

TV Reporting 1 and 2
BCM 3350 and 4350
The University of Texas at Arlington
Spring 2013 - Monday 1 – 4:50 p.m.

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| Office: FA 270 | FA 125A |
| Office Hours: By appointment | T, TH: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. |

Read this syllabus **CAREFULLY**. Ignorance of the policies of the class **is not** an acceptable excuse.

Textbook and Hardware Requirements

1. No text book is required, but readings may be assigned at the discretion of the Instructors.
2. External Hard Drive (120 GB or more) with USB 2.0 connectivity.
3. SanDisk SDHC card. Class 6 or 10 (8 GB minimum).

Course Description/Goals

- ✚ This class will teach you the art of producing, reporting, and anchoring news for television. You will participate in news gathering, writing, and will shoot packages for television. Reporting 2 students will also produce and anchor newscasts, produce an investigative report, and prepare a final portfolio.

Learning Outcomes

- ✚ Students will be able to write correctly and clearly in forms and styles appropriate for the broadcast profession, audiences and purposes they serve;
- ✚ Students will critically evaluate their own work and that of others for accuracy and fairness, clarity, appropriate style and grammatical correctness;
- ✚ Students will demonstrate an understanding of professional ethical principles and work ethically in pursuit of truth, accuracy, fairness and diversity.
- ✚ Students will use and apply tools and technologies appropriate for the broadcast profession.
- ✚ Students will demonstrate they can think critically, creatively and independently.

Attendance/Drop policy

- ✚ Regular class attendance is required by the University and necessary to keep up with assigned readings, lectures and assignments. Excessive class absences, lateness and/or failure to keep up with assigned readings will result in lower grades.
- ✚ If you are five minutes late to class, your attendance will be counted as an absence. We will strongly enforce this rule. Students leaving class early will not be given credit for attendance unless excused in advance by the instructors.
- ✚ It is the student's responsibility to drop or add the class—not the faculty or staff's.

Due Dates

- ✚ Failure to turn in any assignment will result in a failing grade in the class.
- ✚ If the story is not included in the newscast due to lateness, the story will receive an F (see details on **DEADLINES**).

Electronic Device Use

(Mobile phone, laptop computer, pager, portable multimedia players, etc.)

- ✚ Turn off portable electronic devices during class and during taping of newscasts.

Assignments

- ✚ Look at Rotation Sheets for weekly assignments.
- ✚ The first part of the class will be devoted to assignment critique and class lecture.

Class Rules

- ✚ You must **dress appropriately** for all on-camera work.
- ✚ Deadlines must be met – no excuses.
- ✚ Stories will be graded based on writing, video, and online publication.
- ✚ **DO NOT** take material, or use material, from anyone else's folder without their written permission. To do so will be viewed as plagiarism and will be treated accordingly.
- ✚ **DO NOT** use material from YouTube or any other audiovisual website containing copyrighted material.
- ✚ **There is no extra credit.** The best predictor of a good grade is regular attendance in class and completion of all of the assignments.

Grades

- ✚ We will not post a cumulative list of grades at the end of the semester. The responsibility to keep track of grades is yours.
- ✚ The grade breakdown and scale is as follows:
 - ✚ Attendance – 30%
 - ✚ Assignments for Newscast (On Time Only) – 30%
 - ✚ Assignments Posted on Website (On Time Only) – 30%
 - ✚ Final Portfolio/Website (Demo Reel) – 10%

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| 90 – 100 | A |
| 80 – 89 | B |
| 70 – 79 | C |
| 60 – 69 | D |
| 0 – 59 | F |

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/ses/fao>).

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Academic Integrity: All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence. I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

Instructors may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and

mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.