

DISCIPLINE DESCRIPTION

1. Information about the program

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|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1.1 Higher education institution | Babeş-Bolyai University |
| 1.2 Faculty | Faculty of Political, Administrative and Communication Sciences |
| 1.3 Department | Journalism |
| 1.4 Field of study | Journalism |
| 1.5 Level of study | Bachelor |
| 1.6 Study program / Qualification | |

2. Information about the discipline

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|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|----|----------------------|---|---------------------|----|
| 2.1 Discipline title | NEWS WRITING | | | | | | |
| 2.2 Course lecturer | PhD. Ramona Hosu, Associate Professor | | | | | | |
| 2.3 Seminar assistant | PhD. Ramona Hosu, Associate Professor | | | | | | |
| 2.4 Year of study | I | 2.5 Semester | II | 2.6. Evaluation type | C | 2.7 Discipline type | DS |

3. Total estimated time (hours of didactic activities per semester)

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|---|-----|----------------------|----|------------------------|-----|
| 3.1 Number of hours per week | 3 | of which: 3.2 course | 2 | 3.3 seminar/laboratory | 1 |
| 3.4 Total hours in the study plan | 42 | of which: 3.5 course | 28 | 3.6 seminar/laboratory | 14 |
| Time distribution: | | | | | hrs |
| Studying the manual, course reader, bibliography and notes: | | | | | 42 |
| Supplementary documentation in the library, on electronic platforms and in the field: | | | | | 42 |
| Preparing seminars/laboratories, homework, syntheses, portfolios and essays: | | | | | 32 |
| Tutorials | | | | | 32 |
| Examinations | | | | | 6 |
| Other activities: | | | | | |
| 3.7 Total hours of individual study | 116 | | | | |
| 3.8 Total hours per semester | 154 | | | | |
| 3.9 Number of credits | 4 | | | | |

4. Prerequisites (where applicable)

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| 4.1 based on the curriculum | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Media Studies, Introduction to Reporting, Writing Techniques in Journalism: Normative Grammar, Creative Writing, Academic Writing |
| 4.2 based on competences | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing skills, English grammar, specific vocabulary, basic journalistic concepts |

5. Conditions (where applicable)

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| 5.1 for the course | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom, laptop, video-projector, board |
| 5.2 for the seminar/laboratory | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom, laptop, video-projector, board |

6. Accumulated specific competencies

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| Professional competencies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and use of language, methodologies and expertise in the science of communication • Using standard criteria and methods in evaluating the quality of the journalistic act (collection, processing and dissemination of media information) • Elaborating articles (identifying a topic or documenting a given topic, choosing an angle, an appropriate genre and writing the article) |
| Transversal competencies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation in need for insertion and adaptation to market demands |

7. Discipline objectives (from the accumulated competencies grid)

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| 7.1 General objectives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand the concepts related to the production of news • read, study and approach news stories critically • develop specific analytical skills in evaluating news |
| 7.2 Specific objectives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop specific reporting and writing skills in order to be able to produce news for print, the web and for broadcast • build specific vocabulary and style, reinforce text structures and text organization • plan and conduct a presentation of news stories on journalistic topics |

8. Contents

| 8.1 Course | Teaching methods | Observation |
|--|------------------------------------|-------------|
| <i>Course 1. Introductory course</i> – Presentation of the subject matter. Rationale. Syllabus. Work strategy. | Lecture. | 2 hours |
| <i>Course 2.</i> Introduction to News Writing. Communication & Information | Lecture. | 2 hours |
| <i>Course 3.</i> News. Characteristics. Critical thinking skills. Practice – Part 1 | Lecture. Case studies. | 2 hours |
| <i>Course 4.</i> News. Characteristics. Critical thinking skills. Practice – Part 2 | Lecture. Case studies. | 2 hours |
| <i>Course 5.</i> Information: Ideas – Research – Interview | Lecture. Explanation. Discussions. | 2 hours |
| <i>Course 6.</i> The News Story (1): Leads | Lecture. Explanation. Discussions. | 2 hours |
| <i>Course 7.</i> The News Story (2): Organization and Forms | Lecture. Explanation. Discussions. | 2 hours |
| <i>Course 8.</i> The News Story (3): Narration and Feature Techniques | Lecture. Explanation. Discussions. | 2 hours |
| <i>Course 9.</i> Broadcast News | Lecture. Explanation. Discussions. | 2 hours |
| <i>Course 10.</i> Online News | Lecture. Explanation. Discussions. | 2 hours |
| <i>Course 11.</i> Law, Ethics & Media | Lecture. Explanation. Discussions. | 2 hours |
| <i>Course 12:</i> Practice – Writing about.... | Lecture. Explanation. Discussions. | 2 hours |
| <i>Course 13. Written Examination</i> | Test. | 2 hours |
| <i>Course 14. Conclusions</i> | Lecture. Discussions. | 2 hours |

Bibliography

- *The Associated Press Stylebook* (latest edition)
- Ceremella, Nick and Elizabeth Lee. *Cambridge English for the Media*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008.
- Fleming, Carole, et al. *An Introduction to Journalism*. London: Sage Publications, 2006. 42-69.
- Kane, Thomas S. *The Oxford Essential Guide to Writing*. New York: Berkley Books, 2000.
- Mencher, Melvin. *News Reporting and Writing. Workbook*. WM. C. Brown Publishers, 1991.
- Philips, Angela. *Good Writing for Journalists. Narrative, Style, Structure*. Sage Publications, 2007.

| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rich, Carole. <i>Writing and Reporting News. A Coaching Method</i>. Boston: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning, 2010. Scanlan, Christopher. <i>Reporting and Writing. Basics for the 21st Century</i>. New York, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000. | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 8.2 Seminar / laboratory | Teaching methods | Observations |
| <i>Seminar 1. Introductory Seminar. Work Strategy.</i> | Presentation. Discussion. | 2 hours |
| <i>Seminar 2. News. Characteristics. Critical thinking skills. Practice.</i> | Case studies. | 2 hours |
| <i>Seminar 3: Paper presentations</i> | Presentation. Analysis. Discussion. | 2 hours |
| <i>Seminar 4: Paper presentations</i> | Presentation. Analysis. Discussion. | 2 hours |
| <i>Seminar 5: Paper presentations</i> | Presentation. Analysis. Discussion. | 2 hours |
| <i>Seminar 6: Paper presentations</i> | Presentation. Analysis. Discussion. | 2 hours |
| <i>Seminar 7: English in Use - Grammatical Categories</i> | Test. | 2 hours |
| Bibliography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mencher, Melvin. <i>News Reporting and Writing. Workbook</i>. WM. C. Brown Publishers, 1991. Philips, Angela. <i>Good Writing for Journalists. Narrative, Style, Structure</i>. Sage Publications, 2007. Rich, Carole. <i>Writing and Reporting News. A Coaching Method</i>. Boston: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning, 2010. Scanlan, Christopher. <i>Reporting and Writing. Basics for the 21st Century</i>. New York, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000. | | |

9. The corroboration of discipline contents with the expectations of the epistemic community representatives, professional associations and representative employers in the corresponding field of the study program

The course introduces students to the basics of news writing and reporting:
 - it concentrates on the analysis and production of news along with some debate on the role of news/information in the process of communication;
 - it provides guidance and practice on how to analyze and write news stories providing students with the necessary journalistic skills and tools.

10. Evaluation

| Type of activity | 10.1 Evaluation criteria | 10.2 Evaluation methods | 10.3 Weight in final mark |
|-------------------------|--|---|---------------------------|
| 10.4 Course | Understanding and application of course concepts | Written examination | 50% |
| 10.5 Seminar/laboratory | Task 1: The Journalist's Portfolio | Writing and presenting two news stories & a critical analysis of them | 30% |
| | Task 2: English in Use - Grammatical Categories | Grammar Test | 20% |

10.6 Minimum performance standard

All examination criteria are compulsory. Students are expected to be able to understand and apply the course concepts in order to produce news stories and to identify, analyze and evaluate the necessary components of news stories. They are to acquire fluency, accuracy and correctness in both written and oral expression.

Date

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Course instructor's signature

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Seminar instructor's signature

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Date of approval in the Department

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Head of department's signature

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