

Journalism 3300 – Fall 2015

Intro to Visual Communication for News – Still Photojournalism

M/W 9:00 -10:20 am

OR

M/W 1:00 -2:20 pm

Photo Meeting Room: GAB 111 (always bring your student ID)

Video Meeting Room: GAB 101 (always bring your student ID)

Photo Instructor: Thorne Anderson - Office: GAB 110-C, Phone: 940-369-5102

Best reached by email at: Thorne.Anderson@UNT.edu

Anderson Office Hours: Wednesdays 2:30-4:00 & Thursdays 2:00-4:00 or by appointment

During either the 1st half or last half of this semester, you will take the Digital Still Photojournalism half of the class with Professor Anderson in GAB 111, or the Video Photojournalism class with Bryan Lochhead GAB 101. Your final grade will be averaged from work performed for both the video and the stills portions of this course.

Journalism Course Registration

Registration will begin on the dates noted in the schedule of classes each semester. The system is a live, first come/first serve program. By registering for this course, you are stating that you have taken the required prerequisites according to your catalog year and major/minor status. If the instructor later determines that you haven't taken and passed these requirements, then you must be dropped at any point in the semester. If you have questions about your prerequisites, please see an advisor.

A journalism major enrolled in any restricted 3000 and 4000 level classes must have taken and passed the GSP test, all pre-major courses, and Math 1680/1681 and also have applied for major status. Students must earn and maintain a 2.5 UNT and/or overall GPA (depending upon catalog year) to be eligible for major-level courses.

Course Description

This Digital Still Photojournalism portion of this class is designed to introduce newsgathering and visual reporting skills to journalism students, including those in Broadcast, Print, and Photography, and to develop understanding of visual storytelling for the journalist. You will learn how to capture and edit video for news reports, and to understand television news standards and visual storytelling concepts.

Course Requirements

Attendance is mandatory. Lectures, videos, and class discussions will contain vital information needed to do well on the exams. More than one absence will result in a reduction of points from your grade.

Required Text

"Videojournalism – Multimedia Storytelling" by Kenneth Kobre, 2012.

Textbook policy

The Mayborn School of Journalism doesn't require students to purchase textbooks from the University Bookstore. Many are available through other bookstores or online.

Required Materials

1 SDHC card – minimum 4 GB.

1- 4-GB computer flash drive

Headphones or ear buds for editing

First Class Day Attendance

Journalism instructors reserve the right to drop any student who does not attend the first class day of the semester.

You may be dropped from the class if you miss two classes with an unexcused absence.

Exams

There will be quizzes and 2 exams (a mid-term and a final exam). Exams will be based on text readings, handouts, class exercises, videos, and class lectures and discussions. Students are responsible for all text material, regardless of whether we review the text material in class or not.

Missed Exams

You will be allowed to make up a missed exam only if you have a documented university excused absence. If you know in advance that you will miss an exam, you **MUST** contact me before the scheduled exam. Make-up exams will not contain the same questions and may contain only essay and short answer questions.

Re-taking Failed Courses

Students will not be allowed to automatically take a failed journalism course more than two times. Once you have failed a journalism course twice, you will not be allowed to enroll in that course for 12 months. Once you have waited 12 months after failing a course twice, you may make an appeal to the professor teaching the course to be allowed to enroll a third time.

Assignments

All assignments must be completed **AFTER** the assignments are made (and not during in-class exercises) and before they are due. Late assignments result in a Zero grade. You are responsible for keeping a copy of all your own assignment submissions until your grades are submitted at the end of the semester. This is a protection against loss of assignments on the classroom server and it is your responsibility to keep a backup. If a backup is needed and you don't have it then you will receive a zero for that assignment.

Grading

Students will be graded on their knowledge and understanding of the language of photo and video storytelling, the quality of the video and audio recorded, the use of natural sound, editing techniques, and meeting deadlines.

You may earn up to 1,000 points in this portion of the course. Every student starts with zero. You may earn points as follows:

PHOTO Portion Points

Shooting Assignments 650 Points

Quiz 100 points

Final Exam 200 points

Class Participation 50 points

FINALGRADESCALE:1,000–900=A; 899- 800=B; 799–700=C; 699-600=D; 599–below=F

Deadlines

This class operates on the same principles as a working newsroom. Deadlines must be met; late work, tardiness, or an unexplained absence is unacceptable. Deadlines will be strictly adhered to, and some assignments will be done in class under deadline pressure. You must arrive in class on time with the necessary equipment to complete the assignment of the day.

Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Late assignments are not accepted. Arriving late for class may result in a ZERO for the assignment due that day.

If an illness or a personal emergency prevents you from completing an assignment on time, **advance** notice and written documentation are required.

Expectations

Students are expected to show up for all classes, turn in all assignments, complete the work, make the deadlines, and contribute to class discussions. This course will require a considerable amount of time outside the class period. You must watch and listen to radio and TV newscasts, read newspapers and web articles throughout the semester.

As aspiring journalists, you are expected to:

- possess intellectual curiosity
- be well-read about the world around you
- be critical thinkers
- be articulate in your critical expression

Accordingly, you are expected to engage in class discussions. This class is not a monologue prepared by the instructor. To learn, you must exchange ideas and thoughts with the instructor and your peers in a constructive manner.

Attendance, Sick and Other policies

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. If you are sick and miss class, please bring a doctor's excuse to make up the in-class assignment. If you have a doctor's excuse, we will then arrange a time to make up any in-class writing. You must immediately get any homework assignment from me or another student and turn it in on time (when it's due).

One absence in the course is the limit without penalty toward your final grade, unless you have communicated with me from the beginning about an extraordinary problem. Coming to class late or leaving early may constitute an absence for that day.

Much of the information presented in this class will be hands-on in the lab and requires your presence in each class meeting to learn the equipment. Demonstrations, guest speakers, or field assignments may take place throughout the semester, and it is your responsibility to know the material presented.

Cell phone policy

Turn off cell phones and all other electronic devices before class starts.

Lab Rules

No food or drink is permitted in the labs at any time. You may not upload video and audio gathered for this course to the Web without permission of the instructors. Failure to get permission will result in a failing grade for the course. You may not be on the Internet during lectures and demonstrations. You may not use the Internet to check your personal e-mail during class time.

Equipment Usage

Still photography and TV field equipment for this class may be checked out from the Equipment Room in GAB 111 Lab. You must pass the camera check and the recorder check before you will be allowed to check out equipment.

Video editing will be done on the computers in the GAB 101 Lab. Students may also use 2 PC's in the Mac Lab (GAB 305) if GAB 101 isn't open. All video shooting will be done on the cameras checked out from the Equipment Room in GAB 111. You **may not use** your own video equipment or equipment belonging to anyone else. **Still photo assignments must be completed on digital cameras with complete manual control settings.** The use of equipment not designated for this class will result in a zero for the project you are working on.

Your instructor must approve overnight checkouts before the checkout. Failure to return equipment on time will result in the loss of use of the equipment for a designated time period. For additional information please refer to the Equipment Policy Handout below.

Mayborn School of Journalism Equipment Checkout Rules

- You must present your Student ID card to work in the labs or checkout equipment.
- Still Cameras are limited to 3 hours maximum
- Audio Recorders are limited to 3 hours maximum
- Video Cameras are limited to 3 hours maximum

Overnight Requests

Approval based on need and time of assignment. Email to professor required 24 hours prior to request. Email must include:

Student's Name
Course Number
Equipment Needed
Date needed - include return date
Reason for request

The professor will reply with their approval and email the lab assistant. You must bring a printed copy of the approved overnight request with you to check out the equipment.

Late Equipment Returns and Abuse Policy

Late return of equipment and/or other violation of procedures relative to the use of the equipment (including unauthorized checkout) may affect your final course grade (point deductions determined by your instructor). Offenders will receive stronger penalties and will be denied the use of equipment and/or facilities based on the following schedule:

- 1st Infraction: 1-week loss of equipment/facility use.
- 2nd Infraction: 3-week loss of equipment/facility use.
- 3rd Infraction: Loss of all equipment/facility use privileges for the remainder of the semester in all Journalism classes.

From the Gold Card

The student agrees to retain sole possession of equipment checked out and not to lend or give the equipment to any other person for any reason. The student is responsible for returning the equipment by the date and time specified.

The student is responsible for any loss or damage to the equipment during the time the equipment is checked out in his/her name, whether or not such damage is caused by the student. Any equipment not returned within two weeks from the date checked out will be considered lost.

Damaged equipment will be repaired at the student's expense. If the equipment is lost or cannot be repaired, the student will be responsible for replacing the equipment at current market price. In addition, the student will receive an incomplete in the course until the issue is resolved.

Current Lab Hours of Operation

101 Lab Hours

Mon, Tue, & Wed 4 pm - 9 pm
Thur 4 pm - 6 pm
Fri 9 am - 5 pm
Sat Closed
Sun 2 pm - 6 pm

305 Mac Lab Hours

Mon, Tue, & Wed 8:30 am - 11 pm
Thur 8:30 am - 10 pm
Fri Noon - 5 pm
Sat Closed
Sun 1 pm - 10 pm

* There are 2 PCs in 305 for video editing for use by 4323, 4343 when 101 is not available.

111 Equipment Checkout Hours

Mon, Tue, & Wed 9 am - 9 pm
Thur 9 am - 6 pm
Fri 9 am - 5 pm
Sat Noon - 4 pm
Sun 2 pm - 6 pm

Chuck Weatherall

Media Technology Manager - Office Phone – Room 111 - (940)-565-3580

Disabilities Accommodation:

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at [940.565.4323](tel:940.565.4323).

Journalism Course Registration:

1. The Mayborn School of Journalism, in conjunction with the Registrar's Office, has eliminated the need for individual class codes for the majority of journalism courses. Registration will begin on the dates noted in the schedule of classes each semester. The system is a live, first come/first serve program; thus, we are unable to maintain the traditional waiting list as has been done previously.
2. By registering for this course, you are stating that you have taken the required prerequisites according to your catalog year and major/minor status. If the instructor later determines that you haven't taken and passed these requirements, then you may be dropped at any point in the semester. If you have questions about your prerequisites, please see an advisor.
3. A journalism major enrolled in any restricted 3000 and 4000 level classes must have taken and passed the GSP test, all pre-major courses, and Math 1680 and also have applied for major status. Students must earn and maintain a 2.5 UNT and/or overall GPA (depending upon catalog year) to be eligible for major-level courses. **Pre-majors** must file a formal application for major status in the final semester of pre-major status to be eligible for early registration of major-level classes in the following semester.

Email communication

Communicating with students using the UNT student email account is part of the university's contract with students. Electronic communication with students in this class will be through the students' **myunt accounts** rather than personal email accounts.

Re-taking Failed Courses

Students will not be allowed to take automatically a failed journalism course more than two times. Once you have failed a journalism course twice, you will not be allowed to enroll in that course for 12 months. Once you have waited 12 months after failing a course twice, you may make an appeal to the professor teaching the course to be allowed to enroll a third time.

SETE

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a university-wide online evaluation and a requirement for all UNT classes. The Mayborn School of Journalism needs your input to improve our teaching and curriculum. This short survey will be available at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. Prompt completion of the SETE will mean earlier access to final semester grades. You're a critical part of our growth and success. We look forward to your input through SETE.

Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.unt.edu/csfr

Academic Honesty

When you submit work for this class, that is the same as making a statement that you have produced the work yourself, in its entirety. Plagiarism, fabrication, copyright infringement, and similar uses of other people's work are unacceptable.

Plagiarism, in a nutshell, is using other people's written words as your own. Some people consider the use of 7-10 words in a row, copied from another source, as plagiarism. Be sure to include

citations when using other people's writing, because plagiarism is a serious offense in any discipline, especially in journalism. It is a firing offense in the professional world.

Any situations involving potential academic dishonesty will be handled through procedures established by the UNT Office of Academic Integrity. The process also includes the opportunity for students to appeal the outcome. Read specific procedures at <http://vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm>

You are learning the craft of Journalism, which is about **accuracy and truth telling**.

MAYBORN SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

The codes of ethics from the Society of Professional Journalists, American Advertising Federation and Public Relations Society of America address truth and honesty. The Mayborn School of Journalism embraces these tenets and believes that academic dishonesty of any kind – including plagiarism and fabrication – is incongruent with all areas of journalism. The school's policy aligns with UNT Policy 18.1.16 and requires reporting any act of academic dishonesty to the Office for Academic Integrity for investigation. If the student has a previous confirmed offense (whether the first offense was in the journalism school or another university department) and the student is found to have committed another offense, the department will request the additional sanction of removing the student from the Mayborn School of Journalism. The student may appeal to the Office for Academic Integrity, which ensures due process and allows the student to remain in class pending the appeal.

Statement of Student Learning Outcomes, UNT Journalism

Since 1969, the UNT Department of Journalism (Mayborn School of Journalism effective September 1, 2009) has been accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. This national accreditation also extends to the Mayborn Graduate Institute of Journalism, the only accredited professional master's program in Texas. About one-fourth of all journalism and mass communication programs in the United States are accredited by ACEJMC. National accreditation enhances your education here, because it certifies that the department and graduate institute adhere to many standards established by the council. Among these standards are student learning outcomes, covered by journalism courses in all sequences.

This course, JOUR 4343, will help to meet the student learning outcomes that have been checked by your Professor Dave Tracy.

Each graduate must:

- Understand and apply First Amendment principles and the law appropriate to professional practice.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the history and role of professionals and institutions in shaping communications.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the diversity of groups in a global society in relationship to communications.
- Understand concepts and apply theories in the use and presentation of images and information.
- Work ethically in pursuit of truth, accuracy, fairness and diversity.
- Think critically, creatively and independently.
- Conduct research and evaluate information by methods appropriate to the communications professions in which they work.
- Write correctly and clearly in forms and styles appropriate for the communications professions, audiences and purposes they serve.
- Critically evaluate their own work and that of others for accuracy and fairness, clarity, appropriate style and grammatical correctness.
- Apply basic numerical and statistical concepts.
- Apply tools and technologies appropriate for the communications professions in which they work.

Digital Still Photojournalism Course Progression

WEEK 1 Manual Camera Operation & DSLR Simulator Assignment

WEEK 2 Exposure Assignment

WEEK 3 Shutter Speed & Depth of Field Assignments

WEEK 4 DOF Assignment & Quiz

WEEK 5 Pictorial Assignment (including self-critique)

WEEK 6 Flash Assignment

WEEK 7 Final Exam and Event Assignment (including self-critique) Due

Remember this all the way through the semester:

Photos for this class will be evaluated according to the following requirements

- General Adherence to 35mm frame dimensions
- Accurate caption information in AP style
- Sensible point of focus
- Expert aperture, shutter speed, ISO, and DOF choices
- Definitive point of view and crop
- Careful composition (no distractions or background interference)
- Good timing of the moment
- Interesting subject matter
- Post-production
(especially levels adjustments and color balance)
- And all assignments should be completed in accordance with the ethical norms of our profession

Assignment Submission Guide for Photojournalism, JOUR 3700

All work you submit (except the portfolio presentation) must be your own original work from this semester. Photography you submit for an assignment must have been taken AFTER the assignment was made. You must be flexible in adapting to multiple forms of submission. All photography assignments will be submitted digitally through a direct file transfer in class to the Enterprise server.

If your photo is not on the Enterprise server then, for grading purposes, it doesn't exist!

Some assignments may be submitted by email and some may be submitted as physical prints. We may, in the course of the class, also submit some work through photo sharing sites.

ALWAYS BRING YOUR COMPLETE RAW TAKE TO CLASS
(ALL THE OUTTAKE PHOTOS YOU SHOT FOR THE ASSIGNMENT)

Put some love into every assignment. Exceed the basic requirements in creativity and journalistic enterprise.

Number of Image Submissions per Assignment: ONE

Unless specifically requested all assignment submissions must consist of ONE and ONLY ONE photograph.

Editing is one of the most valuable skills you must learn.

Filesize and type

Digital submissions must be:

- * JPEG format – Compression 10, 11, or 12
- * single layer (flattened)
- * 72dpi
- * 16 inches on the longest dimension

Filename

Filenames must follow this convention

YourName_AssignmentSlug.jpg (where xxxx is the unique sequence number)

EMBEDDED CAPTION

A complete caption must be embedded in the “file info” of each image you submit. Missing captions will result in a loss of a letter grade for that assignment.

Caption Style and Format of Caption:

Captions typically begin with a single present-tense sentence with critical identification information describing the photograph. Subsequent sentences, written in AP style and generally in the past tense, give secondary identification, supplementary information, and contextual information which indicates the news, thematic, or narrative value of the image.

The format for this class will be as follows:

Dateline MM/DD/YY

Caption information appears in complete sentences.

Credit: Your Name

For Example:

Najaf, Iraq 08/27/04

A lone man walks through a decimated business and residential street west of the Imam Ali shrine in Najaf. The street was a front line fighting position for American army and Mehdi Militia fighters during a nearly three-week battle that left much of the old city of Najaf and surrounding neighborhoods in ruins. An agreement was reached yesterday for the withdrawal of Moqtada al-Sadr's Mehdi Militia from Najaf and, for the first time today, residents were able to check up on their homes and businesses in the battle ground. The shrine is at the center of an American siege of the old city of Najaf where Mehdi Militia fighters loyal to Moqtada al-Sadr staged a rebellion against the Iraqi government and American military occupation.

Credit: Thorne Anderson/Corbis

also

TRANG BANG, VIETNAM 6/8/1972

South Vietnamese forces follow after terrified children, including 9-year-old Kim Phuc, center, as they run down Route 1 near Trang Bang after an aerial napalm attack on suspected Viet Cong hiding places on June 8, 1972. A South Vietnamese plane accidentally dropped its flaming napalm on South Vietnamese troops and civilians. The terrified girl had ripped off her burning clothes while fleeing. The children from left to right are: Phan Thanh Tam, younger brother of Kim Phuc, who lost an eye, Phan Thanh Phouc, youngest brother of Kim Phuc, Kim Phuc, and Kim's cousins Ho Van Bon, and Ho Thi Ting. Behind them are soldiers of the Vietnam Army 25th Division.

Credit: Nick Ut / Associated Press

Syllabus Agreement and Class Contact Form

By signing this form, I agree that I have read and understood the policies laid out in this syllabus for Journalism 3300 during the spring semester, 2015. I agree to follow these policies.

Signature

Date

Neatly Printed Name

EUID

Email Address where you are most readily contacted