JRN 101-B News Literacy
How do you know if you’re getting the truth from the news media? This course is designed to prepare students to become more discriminating news consumers. It will examine standards of reliability and accuracy in news gathering and presentation, and seek to establish the differences between news and propaganda, assertion and verification, bias and fairness, and infotainment and journalism. Students will be encouraged to critically examine news broadcasts, newspaper articles and Web sites. Visiting journalists will be questioned about the journalistic process and decision-making. Previously offered as a topic to EGL 390-G (spring 2006). Not for credit in addition to EGL 390 with that topic. JRN 101 and JRN 103 are mutually exclusive; JRN 101 cannot be taken for credit in addition to JRN 103 or vice versa.

3 credits

JRN 103-G News Literacy
How do you know if you’re getting the truth from the news media? This course is designed to prepare students to become more discriminating news consumers. It will examine standards of reliability and accuracy in news gathering and presentation, and seek to establish the differences between news and propaganda, assertion and verification, bias and fairness, and infotainment and journalism. Students will be encouraged to critically examine news broadcasts, newspaper articles and Web sites. Visiting journalists will be questioned about the journalistic process and decision-making. Previously offered as a topic to EGL 390-G (spring 2006). Not for credit in addition to EGL 390 with that topic. JRN 101 and JRN 103 are mutually exclusive; JRN 101 cannot be taken for credit in addition to JRN 103 or vice versa.

3 credits

JRN 102 Colloquium on the News
This course is designed to introduce students to the journalistic process and expose them to some of the leading newsmakers in the area. Students will be expected to do research on timely issues in the news and prepare questions for visitors who will conduct personal and professional conferences. Students will be expected to learn basic research and interviewing skills, as well as develop an appreciation of current news issues. Previously offered as JRN 285. Not for credit in addition to JRN 285.

1 credit

JRN 108-F The History and Future of the American Press
This course traces the history of the American press from pre-American Revolution to post-Internet revolution. It examines the political, economic and technological forces that shaped the news media and how the press, in turn, influenced American government, politics and society. Topics will include freedom of the press, the rise of the popular press, war and the press, the press and presidents, the impact of investigative journalism, the evolution of radio and TV news, and the advent of 24/7 online news. Previously offered as JRN 280. Not for credit in addition to JRN 280.

3 credits

JRN 110 News I: Basic News Reporting and Writing
An introduction to reporting and writing the news, including defining what is newsworthy. This is a foundation for all other courses in the journalism program. Through assignments, students will develop a mastery of the basic elements of writing a news story that conforms to standards of clarity, accuracy and fairness. An emphasis is placed on gaining practical experience through reporting on classroom, campus and community events. The development of basic skills is accompanied by the exploration of the role of the press in a free society. The course includes a six-week immersion lab in grammar, punctuation and sentence structure. Students who pass a proficiency test will be exempt from the lab. All other students must take the lab and pass the test to advance in the journalism program. Previously offered as JRN 287. Not for credit in addition to JRN 287.

Prerequisite: Completion of D.E.C. category A Pre-or Co-requisite: EGL 390.01 Fall 2006-Spring 2006 or JRN 103 Mandatory Corequisite: JRN 111

3 credits

JRN 111 Writing Immersion Lab
This lab, which must be taken in conjunction with JRN 110, is a writing immersion lab in grammar, punctuation and sentence structure. Students who pass a proficiency test will be exempt from the attending the lab but all students enrolled in JRN 110 must register for JRN 111 for grading purposes. Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. Students must receive a Satisfactory grade in order to continue in the JRN program.

Prerequisite: Completion of D.E.C. A

Mandatory Corequisite: JRN 110

3 credits

JRN 201 Journalism That Changed the World
This course is designed to give students an appreciation for the power of the press to work on behalf of the public interest. It is designed as a case study course in which students examine major, contemporary stories in broadcast and print that have had a significant impact on society. Included are case studies on Watergate, coverage of the Civil Rights Movement, revelations of local corruption on Long Island, and the disclosure of ethnic cleansing in Bosnia, among other stories. Students will also be assigned to read, watch, and study earlier examples of public service journalism. Journalists who participated in the case studies will visit class and discuss their stories.

Prerequisite: Completion of D.E.C. Category A Pre-or Corequisite: JRN 101

JRN 210 News II: Beat Reporting
Building on their work in JRN 110, students select and develop a news beat, with an emphasis on finding stories, developing sources, interviewing, and research methods. Students become better acquainted with newspaper style, word-length, using numbers accurately, and writing on deadline. Previously offered as JRN 387. Not for credit in addition to JRN 387.

Prerequisite: JRN 110 (formerly JRN 287) and JRN 101 Mandatory Corequisite: JRN 211

3 credits

JRN 211 News II: Quantitative Literacy Lab
Offered starting Fall 2008. This lab, which must be taken in conjunction with JRN 210, is a ‘quantitative literacy’ immersion lab in the proper use of numbers and statistics in newswriting. Students who pass a proficiency test will be exempt from attending the lab, but all students enrolled in JRN 210 must register for JRN 211 for grading purposes. Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. Students must receive a Satisfactory grade in order to continue in the JRN program.

Mandatory Corequisite: JRN 210

3 credits

JRN 220 Media Law and Ethics
This course examines how journalists do their work from the perspectives of legal and ethical parameters. It will provide an introduction to the legal foundation that supports freedom of the press and examine current law on such subjects as source confidentiality, access to documents, libel, and invasion of privacy. Students will also examine ethical codes that guide journalists, including standards regarding independence, accountability, truth-telling, protecting sources and other duties that arise when journalistic principles clash with real-life dilemmas.

Prerequisite: JRN 110 and JRN 111

3 credits

JRN 288 On Campus Internship
Designed to provide students with experience in journalism at the campus level. Students will work for a campus news outlet on a schedule approved by the School of Journalism. The work will involve journalistic skills related to the educational goals of the School of Journalism. The internship coordinator will determine whether the work meets appropriate journalistic standards. This internship is required of all journalism majors and may be repeated once. S/U grading only.

Prerequisites: JRN 210 and 211; 12 credits of JRN; permission of intern coordinator

JRN 301 Journalism 24/7
This course examines the rapidly evolving media landscape and the implications for journalism and journalists. Students examine the revolutionary changes in digital technology, dramatically shifting patterns of media consumption, rise of non-traditional competition, challenges of serving a more diverse audience, and accelerating media consolidation, and explore alternative visions for the impact on content, standards, business models, and jobs in the next decade.

Prerequisites: JRN 108 or 201; JRN 110 and JRN 111

3 credits

JRN 310 News III: Reporting and Writing for Broadcast
Students learn to report and write news stories for radio and television. Students will become acquainted with the proper use of sounds and visuals in broadcast reporting and learn how to write news scripts to time. Class is held in a production/workshop environment. Additional hours in television studio and editing facilities are required.

Prerequisite: JRN 210 and 211; minors must have 110 and 111 and permission

3 credits

JRN 320 The Promise and Perils of Online Journalism
This course examines the challenges presented by the explosion of journalism on the Internet and assesses the role of the journalist in an online society. Students are exposed to both practical skills and a broader understanding of issues. Topics include how journalists add value to information online, writing and editing for the Web, the use of interactive tools, blogs and podcasts, and an elementary understanding of Web design. At the same time, students explore issues of privacy, the Internet’s potential threat to traditional journalistic standards, and how online publishing is creating new audiences. Students critique news Web sites, participate in a blog and podcast, create a news Web page, and produce an online story package. Course includes two lectures and a weekly three-hour lab in the use of digital tools.

Prerequisites: JRN 210 and JRN 211; 301

3 credits

JRN 330 Investigative and In-Depth Journalism
This course introduces students to the disciplines of investigative and in-depth reporting with a strong emphasis on the press’ watchdog role in a democratic society. Students work across all three media platforms, studying advanced reporting techniques such as developing confidential sources, conducting confrontational interviews and organizing and analyzing complex data. This course focuses on ethical concerns and on writing, tapping and recording information with precision and clarity. Students will examine the relevant aspects of computer-assisted reporting. Field work is involved.

Prerequisite: JRN 310

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JRN 331 Specialized Beat Reporting (Government)

Students become acquainted with the skills and knowledge necessary to become a specialist in the areas of government and public affairs reporting. In seminar format students meet and question broadcast and print beat reporters in the areas of government, politics, the courts, police, and education. Four class sessions meet at SBU Manhattan campus. Students may participate via video conferencing to the main campus. Note: This class is only offered in the fall semester. Students may take either JRN 331 or JRN 332, but not both, to satisfy a requirement of the major.

Prerequisite: JRN 310
Advisory prerequisite: POL 367

JRN 332 Specialized Beat Reporting (Culture and Lifestyle)

Students become acquainted with the skills and knowledge necessary to become a specialist in the areas of culture, arts and lifestyle and sports. In seminar format students meet and question beat reporters in the areas of film, theatre, art, fashion, food, architecture and sports. Four class sessions meet at SBU Manhattan campus. Students may participate via video conferencing to main campus. Note: This course is only offered in the spring semester. Students may take JRN 331 or JRN 332, but not both, to satisfy a requirement of the major.

Prerequisite: JRN 310
Advisory prerequisite: SOC 330

JRN 333 Business Reporting

This course provides practical training for journalism students interested in a possible career in business reporting. It seeks to provide the basic understanding and skills to report on business and consumer news and economic trends. Goals include learning how to read and understand financial statements, how to identify and access relevant public documents, and how to interpret basic economic data and statistics. Students profile a public company on Long Island or in New York City, and learn how to write a business story that conforms to standards of accuracy and context. They will be encouraged to visit major financial institutions, public markets, and regulatory agencies in New York City. Students will also examine business stories and controversies in the news from the perspective of the business community and journalists.

Prerequisite: JRN 310
Advisory Prerequisites: ECO 108 and BUS 110

JRN 334 Science and Health Reporting

Students will examine methods of evaluating and reporting science and health news with accuracy and context. Among the topics to be covered: how to read a medical journal article; how to understand simple statistical data; how to develop and interview expert sources; how to deal with conflicting claims. Drawing on the resources of the Health Sciences Center, the course also will provide information on how research and health care are organized and funded. Students will report and write several stories for print, broadcast or the Web. They also will spend a day shadowing a health care professional.

Prerequisites: JRN 210; 1 DEC E and 1 DEC F

JRN 335 Reporting in New York City

This course, which is offered only in winter and summer sessions, provides students with an overview of how reporters cover the major institutions in New York City: City Hall, the United Nations, the police department, the courts, Wall Street, etc. The course offers a blend of classroom instruction, talks with officials and journalists, and hands-on reporting. On reporting days, the class will be run as a newsroom.

JRN 337 Introduction to Narrative Journalism

Building on students’ experiences in newswriting, this course examines the reporting and writing of longer stories and more textured feature stories. There will be an emphasis on focus, structure, and storytelling, including the rudiments of developing style and a narrative voice. Students will become active producers of original enterprise stories. They will also explore the similarities and differences in telling stories in print, online, and in broadcast formats. Previously offered as JRN 258. Not for credit in addition to JRN 258 “Feature Writing” that was offered prior to Fall 2006.

Prerequisite: JRN 210 (formerly JRN 387) and 211
Advisory Prerequisite: EGL 399

JRN 350 The Principles of Editing

This course examines the fundamentals of editing, for all media, with emphasis on critical thinking, maximizing accuracy, clarity and conciseness, and providing context. Students will practice editing for print, broadcast, and online before completing a culminating project involving editing the same story across three different platforms.

Prerequisites: JRN 310
Pre- or Corequisite: JRN 320

JRN 360 Advanced Reporting and Writing for Print and Web

This course explores explanatory, interpretive and issue-based journalism for both print and the Web. Students will produce analytical and explanatory stories that combine authoritativeness of material with clarity of writing. In addition to weekly assignments, students will undertake a culminating project designed to showcase their ability to illuminate a complicated topic on both platforms.

Prerequisite: JRN 310, JRN 337
Pre- or Corequisite: JRN 350

JRN 361 News Editing and Presentation/Print

This course focuses on developing students’ copy editing and layout skills and is designed for students concentrating on newspapers or magazines. Students will be exposed to all phases of copy editing, from news judgment to line editing. Mastery of grammar and of the Associated Press Stylebook is a goal of this course. Headline writing will be discussed and students will practice writing headlines and captions on deadline. Students will also be exposed to layout via Microsoft Publisher. Students will practice pagination on deadline and critique layouts in print publications and online. Students will be exposed to the art of photo selection, page placement and cropping, and to the use of graphics and other elements to enhance newspaper storytelling.

Prerequisite: JRN 350
Pre- or Corequisite: JRN 360

JRN 362 Magazine Editing

This course is designed for students who have an interest in magazine journalism. Students will study editorial content, editing, design and production of general interest magazines, the booming market in specialty and niche magazines, and the growing market in sports, lifestyle and entertainment magazines. Magazine journalists will be invited to class to discuss their work. As a class, students will work on developing a magazine prototype.

Prerequisites: JRN 337, JRN 350

JRN 363 Magazine Writing

This course builds on JRN 337, advancing the exploration of long-form magazine stories. Students will learn how to develop ideas and craft them into sophisticated pieces with protagonist and story arc narrative drive. They will learn to bring their stories to life using novelistic techniques such as character development, voice, mood and theme, conflict and resolution, scene-setting, foreshadowing and dialogue. Required read-ings, assignments, group discussions of works-in-progress and roundtable meetings with professional narrative journalists will inspire students to develop their own writer’s eye, and voice. The culminating goal of the course is for each student to produce a 2,500- to 3,000-word story for publication. Students will also learn how to select a market for their stories and write a query letter.

Prerequisites: JRN 310 and permission of department

JRN 364 In-Depth Reporting

This course is designed to prepare student journalists to get to the bottom of complex stories through probing reporting that will seek rich detail and context. Students will work independently under the supervision of a City Editor to produce pieces of approximately 1,500 words during the semester. These stories will delve deeply into the subject matter. Students will meet regularly with the City Editor in a seminar setting to discuss procedures, ideas, progress, to brainstorm and to share their experiences and assess their progress. They also will work independently on all aspects of developing their stories. Students will be graded on a number of benchmarks such as story proposal, revised proposal, quality of research and reporting, drafts of the story and the final story. It is the goal that the stories be published.

Prerequisite: JRN 310

JRN 370 Advanced Reporting and Writing for Broadcast and Web

Building on JRN 310, this course will help students to develop their broadcast writing skills more fully, expand their television reporting skills, strengthen their use of video and audio narratives within television news stories and learn to edit news stories for television more effectively. As future journalists, students will be treated as professional reporters/producers and photographers/editors. Story ideas will be discussed as a group with the professor and with the class before assignments are approved. News packages completed in class will be used in newscasts produced by students in JRN 371.

Prerequisite: JRN 310
Pre- or Corequisite: JRN 350

JRN 371 Television Production

This course is designed to introduce students to planning, assembling, producing and performing the elements of a newscast. Students will be exposed to the roles of key members of a newscast team, including producers, assistant producers, reporters, writers, anchors and video photographers and editors. There will be emphasis on developing decision-making and on-air skills, as students complete mini-newscasts and segments for broadcast. Students will be expected to meet strict deadlines and manage critical air time. Newscast segments will be showcased on JRN Web sites.

Prerequisite: JRN 350
Pre- or Corequisite: JRN 370

JRN 380 Advanced Editing & Presentation / Web

This course, designed for students interested in specializing in online news, will focus on content management and the presentation of news on the Web.
Students will have the opportunity to manage a news Web site in real time, with emphasis on around-the-clock news judgment and presentation. Students will learn how to enhance online news through multimedia integration and reader/viewer interactivity. Students will also study information architecture, eye-tracking studies, and different ways of making the Web more accessible for readers, including layering information. The course builds on the skills learned in JRN 320. After completion of course overview material, students will move through three phases designed to simulate a key role in current online newsrooms. The phases include real-time content management, multimedia integration and harvesting original video. There will be an emphasis on building critical thinking skills and developing team work. By the end of this course, students are to produce a complete multimedia project and integrate its production into a real-time online news site.

Prerequisite: JRN 320 or permission of instructor

JRN 394 Journalism Practicum

Classroom practice in selecting and laying out stories for a front page. The course also covers such media topics as typography, the operation of editorial boards, op-ed articles, wire services, TV news, books, the music business, the history of journalism, and the foreign press.

Prerequisite: JRN 110 or 337

3 credits

JRN 395 News Editing

Editing copy for grammatical correctness, consistency, accuracy, tightness, and brightness; writing headlines. The course also considers the broader aspects of editing, such as assigning stories and handling writers sensitive about their copy.

Prerequisite: JRN 110

3 credits

JRN 411 Television Practicum

Pending approval

This is a capstone course for students specializing in video. This day-long workshop class meets on Fridays from 9 am to 6 pm, with an hour break for lunch. Each week, students will produce and broadcast a half-hour, live newscast that will be broadcast on the Web and on a campus news channel. The class will experience the working conditions of a professional TV newsroom. Over the course of the semester, students will have the opportunity to work in each of their key jobs necessary for a successful newscast: broadcast producer, news director, anchor, field producer, reporter, video editor and member of the studio crew. Following each newscast, the news team will gather for a "post-mortem" meeting. At this meeting, work will be critiqued and plans will be made for follow-up stories and the next week's newscast. The post mortem will serve as a weekly assessment for the students.

Prerequisite: JRN 370, permission of the instructor

Pre- or Corequisite: JRN 371

3 credits

JRN 435 Journalism Without Walls

This course, which will be offered only during winter or summer sessions, is designed for experienced and energetic journalism students. Students will be assigned as part of a team to travel to a location and develop a Web site. They will file blogs, gather multimedia and video, write and edit stories, produce a Web site and establish a "mobile news-room." One or several instructors will accompany the students. This is a capstone course that combines students' journalistic skills, judgment and enterprise with knowledge of emerging technology.

Prerequisite: JRN 360 or 370 or 380 and permission and approval of department

A Passport may be required.

3 credits

JRN 475 Undergraduate Teaching Practicum I

Work with a faculty member as an assistant in one of the faculty member's regularly scheduled courses. Students assume greater responsibility in such areas as leading discussions and analyzing results of tests that already have been graded. The course in which the student is permitted to work as a teaching assistant must be different from the course in which he or she previously participated. Not for major or minor credit.

Prerequisites: JRN 475; permission of instructor and undergraduate program director

3 credits, S/U grading

JRN 487 Independent Study

Intensive study of a special topic undertaken with close faculty supervision. May be repeated.

Prerequisites: Permission of instructor and director of undergraduate studies

0-6 credits, S/U grading

JRN 488 Internship

Students work at local, state, and national newspapers and magazines. The work must involve journalistic skills related to the educational goals of the department.

Prerequisites: JRN 210 and 211, 310 if broadcast; 12 credits JRN; permission

0-6 credits, S/U grading

JRN 490 Senior Project

This is a capstone course and a requirement for all majors. In a culminating activity, students produce a major story of professional quality, first in their area of journalistic concentration, and then adapt the story for two additional media platforms. Students attend a weekly seminar and work independently under the supervision of a faculty sponsor.

Prerequisites: JRN 360 or JRN 370 or JRN 380

Pre- or Corequisites: JRN 383 or JRN 371 or JRN 381

3 credits