

Journalism 2001

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The instructor reserves the right to modify the requirements of this class as necessary to achieve the objectives of this class during the course of the semester. I also reserve the right to change this class to a hybrid, online or other appropriate format I feel necessary to protect our health and to make this course successful.

COVID-19 Practices & Expectations on EIU's Campus.

The University is asking all of us to take precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including wearing face coverings when we are in class together, walking around campus, in the library, or participating in office hours. EIU's policy is intended to protect all of us on campus, as well as the community, your roommates, and loved ones at home. Additionally, students are expected to not attend class if they are ill and to consult the student health clinic if they have any COVID-19 like symptoms. Needless to say, EIU's COVID-19 campus practices including face coverings, avoiding campus if sick, sanitizing surfaces, social distancing, and hand washing are based on the best available public health guidance. As a faculty member, I am responsible for ensuring students engage in practices that reduce risk. If you have a health condition that prevents you from wearing a mask, please contact Student Disability Services. If you are unable to follow EIU's COVID-19 guidelines, you may be asked to leave class or office hours as compliance with public health guidance is essential. Accommodations for instruction and make-up work will be made for students with documented medical absences according to IGP #43.

1 Academic integrity- Students are expected to maintain principles of academic integrity and conduct as defined in EIU's Code of Conduct (<http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>). Violations will be reported to the Office of Student Standards.

2 Students with disabilities- If you are a student with a documented disability in need of accommodations to fully participate in this class, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services (OSDS). All accommodations must be approved through OSDS. Please stop by McAfee Gym, Room 1210, or call 217-581-6583 to make an appointment.

3 The Student Success Center- Students who are having difficulty achieving their academic goals are encouraged to contact the Student Success Center (www.eiu.edu/success) for assistance with time management, test taking, note taking, avoiding procrastination, setting goals, and other skills to support academic achievement. The Student Success Center provides individualized consultations. To make an appointment, call 217-581-6696, or go to McAfee Gym, Room 1301.

This class

Course Description: An examination of the role of journalism and news in a democracy, the effect of the news media on a society and the individual, the importance of an informed electorate in a free society, and the responsibility of both journalists and citizens to know, think, and speak out about public issues.

Course Goals

Students will be able to:

- Identify and describe how individuals can use the news media to fulfill their responsibilities as American and global citizens. (EIU Learning Goal: Responsible Citizenship, Speaking & Listening)
- Identify the Constitutional principles of freedom of speech and press and the journalistic principles of truth, accuracy, objectivity, credibility and diversity. (EIU Learning Goal: Responsible Citizenship, Critical Thinking, Writing and Critical Reading, Speaking & Listening)
- Explain and evaluate how the roles of news media as watchdog, gatekeeper and agenda setter influence public perceptions and opinions. (EIU Learning Goal: Responsible Citizenship, Critical Thinking, Speaking & Listening, Quantitate Reasoning)

- Explain and evaluate the social, political and cultural impact of coverage of women and minorities by the news media. (EIU Learning Goal: Responsible Citizenship, Critical Thinking, Writing and Critical Reading, Speaking & Listening)
- Understand how journalism functions in a global context. (EIU Learning Goal: Responsible Citizenship, Critical Thinking, Speaking & Listening)

This class is being divided into two sections so each half is meeting once a week in person. There will also be content loaded online every week in lieu of the second in-person class.

Prerequisites

None. Journalism and Democracy class is required of all Journalism majors and minors. It also satisfies a Social/Behavioral Sciences requirement of the general education curriculum.

Required Reading & listening

Principles of American Journalism by S. Craft & C.Davis (2nd edition)

I use a OneNote to share documents for this class. LOG INTO YOU panther mail, go to OneNote, look for this class.

Attendance

There is no attendance policy this semester. However, let me assure you that you will not succeed in this class if you are not here.

The assumption is you are here to learn. Turn off cell phones and other electronic devices during class. If I see you on your cellphone, I will deduct 5 points from you research points on each occurrence – I may or may not remember to tell you when I deducted points at the end of class. The best bet is to keep you phone put away. If you believe this, or any other policy is applied capriciously you may appeal to the chair of the School of Communication and Journalism.

Grading:

Test #1 (short answer)	100 pts
Test #2 (mid-term, matching)	100 pts
Final Exam (take-home essay)	100 pts
Research Points	100 pts.
Paper	100 pts
Quote	Pass/Fail
Total	500 pts

Grading Scale:

- A 100-91%
- B 90-80%
- C 79-70%
- D 69-60%
- F 59-0%

Student who has 94.5% or more of the possible class points at the beginning of week 15 may elect to forgo the final and accept their current grade (A).

Week 1 Introduction to course

What is: Gestaltism? What is Truth. What is a Methodology?
Press values. What is Fake news? Media Functions. What does it mean to be a “real journalist?”

Week 2 Why Journalism and Democracy are so intertwined.

How the press helped start, refine, and define our Government. Adams, Madison, and Paine and more.

Week 3 Aristotle & John Stuart Mill: *the Open Market places of Ideas.* Assessment exercise.

- Week 4** **Review for test 1**
TEST #1
- Week 5** **EXERCISE**
- Week 6** **Libel, Slander and Defamation. Propaganda.**
 What you can and can't do.
- Week 7** **Racial, national and cultural diversity in today's Media.**
 In-class exercise.
- Week 8** **The Law: Obscenity, freedom of the press, parody, etc.**
 (Paper due)
- Week 9** **It's the law: Free Press, the FCC and the courts**
China versus the Alternate Viewpoint
- Week 10** **Test 2 Review**
TEST #2
- Week 11** **The "free press" and the world: North Korea, China, Africa, Scandinavia**
and Great Britain. What is "press freedom" to them.
- Week 12** **Ethics, free press, public relations and big business.**
Money vs. democracy.
- Week 13** **China's and it's "closed" media system.**
- Week 14** **Fall Break**
- Week 15**
How to bring down a President
 All the President's Men (in-class exercise).
 All the President's Men (in-class exercise).
- Week 16** **Review for Final (Test #3)**

Final Examination:

Wed., Dec. 16

8:00-10:00 a.m.