

Faculty of Economics and Political Science

Investigative Reporting

Information :

Course Code : PMM 409

Level : Undergraduate

Course Hours : 3.00- Hours

Department : Department of Political Mass Media

Instructor Information :

Title	Name	Office hours
Lecturer	REHAM GAMAL AHMED SALEM OMAR	

Area Of Study :

Being one of the most challenging types of reports, investigative reporting requires the professional utilization of research, writing, interviewing and other skills. This course teaches how to retrieve, analyze and utilize data, in addition to structuring, writing and editing an investigative report/story. Students learn how to gather information from the relevant sources, how to ask the right questions and how to use news values to write feature stories, investigative reports and news reports. The basics of accuracy, fairness, balance, and professional ethics are emphasized.

Course Goals:

- Employ concepts and techniques of investigative reporting through writing and editing.
- Apply research skills in acquiring and utilizing primary and secondary sources, as well as official records.
- Evaluate ethical and legal considerations faced in investigative reporting.
- Write correctly, clearly and concisely to specified target readers.
- Seek opportunities for publishing articles.
- Conduct interviews on sensitive issues.

Description :

Being one of the most challenging types of reports, investigative reporting requires the professional utilization of research, writing, interviewing and other skills. This course teaches how to retrieve, analyze and utilize data, in addition to structuring, writing and editing an investigative report/story. Students learn how to gather information from the relevant sources, how to ask the right questions and how to use news values to write feature stories, investigative reports and news reports. The basics of accuracy, fairness, balance, and professional ethics are emphasized.

Course outcomes :

a. Knowledge and Understanding: :

- 1 - Identify investigative reporting techniques.
- 2 - Recognize the impact that the published information has on your sources.

b. Intellectual Skills: :

- 1 - Locate relevant and newsworthy issues for the target audience.
- 2 - Evaluate stories for balance and objectivity.
- 3 - Assess other's work for style, format and balance.
- 4 - Estimate the impact of investigative report on the public.

c. Professional and Practical Skills: :

1 -	Collect information from relevant primary and secondary sources as well as governmental resources.
2 -	Practice AP style.
3 -	Apply different storytelling techniques.
4 -	Experiment with small group collaboration in a team-reporting approach.
5 -	Prepare a journalistic work plan under pressure.
6 -	Apply media laws and ethics in investigative reporting.

d. General and Transferable Skills: :

1 -	Use computers and the Internet.
2 -	Work in a team environment.
3 -	Translate to and from other languages.
4 -	Apply practical and professional problem solving.

Course Topic And Contents :

Topic	No. of hours	Lecture	Tutorial / Practical
Introduction and syllabus AP style re-cap	5	1	1
Secondary and governmental sources	5	1	1
Primary sources and interviewing techniques	5	1	1
Legal and ethical values	5	1	1
Story formats	10	2	2
Midterm		1	
Photography	5	1	1
Editing and evaluating the work of others	10	2	2
Crowdsourcing and transparency	5	1	1
Beat-based Investigations.	5	1	1
Going online	5	1	1
Revision	5	1	1
Final Exam		1	

Teaching And Learning Methodologies :

Data show and computer in lectures

Lectures by instructor

Group discussion

Group project

Course Assessment :

Methods of assessment	Relative weight %	Week No	Assess What
Course Work (Attendance, Participation, Assignments and Project)	30.00		To assess understanding, theoretical background of the intellectual skills, creativity, knowledge and teamwork.
Final Exam	40.00	15	To assess knowledge and intellectual skills
Midterm Exam	30.00	7	To assess knowledge and critical skills