

ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE
SYLLABUS

JRN 125 NEWS WRITING

Credit Hours: 3 Lec 3

 JRN 2201

PREREQUISITE: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The gathering and writing of news stories. Emphasis is on clear and concise written expression. Study of news sources, acceptable forms of stories, and style and methods of various media are included. Practical laboratory experience is provided on the student newspaper.

1. COURSE GOAL

Learning fundamentals of the gathering and reporting of the news with an opportunity for practical application

2. OUTCOMES

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 2.1 learn copy-editing and preparation procedures for journalistic stories
- 2.2 learn the characteristics and variable elements of news.
- 2.3 develop an appropriate style for articles, including use of leads and development of the body of a news story.
- 2.4 understand the responsibilities of the press in maintaining accuracy, fairness and ethical standards.
- 2.5 contribute to the student newspaper which will represent the whole academic community.
- 2.6 appreciate and adjust to the "time" factor which is basic to the journalistic process.
- 2.7 learn about the organization required for publishing a paper.

3. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- 3.1 Lectures
- 3.2 Discussion
- 3.3 Evaluation of news articles
- 3.4 Workshop
- 3.5 Audio-visual

4. LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- 4.1 Using proper copy-editing symbols
- 4.2 Practicing the process illustrated in the Associated Press Style book
- 4.3 Writing news stories
- 4.4 Writing specialized stories:
 - 4.4.1 Speeches and meeting
 - 4.4.2 Interviews and polls
 - 4.4.3 Feature stories
- 4.5 Deciding on the content and editorial policy for the student newspaper, Western Voice
- 4.6 Publishing three issues of the newspaper which will also provide practical experience in editorial writing, photo-journalism, headline writing and layout
- 4.7 Learning basic computer skills for newspaper production

5. EVALUATION

- 5.1 Exams and quizzes
- 5.2 Writing assignments
- 5.3 Publication performance
- 5.4 Meeting deadlines

6. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 Under AWC Policy, students are expected to attend every session of class in which they are enrolled.
- 6.2 If a student is unable to attend the course or must drop the course for any reason, it will be the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. Students who are not attending as of the 45th day of the course may be withdrawn by the instructor. If the student does not withdraw from the course and fails to complete the requirements of the course, the student will receive a failing grade.
- 6.3 Americans with Disabilities Act Accommodations: Arizona Western College provides academic accommodations to students with disabilities through AccessABILITY Resource Services (ARS). ARS provides reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students who have documented disabilities. It is the responsibility of the student to make the ARS Coordinator aware of the need for accommodations in the classroom prior to the beginning of the semester. Students should follow up with their instructors once the semester begins. To make an appointment call the ARS front desk at (928) 344-7674 or ARS Coordinator at (928) 344-7629, in the College Community Center (3C) building, next to Advising.
- 6.4 Academic Integrity: Any student participating in acts of academic dishonesty—including, but not limited to, copying the work of other students, using unauthorized “crib notes”, plagiarism, stealing tests, or forging an instructor’s signature—will be subject to the procedures and consequences outlined in AWC’s Student Code of Conduct.
- 6.5 Texts and Notebooks: Students are required to obtain the class materials for the course.
- 6.6 Arizona Western College students are expected to attend every class session in which they are enrolled. To comply with Federal Financial Aid regulations (34 CFR 668.21), Arizona Western College (AWC) has established an Attendance Verification process for “No Show” reporting during the first 10 days of each semester.
Students who have enrolled but have never attended class may be issued a “No Show” (NS) grade by the professor or instructor and receive a final grade of “NS” on their official academic record. An NS grade may result in a student losing their federal financial aid.
For online classes, *student attendance in an online class is defined as the following* (FSA Handbook, 2012, 5-90):
- Submitting an academic assignment
 - Taking an exam, an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction
 - Attending a study group that is assigned by the school
 - Participating in an online discussion about academic matters
 - Initiating contact with a faculty member to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course