UNT | MAYBORN SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

Course: JOUR 4360
Professor: Daniel Rodrigue
Classroom: Chilton 154

Class times: Thursdays | 6:35pm to 9:25pm
Contact info 972-860-4747
DanielRodrigue@unt.edu or through Canvas

Description: The core concepts of this class will enable students to shoot, write, edit, research and report content. Students will learn how different types of sports shows develop content for broadcast and web-based products. The skills developed in this course will require students to produce content for a portfolio of work.
Course Prerequisites: JOUR 1210, 2310, 3300, 3315, 3323, 3343

Recommended Reading

Multimedia Sports Journalism: A Practitioner's Guide for the Digital Age: Kian, Dr. Edward, Schultz, Dr. Bradley, Clavio, Dr. Galen, Sheffer, Dr. Mary Lou. First Edition. ISBN: 9780190635633 [New or Used]

General Learning Objectives

Students will learn the fundamentals of gathering, organizing, analyzing, and producing sports in a professional style across news media and media relations platforms. By the conclusion of this course, students will learn the following:

- Engaging in diverse ideas along with diverse groups, individuals, and cultures to produce sports news accurately, fairly and under deadline across multiple platforms.
- Collecting, comprehending, analyzing, and putting together critical sources from research, observing and interviews.
- Applying digital journalism strategies to deliver sports news through social media including video, audio, and digital applications such as websites, phones, apps, etc.
- Create accurate sports reports that are well-organized with clarity and cohesion while using appropriate grammar, spelling, word usage and sentence structure under Associated Press Style guidelines.
- Comprehend legal and ethical issues affecting sports media professionals, while exploring avenues to use items such as FOIA requests, etc.
- Understand the professional responsibilities of sports media relations personnel, while earning a broad knowledge about the sports business industry.
- Acquire skills and knowledge to produce various types of sports stories
- Produce content demonstrating the skills covered in lectures
- Develop understanding of sports outlets and how content is organized
- Understand the intersection of sports journalism and PR

Technical Requirements

This course will involve interviewing, scripting, editing, photojournalism and communications. Students must have regular and consistent access to a desktop or laptop computer to be successful. While students will be permitted access to labs for workspace, you will be expected to use editing for content creation and editing as well as Microsoft Office products. In some cases, students will also need access to a file sharing site, such as Google Drive or DropBox to share content. We will use UNT email and Canvas to communicate, and, if by popular demand, we may make a Microsoft Teams for the class.

Communication & Participation Expectations

Students are expected to be engaged, professional and respectful during online and in-person interactions with classmates, professors and other professionals, as well as others in the community we encounter during class or while reporting your packages. Diverse thoughts, individual creativity, and a variety of content are

critical to successful content creation, but students must respect others' opinions and ideas.
Students can expect response to email within 48 hours during the weekdays and on Monday following a weekend. University email is the preferred method of contact. Students should not be editing or working on other coursework during class. No watching scrolling or streaming games during class – unless it's a part of class.

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Course Grading

Sports Video Package(s)	400
Sportscast	100
Sports Podcast	100
Sports Play by Play	100
Final Project	200
Participation (Discussions/Feedback)	100
Total Points:	1000

Grading scale

A	90 – 100
B	80 – 89.9
C	70 – 79.9
D	60 – 69.9
F	< 60

Explanation of assignments:

- **Video Packages:** Students will produce a diverse set of four sports-related stories, game highlights and/or features to engage audiences through NTTV and online distribution channels. [Note: Schedule permitting, Package 4 will be a WBB game in The Super Pit.]
- **Podcast**: A podcast production will allow students to hone audio storytelling absent of visuals. Students may work individually or in pairs to create audio segments, conduct interviews, or deliver editorials on sports-related content.
- **Sportscast**: Focusing on recent and relevant content, students will produce and deliver a 3-to-4-minute sportscast for NTTV. Highlights and storylines must be recent for the audience.
- **Play-by-Play**: While not for air, students will be expected to deliver play-by-play of the sport of their choosing. Recorded (video or audio) will be turned in to help develop in-the-moment sports play-by-play skills.
- **Final Project/Demo Reel:** Compile semester's work into a polished demo dressing with beginning and ending slate.
- **Discussions:** Three to four discussions will be scheduled. Students should post at least one discussion post per topic.

* The Instructor reserves the right to amend syllabus, grading criteria, assignments, and course outline to best serve the needs of the class. Students will be notified when revisions are made.

On the limited use of Generative Ai tools in this course:

Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) refers to software systems, tools and platforms capable of generating "new" content, such as text, images, audio or video using generative models.

These AI tools identify patterns from large datasets, enabling them to generate data in response to specific prompts, which in many ways can resemble human-created content.

At the University of North Texas, "we value creativity and aim for all members of our community to thrive in an ever-changing world." In line with these values, the university believes it is "critical to prepare our academic community to embrace AI literacy by intentionally incorporating the use of GenAI into relevant learning experiences."

These Ai tools will never replace the skills needed to become an award-winning visual storyteller and skilled practitioner in the arts of communication with a knack for finding riveting, compelling stories on any beat.

Limited Use
In this course, the use of GenAI tools is limited as directed by the instructor and outlined in class fully when we discuss the ethics of visual journalism. Any additional use requires explicit permission, proper citation, and authentic student work. **All still photography, all video, and all audio used in the course must be captured or recorded by the student.**

Weather-related alterations to course schedule

Both halves of this course, and some of our in-class demos and assignments, are very weather-dependent, moreover light-dependent, which means we will have to be flexible and sometimes change the course schedule, instructor's plans and lessons around to accommodate the weather conditions. Sometimes we may move ahead, tabling a discussion, assignment or topic until a later week. We will take a handful of on-campus "field trips" to practice photography or work on in-class assignments, so, wear comfortable shoes to class. If it's storming out, then we will stay inside. The instructor will always extend deadlines on projects if needed due to cancelled or delayed games, extended overcast or rainy weather days, etc.

Course Outline / Schedule

*Subject to change, due to weather conditions, etc.:

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Week	Topics, Reading & Materials	Activities, Assignments, and Assessments
1 August 20	**Module One** **Learning Delivery:** • Class Introductions & Discussion • Live lecture **Topic:** • Introduction to sports multimedia journalism **Objectives:** • Become familiar with course outline, schedule, and content • Practice shooting video content of various sports to produce highly visual and engaging content • Earn high level understanding of sports journalism and all the various distribution channels **Reading & Materials:** • Review syllabus, outline, and assignments • Multimedia Sports Journalism • A Practitioner's Guide for the Digital Age by Dr. Edward Kian; Dr. Bradley Schultz; Dr. Galen Clavio; Dr. Mary Lou Sheffer • **Chapter 1: Introduction to Multimedia Sports Journalism (Pages 5 – 16)**	**Activities:** • Practice shooting video of various sports **Discussion:** • Share examples sports-related stories you hope to cover with classmates.
2 August 27	**Module Two** **Learning Delivery:** • Live lecture • Class discussion **Topic:** • Similarities and differences between news and sports reporting, identifying ideas and pitching stories **Objectives:** • Understand fundamentals of sports journalism and how it compares to as well as varies from news • Further hone skills needed to shoot video and photos of various sports • Apply lessons from lecture, text, and reading to foster discussion with peers **Reading & Materials** • Multimedia Sports Journalism A Practitioner's Guide for the Digital Age by Dr. Edward Kian; Dr. Bradley Schultz; Dr. Galen Clavio; Dr. Mary Lou Sheffer • **Chapter 4: Basics of Sports Reporting**	**Discussion:** • Share examples of a recent sports-related story with classmates. **Activities:** • "Sports Talk Pyramid" • Continue practice shooting video of various sports at the intermural fields **Assignment:** • Sports Video Story #1: Due September 11
3 September 3	**Module Three** **Learning Delivery:** • Live lecture	**Peer Reviews:** • Sports video practice videos. We will save & share practice content for feedback.

	• Class Discussion **Topic:** • Sports Photography best practices **Objectives:** • Identify high-quality and engaging sports videos and photography • Learn from peer feedback to enhance practice content **Reading & Materials** • Multimedia Sports Journalism: A Practitioner's Guide for the Digital Age by Dr. Edward Kian; Dr. Bradley Schultz; Dr. Galen Clavio; Dr. Mary Lou Sheffer ○ **Chapter 10: Sports Video Production and Sports Photojournalism** • Web content ○ Review a variety of work from: AP; Getty; Local (Tom Fox, team photographers)	**Activities:** • Incorporate peer feedback into new practice shooting video of various sports at the intermural fields • Study Field/Court Handouts
4 September 10	**Module Four** **Learning Delivery:** • Live lecture **Topic:** • The rise of podcasting and different types of audio storytelling **Objectives:** • Understand and identify engaging podcast content • Become familiar with and comfortable producing podcast content • Explore audio editing and podcast distribution software **Reading & Materials:** • Read: ○ Multimedia Sports Journalism A Practitioner's Guide for the Digital Age by Dr. Edward Kian; Dr. Bradley Schultz; Dr. Galen Clavio; Dr. Mary Lou Sheffer ○ **Chapter 9: Radio and Online Sportscasting** • Listen to two sports-related podcasts of your choice	**Discussion:** • Podcasting ○ What do you find engaging and why? **Assignment:** •Podcast: Due October 2 •Sports Video Story #2**:** Due October 16
5 September 17	**Module Five** **Learning Delivery:** • Live lecture **Topic:** • Storytelling techniques and storytelling elements **Objectives:**	

	• Identify unique storytelling techniques • Produce content in a variety of narratives on different channels • Further engage in editorial content decisions **Reading & Materials** • Multimedia Sports Journalism A Practitioner's Guide for the Digital Age by Dr. Edward Kian; Dr. Bradley Schultz; Dr. Galen Clavio; Dr. Mary Lou Sheffer • **Chapter 5: Sports Writing (page 71)** • Web content	
6 September 24	**Module Six** **Learning Delivery:** • Live lecture **Topic:** • Presenting sports content and editorial decisions **Objectives:** • Learn how to organize content or a sports broadcast to ensure audience engagement • Improve content judgement and ability to provide editorial feedback **Reading & Materials** • **Chapter 8: Television Sports Broadcasting** • Review two sports broadcasts or websites (tv, radio, podcast, etc.) and be prepared to discuss story selections and editorial judgment	**Discussion:** • Favorite sports storytellers
7 October 1	**Module Seven** **Learning Delivery:** • Live lecture **Topic:** • Sports producing, presenting content, and building a show **Objectives:** • Exercise editorial judgement to ensure stories are fair, balanced, and delivered in a chronical order engaging to the audience • Leverage a variety of channels to distribute sports content **Reading & Materials** • **Chapter 11: Sports Show Production (Page 191)** • Review two sports broadcasts or websites (tv, radio, podcast, etc.) and be prepared to discuss story selections and editorial judgment	**Discussion:** • Sports stories, broadcasts, podcasts, newscasts **Assignment:** • Sports Video Story #3: Due October 23
8 October 8	**Topic:** • Anchoring and live reporting **Objectives:** • Apply journalism principles to creating broadcast sports content	**Discussion:** • What engages you in a sports broadcast? Why do you watch? **Activities**: Search job listings

	• Utilize owned and acquired material (shot, AP, feeds, etc.) to produce an anchored content as talent • Hone delivery skills demonstrating balanced, factual coverage **Reading & Materials** • Web Links (Sports Anchor Highlights) • Zip Rezeppa (Zippos) • **Chapter 3: Preparing for careers in Multimedia Sports Journalism** Page 34 •	
9 October 15	**Topic:** • Sports journalism vs Sports PR **Objectives** • Identify various paid, earned, shared, and owned content • Know benefits of team-owned and distributed content • Discuss how sports reporters and PR professionals work together towards common goals **Reading & Materials** • **Chapter 7: Sports Public Relations and Information** Page 115 • Examples of owned team-owned content & press releases	**Discussion:** • PR – Storytelling and news releases **Extra Credit:** • Draft a team or player-related press release, announcement, or media statement. Due by Thanksgiving break
10 October 22	**Topic:** • Special Guest/Guest Lecture Panel? **Objectives:** • Identify opportunities, benefits, and drawbacks of various roles in sports journalism • Understand nuances of sports anchors, reporters, play-by-play personnel, and PR practitioners	**Assignment:** • Sports Video Story #4 Due November 13
11 October 29	**Topic:** • The importance of social media and the Web in sports content **Objectives:** • Learn about non-traditional distribution channels • Identify fact-based vs rumor mill sites for sports story distribution **Reading & Materials** • **Chapter 6: Social Media and Sports Journalism (Page 93)** • Web Content	**Discussion:** • Influencers, blogs, sports sites aside from mainstream **Extra Credit:** • Create social media posts. Could be as a reporter or PR person for team • (Due Dec. 2)
12 November 5	**Topic:** • Covering Live Sporting Events • Review Ch. 11. Begin developing ideas for the Anchored Sportscast, including Script & Rundown **Objectives:** • Understand challenges and opportunities with delivering play-by-play of live sporting events • Create opportunities to weave narratives into	**Assignment:** • Anchored Sportscast Due November 20 • Sports Play-by-play assignment: Due December 2

	play-by-play coverage	

	Reading & Materials • Chapter(s) • Online links	
13 **November 12**	**Topic:** • Workshopping ideas for Anchored Sportscast • Strategy/business of covering sports • Getting a job in the sports content industry **Objectives:** • Run-throughs for Anchored Sportscast • Identify sports journalism roles that might align with personal career goals • Understand required skills needed to perform in desired roles	**Discussion(s):** • Peer feedback on play-by-play • Jobs in the sports media industry

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November 19
	Objectives:
	• Anchored Sportscast in the Studio
		Assignment
		• Final Project:
		  ○ Compile semester's work into a packaged demo reel
		  ○ Intro / Close
		  ○ Sports reports
		  ○ Podcasts
		  ○ PxP assignment
		  ○ Sportscast
		• **Due: December 10**

11/23-11/29	**Thanksgiving Break**	**No class**
15 December 3	**Topics:** • High level overview /review of topics covered throughout the semester, any remaining topics or questions • Class discussion about what was learned, what generated the most interest for you • Prepare for final project portfolio / demo	• Keep working on demo / portfolio
16 December 10	**Finals Week:** **Final Project Due** **before 8:30 p.m.**	

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JOURNALISM REQUIREMENTS & GUIDELINES

JOURNALISM COURSE REGISTRATION

- 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.
- A journalism major enrolled in any restricted 3000 and 4000 level classes must have taken and passed all foundational courses. Students must earn and maintain a 2.5 UNT and/or overall GPA (depending upon catalog year) to be eligible for major-level courses.

RE-TAKING FAILED JOURNALISM CLASSES

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 one calendar year after the date you received the second failing grade. Once a student has waited one calendar year after failing a course twice, the student may submit a written appeal to the director to be approved to enroll a third time. Students will not be allowed to re-take a failed journalism course more than three times.

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.

Students will need to read several chapters from Kobre's textbook to help prepare for the assignments. The instructor will provide additional handouts.

OFFICE HOURS

I do not have an office at UNT. But I'll be in our classroom before and after class each week; making myself available to students to answer questions before class from approximately 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. If other students are already in the classroom, and you want to speak to me in private, then just let me know and we can chat outside of the classroom. My virtual office is always open; just email me, and I promise to respond within 24-48 hours, except on weekends. [If you do not hear back within 48 hours M-F, then, please, send a simple "Did you see this?" reminder and/or then try Canvas.]

ATTENDANCE

One unexcused 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, depending on what's been covered or demonstrated. **This is a seminar course, and it requires your attendance and participation each class meeting.**

FINANCIAL AID SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP) UNDERGRADUATES

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a

minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total registered hours per semester. Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so has the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility.
Please visit UNT Financial Aid (https://financialaid.unt.edu/satisfactory-academic-progress-requirements) for more information about financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress. It may be wise for you to schedule a meeting with your MSOJ academic advisor or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course before doing so.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

All first-time-in-college students at UNT are required to schedule an appointment with their Academic Advisor and receive an advising code to register for classes both fall and spring semesters of the first year in college. ALL students should meet with their Academic Advisor at least one time per long semester (Fall & Spring). It is important to update your degree plan on a regular basis to ensure that you are on track for a timely graduation.

It is imperative that students have paid for all enrolled classes. Please check your online schedule daily through late registration to ensure you have not been dropped for non-payment of any amount. Students have been unknowingly dropped from classes for various reasons such as financial aid, schedule change fees, parking fees, etc. MSOJ will not be able to reinstate students for any reason after late registration, regardless of situation. It is the student's responsibility to ensure all payments have been made.

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UNT FALL 2026 Semester Calendar

Academic Calendar is subject to change

KEY SEMESTER DATES	Full Semester AUG. 17-DEC. 11	8 week I Session AUG. 17-OCT. 9	8 week II Session OCT. 12-DEC. 11
Schedule of Classes Available on myUNT	Mar. 9	Mar. 9	Mar. 9
Registration Opens for specifics by student group/class: https://registrar.unt.edu/when-can-i-register	Mar. 16	Mar. 16	Mar. 16
Prerequisite Drop Students not meeting course prerequisites will be dropped from their courses.	July 29	July 29	Oct. 12
Regular Registration Ends	Aug. 13	Aug. 13	Oct. 8
Late Registration Period—For Students not Registered for the Term Students registering late will incur a late registration fee of $75.	Aug. 14-21	Aug. 14-21	Oct. 9-16
Last Day to Withdrawal from Entire Term on myUNT Courses do not appear on the transcript. After this date see Dean of Students to withdrawal from the entire term.	Aug. 16	Aug. 16	Oct. 11 If only 8 week II
Classes Begin	Aug. 17	Aug. 17	Oct. 12
Last Day to Add a Class or Swap Sections A swap is switching sections of the same course in the same session.	Aug. 21	Aug. 21	Oct. 16
Last Day to Drop a Class Section Without a W (Census) Courses dropped before this date will not appear on official transcript. [Dropping courses may impact financial aid and degree completion. See advisors.]	Aug. 28	Aug. 22	Oct. 17
Drop with a Grade of W Begins Courses appear on the transcript with a grade of W and tuition and fees remain. [Dropping courses may impact financial aid and degree completion. See advisors.]	Aug. 29	Aug. 23	Oct. 18
Last day to change to pass/no pass grade option (undergrads)	Sept. 25	Sept. 4	Oct. 30
Midpoint of the Semester	Oct. 9	Sept. 11	Nov. 6
Last day for a student to drop a course or all courses with a grade of W.	Nov. 6	Sept. 25	Nov. 20
First day to request a grade of Incomplete	Nov. 7	Sept. 26	Nov. 21
Pre-Finals Days	Dec. 2-3	N/A	N/A
Last Regular Class Meeting	Dec. 3	Oct. 8	Dec. 10
Reading Day—No Classes	Dec. 4	N/A	N/A
Final Exams	Dec. 7-11	Oct. 9	Dec. 11
Last Day of Session	Dec. 11	Oct. 9	Dec. 11
University Grade Submission Deadline 4 pm	Dec. 14	Oct. 12	Dec. 14
Grades/Academic Standing posted on the Official Transcript	Dec. 16	Dec. 16	Dec. 16

Labor Day - No Classes - University Closed	September 7, 2026
Thanksgiving Break - No classes	November 23-29, 2026
University Commencement	

Last Modified: March 9, 2026

ACCREDITATION

The Mayborn, which is one of over 100 journalism programs across the world that are accredited, is renewing its credentials this year. Accreditation is important to you because it means your degree is more valuable than one that comes from an unaccredited school.

Accreditation has profound benefits. Accredited programs may offer scholarships, internships, competitive prizes, and other activities unavailable in non-accredited programs.

Accreditation also provides an assurance of quality and rigorous standards to students, parents, and the public. Students in an accredited program can expect to find a challenging curriculum, appropriate resourcesand facilities, and a competent faculty.

Accreditation is our promise to our students that you will receive the best education possible in journalism and mass communication. With today's technology, anyone can present information to a mass audience. But not all are trained in the creation of ethical messages that reach and serve diverse audiences that our standards uphold. What you learn in an accredited program makes you more marketable and your degree more valuable!

The Mayborn School's accreditation is determined by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC) through an extensive evaluation process. Accreditation by the ACEJMC council means we embrace the value of a broad, multidisciplinary curriculum that nurtures critical thinking, analytic reasoning and problem-solving skills that are the essential foundation for all mass communication education.

ADOBE ACCESS

UNT has a contract with Adobe. The following link contains all the information that students will need to purchase a subscription, and opt-out of an existing agreement that is at a higher price: https://cvad.unt.edu/cvad-it-services/it-services-adobe-cloud-access.html

The email address for students to ask questions or report problems is adobe@unt.edu.

JOURNALISM EQUIPMENT CHECK OUT

Checkout length for the **Canon Mirrorless Camera, Batteries, Lighting Gear, Mirrorless Tripods, Individual Lenses, and Accessories** can be checked out up to 72 hours.

To checkout a **Canon Mirrorless Camera and items listed above** longer than 72 hours, the Professor for the course will need to approve the request.

Checkout length for the **Panasonic Video Camera, Batteries, SDXC, and Tripods** can be checked out up to 24 hours.

To checkout a **Panasonic Video Camera and items listed above** longer than 72 hours, the Professor for the course will need to approve the request.

Please send extended reservations approval from the Professor to the following email: **mayborn-equipment@unt.edu**

Journalism Equipment Room - Location and Contact Information

Hours: Mon-Thurs 8:30am to 9:30pm. Friday's 9:00am to 6pm. Saturday and Sunday 10:00am to 6:00pm

Location: RTFP Building room 180i

Equipment room phone number is **940-565-3580.**

Equipment room email is **mayborn-equipment@unt.edu**.

Equipment room supervisor can be reached at **ladaniel.maxwell@unt.edu**

Journalism Equipment Room - Agreement Form

Anyone who plans to check out equipment during the semester must complete the checkout agreement form found below:

Journalism Web Checkout Agreement Form

This form must completed prior to checking out equipment and only needs to be done once per semester.

Journalism Equipment Room - Late Returns/Abuse of Checkout Policy

For every hour the student is late; a ban will be placed on the student's account accumulating the same amount of time.

A **ban** restricts the student from checking out any equipment within the Journalism Equipment Room.

For example, if the student returns equipment 2 hours late, a 2 hour ban will be placed on the student's account.

If the student returns equipment 72 hours late, a 72 hour ban will be placed on the student's account.

If you are going to be late or unable to return equipment that you checked out on time, please email **mayborn-equipment@unt.edu** or **ladaniel.maxwell@unt.edu**

This video shows how to get to the equipment room.

ACADEMIC ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Understanding the academic organizational structure and appropriate Chain of Command is important when resolving class-related or advising issues. When you need problems resolved, please follow the steps outlined below:

OFFICE OF DISABILITY ACCESS

The University of North Texas and the Mayborn School of Journalism make reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (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 website for the Office of Disability Access (http://www.unt.edu/oda). You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

COURSE SAFETY STATEMENTS

Students in the Mayborn School of Journalism are urged to use proper safety procedures and guidelines. While working in laboratory sessions, students are expected and required to identify and use property safety guidelines in all activities requiring lifting, climbing, walking on slippery surfaces, using equipment and tools, handling chemical solutions and hot and cold products. Students should be aware that the University of North Texas is not liable for injuries incurred while students are participating in class activities. All students are encouraged to secure adequate insurance coverage in the event of accidental injury. Students who do not have insurance coverage should consider obtaining Student Health Insurance for this insurance program. Brochures for this insurance are available in the UNT Health and Wellness Center on campus. Students who are injured during class activities may seek medical attention at the UNT Health and Wellness Center at rates that are reduced compared to other medical facilities. If you have an insurance plan other than Student Health Insurance at UNT, please be sure that your plan covers treatment at this facility. If you choose not to go to the UNT Health and Wellness Center, you may be transported to an emergency room at a local hospital. You are responsible for expenses incurred there.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or exams; dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor, the acquisition of tests or other material belonging to a faculty member, dual submission of a paper or project, resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructors, or any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. Plagiarism includes the paraphrase or direct quotation of published or unpublished works *without* full and clear acknowledgment of the author/source. Academic dishonesty will bring about disciplinary action which may include expulsion from the university. This is explained in the UNT Student Handbook.

MSOJ 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 06.003 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.

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FINAL EXAM POLICY

Final exams will be administered at the designated times during the final week of each long semester and during the specified day of each summer term. Please check the course calendar early in the semester to avoid any schedule conflicts. No final exam for this course, instead the Final Cut of the Story Package is due by Finals Week when our class meets.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

As you know, your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs within the My.UNT site (www.my.unt.edu). If you do not regularly check EagleConnect or link it to your favorite e-mail account, please so do, as this is where you learn about job and internship opportunities, MSOJ events, scholarships, and other important information. Visit the Eagle Connect website for more information (http://eagleconnect.unt.edu/) including tips on how to forward your email.

COURSES IN A BOX

Any MSOJ equivalent course from another university must receive prior approval from the MSOJ academic advisor to ensure that all MSOJ degree plan requirements are met. For example, courses that are taken online or from a program that offers course material via CD, booklet, or other manner of correspondence must have prior advisor approval.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR F-1 STUDENTS TAKING DISTANCE EDUCATION COURSES

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in multiple on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

(1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.

(2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Advising Office. The UNT International Advising Office has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, students should contact the UNT International Advising Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email international@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION & PROCEDURES

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify you with critical information in an event of emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials. If Canvas is not accessible during the emergency, contact me via email or phone for more information. Students should confirm that their Eagle Alert contact information is correct via the myUNT portal.

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STUDENT PERCEPTIONS OF TEACHING (SPOT)

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The short SPOT survey will be made available to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. You will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via *IASystem* Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Please look for the email in your UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete your survey. Once you complete the survey you will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website (www.spot.unt.edu) or email spot@unt.edu. Spots survey dates:

Term	Survey Administration Dates
8W1	September 29-October 8
8W2	December 1-December 10
Reg Fall Term	November 17-December 3

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 Dean of Students 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 on the Dean Of Students website (www.deanofstudents.unt.edu).

CLASSROOM POLICIES

The Mayborn School of Journalism requires that students respect and maintain all university property. Students will be held accountable through disciplinary action for any intentional damages they cause in classrooms. (e.g., writing on tables). Disruptive behavior is not tolerated (e.g., arriving late, leaving early, sleeping, talking on the phone, texting or game playing, making inappropriate comments, ringing cellular phones/beepers, dressing inappropriately).

SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION, HARRASSMENT, & ASSAULT

UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses. UNT has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more.

UNT's Dean of Students' website (http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources_0) offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs. Renee LeClaire McNamara is UNT's Student Advocate and she can be reached through e-mail at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students' office at 940-565-2648. You are not alone. We are here to help.

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MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

UNT provides mental health services to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

1. Student Health and Wellness Center
(https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center#programs)
1800 Chestnut St. (Chestnut Hall)
940-565-2333
M-Th, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

2. Counseling and Testing Services – Free to UNT Students
(https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
801 N. Texas Blvd., Suite 140 (Gateway Center)
940-565-2741
M-F, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

3. UNT CARE Team – Free to UNT Students
(https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
Dean of Students, University Union
940-565-2648
careteam@unt.edu

4. Psychiatric Services
(https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)
940-565-2333

5. Individual Counseling – Free to UNT Students
(https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling)
940-369-8773

If at any time you are feeling alone or in jeopardy of self-harm, reach out to any of the following:

- National Suicide Hotline 800-273-8255
- Denton County MHMR Crisis Line 800-762-0157
- Denton County Friends of the Family Crisis Line (family or intimate partner violence) 940-382-7273
- UNT Mental Health Emergency Contacts
    - During office hours, M-F, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m: Call 940-565-2741
    - After hours: Call 940-565-2741
    - Crisis Line: Text CONNECT to 741741
    - Live chat: (http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org)

STATEMENTS OF STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Statement of Student Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate an understanding of the history and role of professionals and institutions in shaping

communications

- Demonstrate an understanding of the diversity of peoples and cultures and of the significance and impact of mass communications in a global society
- Understand concepts and apply theories in the use and presentation of images and information
- Demonstrate an understanding of professional ethical principles and 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

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