class will drop a full letter. You all start out with an A. If you turn in your contributions on time and ready to include in each episode (meaning that they are well shot and edited) you will get an A in the class. You all have that potential. If you do not complete your work on time, you will not get an A. If segments are not completed in time they will not be included in the episode and your grade will suffer.

Group Work

The assignments for this class require you to work in groups. Remember, video production is a field where you will be required to work with others daily. It is expected that you can do so without major difficulty in this class.

Attendance/Class Participation Grading

Attendance is mandatory. More than one unexcused absence will lower your grade.

Make sure to contact me if you are going to be absent. This class meets 15 times.

Absence is not an excuse for coming to the next class unprepared. You must contact a classmate or the Professor to find out what you missed. Habitual lateness will also reduce your grade.

Disability Statement

If you believe that you have a disability that may warrant accommodations in this class, I urge you to notify me immediately so that together we can work to develop methods of addressing needed accommodations in this class. You also must contact the Academic Dean's office.

Academic Misconduct

Plagiarism, cheating and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited. Students guilty of academic misconduct either directly or indirectly through participation or assistance, are immediately responsible to the instructor of the class. In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed through the regular instructional procedures as a result of academic misconduct, the instructor has the authority to assign an F or a zero in the course.

Episode due dates:

- Episode 1: February 7
- Episode 2: February 21
- Episode 3: March 6
- Episode 4: April 3
- Episode 5: April 24

Course Schedule (may be revised, with warning, throughout semester)

Thursday 1/17 – class 1

Introduction to class and to one another
Syllabus review and course expectations
Viewing of different news shows and discussion
Intro to YNot News – discussion of what to use/what to lose

For next class:

Begin work on first episode

1/24 – class 2

Work on first episode

For next class:

Continue working on first episode

1/31 – class 3

Postproduction issues
Work in class on first episode

For next class:

Finish first episode

2/7 – class 4

First episode due at the very beginning of class – you will not have class today to work on it! It should be totally finished before 1:30!

View first episode and critique – discuss what to use/what to lose
Begin second episode

For next class:

Begin work on second episode

2/14 – class 5

Production technique needed to clean up flaws
Work in class on second episode

For next class:

Continue working on second episode

2/21 - class 6

Second episode due at the very beginning of class – you will not have class today to work on it! It should be totally finished before 1:30!

View second episode and critique – discuss what to use/what to lose
Begin third episode

For next class:

Begin work on third episode

2/28 –class 7

Work in class on third episode

For next class:

Finish third episode

3/6 – class 8

Third episode due at the very beginning of class – you will not have class today to work on it! It should be totally finished before 1:30!

View third episode and critique – discuss what to use/what to lose

Begin forth episode

For next class:

Begin work on forth episode

3/13 – Spring Break

3/20 – class 9

Work in class

For next class:

Continue working on forth episode

3/27 – class 10

Work in class

For next class:

Continue working on forth episode

4/3 – class 11

4th episode due at the very beginning of class – you will not have class today to work on it! It should be totally finished before 1:30!

View forth episode and critique – discuss what to use/what to lose

Begin fifth episode

For next class:

Begin work on fifth episode

4/10 – class 12

Work in class

For next class:

Continue working on fifth episode

4/17 – class 13

Work in class

For next class:

Finish fifth episode

4/24 – class 14

5th episode due at the very beginning of class – you will not have class today to work on it! It should be totally finished before 1:30!