

**COMM 2315
News Reporting**

Western Texas College

- I. Basic Course Information:
 - A. Course Description: This course focuses on advanced news-gathering and writing skills. It concentrates on the three-part process of producing news stories: discovering the news, reporting the news, and writing the news in different formats.
 - B. Prerequisites: Comm 2311 Media Writing
- II. Student Learning Outcomes:
 - A. Evaluate newsworthiness of information.
 - B. Demonstrate an understanding of story idea creation.
 - C. Comprehend the basic structure and format of a news story (lead, body, and conclusion).
 - D. Demonstrate an understanding of beat reporting and feature writing.
 - E. Demonstrate an understanding of multimedia journalism and alternative story forms.
 - F. Demonstrate an understanding of journalistic ethics.
- III. Measurement of expected outcomes:
 - A. The student will write a news article for use in a radio broadcast graded utilizing a rubric.
 - B. The student will be able to demonstrate and edit a recording of a written broadcast news article using the provided software and hardware.
 - C. Each assignment will have a point value. The points achieved will be totaled and calculated as a percentage of total points possible, whereby a letter grade will be assigned the student.
- IV. Major Course Requirements
 - A. Unit Exams
 - B. Three original news stories
 - C. Participation in at least four live broadcasts
 - D. Homework assignments (10 pts each), Unit Exams (50 pts each), Original news stories (25 pts each), Attendance (15 pts), Comprehensive Final Exam (100 pts) for 420 pts total.
- V. Information on Books and Other Course Materials
 - A. Required Book: Writing and Reporting News: A Coaching Method, 8e, Rich ISBN: 9781305077331
 - B. Other materials will be provided by the instructor such as handouts, etc.
 - C. Other : Flash drive with 2GB capacity
- VI. Other Policies, Procedures and important dates. Please refer to the [WTC Catalog](#) for the following:
 - A. Student Conduct/Academic Integrity
 - B. Students with disabilities
 - C. Drop/Withdrawal Information
 - D. Final Exam Schedule

- E. Class Attendance
- F. Campus Calendar

| | Section/Online Work |
|-------|---------------------------------------|
| Ch 1 | The Mass Audience, Understanding News |
| Ch 2 | The Basic News Story |
| Ch 3 | Social Media |
| Ch 4 | Sources and Online Research |
| Ch 5 | Interviewing Techniques |
| Ch 6 | Mobile and Multimedia Skills |
| Ch 8 | Story Organization |
| Ch 9 | Story Forms |
| Ch 10 | Storytelling and Feature Techniques |
| Ch 14 | Media Law |
| Ch 15 | Ethics |
| Ch 16 | Multicultural Sensitivity |
| Ch 19 | Government and Statistical Stories |

Last Modified: February 2, 2018