

Syllabus

Course Code: JOUR 101

Title: Introduction to Journalism

Institute: Educational Access & Innovation

Department: Communication Media

Course Description: Students learn to develop and evaluate sources of information, to analyze audience needs, to develop a sense of importance, to write concisely and clearly and to background themselves quickly. The course emphasizes clarity and conciseness in writing and examines those techniques in successful writing for both fiction and nonfiction. Students also gain an understanding of what makes news, who decides what becomes news and how media decide what to publish or broadcast.

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None Prerequisites or corequisites:

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab/Studio Hours: None

Required Textbook/Materials: None

Additional Time Requirements: None

Additional Support/Labs:

See <https://www.brookdalecc.edu/academic-tutoring/>

Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Communicate information and ideas clearly and effectively in written form, following journalistic principles.
- Employ the journalistic process and style of writing.
- Develop questioning and critical thinking skills to gather information and determine which facts are essential to the story.
- Develop an awareness of different media and audiences and how they influence their writing.
- Recognize writing as a recursive process, which requires thinking, writing, revising, and editing.

Course Content: Students will be introduced to more than a dozen basic journalism assignments. They will use the classroom as a newsroom and will be required to cover an event, a meeting and to produce a profile news story. They will be required to complete 8 different portfolio assignments where they will use a variety of journalistic skills and will learn to write in Associated Press Style.

Department Policies:

1. Attendance is required at all class meetings. Attendance in class means being in class for the entire class meeting.
2. More than three absences may prevent a student from achieving a satisfactory grade.
3. Standards of student behavior are the same as those described in the College's Code of Conduct. <https://www.brookdalecc.edu/avp-student-affairs/conduct/>
4. **IMPORTANT NOTE** - This course requires the use of the **CANVAS** Learning System. Students who need further assistance with **CANVAS**, they must contact the **Teaching & Learning Center** (732-224-2089). See Instructor Addendum for specific policies for this course and section.

Grading Standard:

Grading Scale: If final course average is

92 to 100 %, A
90 to 91 % A-
88 to 89 % B+
82 to 87 % B
80 to 81 % B-
78 to 79 %, C+
70 to 77 %, C
61 to 69 %, D
60 % and lower F.

College Policies:

As an academic institution, Brookdale facilitates the free exchange of ideas, upholds the virtues of civil discourse, and honors diverse perspectives informed by credible sources. Our College values all students and strives for inclusion and safety regardless of a student's disability, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, country of origin, immigration status, religious affiliation, political orientation, socioeconomic standing, and veteran status. For additional information, support services, and engagement opportunities, please visit www.brookdalecc.edu/support.

For information regarding:

- Academic Integrity Code
- Student Conduct Code
- Student Grade Appeal Process

Please refer to the [Student Handbook](#) and [Catalog](#).

Notification for Students with Disabilities:

Brookdale Community College offers reasonable accommodations and/or services to persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who wish to self-identify must contact the Accessibility Services Office at 732-224-2730 (voice) or 732-842-4211 (TTY) to provide appropriate documentation of the disability and request specific accommodations or services. If a student qualifies, reasonable

accommodations and/or services, which are appropriate for the college level and are recommended in the documentation, can be approved.

Mental Health:

24/7/365 Resources:

- Monmouth Medical Center Psychiatric Emergency Services at **(732) 923-6999**
- 2nd Floor Youth Helpline – Available to talk with you about any problem, distress, or hardship you are experiencing. Call or text at **888-222-2228** or visit the website at <https://www.2ndfloor.org/>

Faculty Counselors:

- Students who need to make an appointment with a faculty counselor can do so by calling 732-224-1822 (non-emergency line) during business hours. Faculty counselors are licensed mental health professionals who can assist students and refer them to other mental health resources.

Diversity Statement:

Brookdale Community College fosters an environment of inclusion and belonging. We promote a safe and open culture, encourage dialogue respecting diverse perspectives informed by credible sources, and uphold the virtues of civil discourse. We celebrate all identities with the understanding that ultimately, diversity, equity, and inclusion cultivate belonging and make us a stronger Brookdale community.

**The syllabus is intended to give student guidance in what may be covered during the semester and will be followed as closely as possible. However, the faculty member reserves the right to modify, supplement, and make changes as the need arise.*