COMM 181 Digital Media

Course Information
Division: Humanities/Social Sciences
Contact Hours: 45
Total Credits: 3

Prerequisites: RDG 090 and ENGL 090 or qualifying score on accepted placement tests

Co-requisites: None

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce students to a wide variety of digital storytelling and news presentation tools. As consumers turn from traditional news sources to digital platforms, journalists and other media specialists need to learn a new portfolio of skills, from handling breaking news in real time and blogging to podcasting and multimedia storytelling. Students will be exposed to a wide range of digital news presentation methods, learning new media skills needed to compete in this rapidly changing and highly competitive career field. The course will emphasize traditional journalism conventions, such as accuracy, fairness and comprehensive news gathering and reporting, while using digital media tools. The course was previously called New Media Journalism, JOURN 181.

Course Outcomes
In order to evidence success in this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a familiarity with digital tools and terminology.
2. Select the most effective digital format for delivering various kinds of news and information.
3. Demonstrate the different news presentation styles appropriate for various digital formats, from breaking news to blogs and social networking sites.
4. Utilize digital sources to gather information.
5. Gather and edit images, audio and video for digital presentation.
6. Discuss ethical and legal issues related to reporting in the digital world.

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