

Montgomery County Community College  
MSP 125  
Introduction to Writing for Broadcast News  
3-2-2

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course explores the theory and practice to give students a foundation in the principles and practice of broadcast news reporting and writing. The course teaches students to organize, research, and write coherent news stories for broadcast using a variety of professional news styles. Students analyze written formats and styles used in radio and television newsrooms, choose sound bites, write broadcast news copy, and are introduced to professional information-gathering and interviewing techniques. Students write voiceovers and anchor readers and field packages. This course is subject to a course fee. Refer to <http://mc3.edu/adm-fin-aid/paying/tuition/course-fees> for current rates.

**REQUISITES:***Previous Course Requirements*

- \* MSP 111 Mass Media and Society with a minimum grade of "C"

*Concurrent Course Requirements*

None

**COURSE COMMENT**

- \* COM 125 with a minimum grade of "C" may be substituted for MSP 125

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Write a well-organized coherent news story using the various formats used in broadcast news stories.	Lectures/Discussions Demonstrations and Practice Case Studies Student Presentations Peer to Peer Review Writing Assignments	Peer to Peer Review Portfolio

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
2. Gather information to support the story.	Lectures/Discussions Demonstrations and Practice Case Studies Student Presentations Peer to Peer Review Writing Assignments	Peer to Peer Review Portfolio
3. Interview a news source.	Lectures/Discussions Demonstrations and Practice Case Studies Student Presentations Peer to Peer Review Writing Assignments	Peer to Peer Review Portfolio

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria.*

#### SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

1. Tools and Formats of Broadcast News
2. The Lead, Time Element
3. Writing Styles
4. The Spoken Word
5. Voice-Over: Image and Word
6. Editing
7. Special Formats

#### LEARNING MATERIALS:

Bliss, Edward. (2004). *Writing News for Broadcast* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). Columbia University Press.

In addition, the instructor may provide students with handouts or access to selected Radio or Television programs or clips.

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

**COURSE APPROVAL:**

Note: MSP/COM 125 was created from deleted courses COM123 and COM124; refer to these courses for prior history.

Prepared by: Allan Schear

Date: 8/2015

VPAA/Provost Compliance Verification:

Victoria Bastecki-Perez, Ed. D.

Date: 6/1/2016

Revised by: Allan Schear/Therol Dix

Date: 8/7/2017

VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:

Date: 11/1/2017



*This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College*