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JOU 2200, NEWSPAPER EDITING & MAKEUP — FALL 2008
Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:30-3:45 p.m., SSB 220

CORE COMPETENCIES

Valencia Community College has established four core competencies that describe the learning outcomes for a Valencia graduate (visit: <http://www.valenciacc.edu/competencies>). They are:

- **Think:** Think clearly, critically, and creatively; analyze, synthesize, integrate and evaluate in many domains of human inquiry.
- **Value:** Make reasoned judgments and responsible commitments.
- **Communicate:** Communicate with different audiences using varied means
- **Act:** Act purposefully, effectively, and responsibly.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this class, we will focus on the two primary activities of newspaper production: copy editing and page makeup. Students will learn the basics of editing stories, writing headlines and captions, and designing effective pages. We will discuss some work in theory, and you will spend some time practicing the various techniques used in editing and design.

COURSE MATERIALS

“Copy Editors Handbook for Newspapers,” 3rd edition, Fellow and Clanin (ISBN 9780895827241)
“The Newspaper Designers Handbook,” 6th edition, Harrower (ISBN 9780072996692)
“The Associate Press Stylebook and Libel Manual,” The Associated Press (ISBN 9780465004881)
“Adobe InDesign CS2 Classroom in a Book,” Adobe Press (ISBN 9780321321831)
“The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time,” by Mark Haddon (book will be provided)
You should have ready access to a dictionary, e-mail, the Internet, and daily newspapers.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance (28 sessions at 10 points each, 280 total; 28 percent of the grade)

You are expected to attend all classes and to be on time. Excessive absences and tardiness can adversely affect your grade. On your fifth absence, you will be withdrawn from the course.

PLEASE NOTE: THERE ARE NO EXCUSED ABSENCES; THERE IS NO MAKE-UP WORK.

Editing projects (4 at 50 points each, 200 total; 20 percent of the grade)

You will edit four packages of stories. You will be graded on your ability to make sure the stories have thorough reporting, flawless attribution, and clear organization, and that they are free of grammatical, language, mechanical, and style errors. In short, your grade for these assignments will be determined largely by how prepared each package is for publication.

Design assignments (4 at 50 points each, 200 total; 20 percent of the grade)

You will design four newspaper pages. You will be graded on your ability to incorporate design theory into your page, and on your effective use of the Adobe InDesign software. In short, your grade for these assignments will be determined largely by how prepared each page is for publication.

Newspaper critiques (12 at 15 points each, 180 total; 18 percent of the grade)

You will write a thorough critique of each of 12 issues of *The Valencia Voice*. Each critique must focus on both content (editing) and design (makeup). You will be graded on depth of observation, incorporating class material into the analysis, attention to detail, quality of suggestions, adherence to Associated Press style, etc.

Quizzes on “The Curious Incident” (8 at 10 points each, 80 total; 8 percent of the grade)

The class will read and discuss “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time,” by Mark Haddon, as part of the West Campus reading project. There will be one 10-question quiz each week for eight weeks.

In-class participation (30 points; 3 percent of the grade)

Demonstration, through discussion, that reading assignments have been completed.

USB “thumb drive” acquisition (30 points; 3 percent of the grade)

Each student is required to have a USB “thumb” drive for individual storage of work.

Deadlines

Because this course represents preparation for a news career, deadlines are critical. **NOTE: ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED LATE!** If you cannot attend class the day an assignment is due, please make arrangements to turn it in early or to have it delivered to me. Any work appearing in my mailbox after the scheduled class time is considered late unless you make prior arrangements with me.

Backup Copies

Never give me the only copy of a project. Make a backup copy on CD, flash drive, etc..

Plagiarism

If you plagiarize in any way, you will receive a zero for the work in question. In some cases, you will be dropped from the course. In extreme cases, the college may punish plagiarism with suspension or expulsion.

Grading

Attendance	28 classes @ 10 points	280	900-1000 = A
Editing projects	4 @ 50 points	200	800-899 = B
Design projects	4 @ 50 points	200	700-799 = C
Newspaper critiques	12 @ 15 points	180	600-699 = D
Quizzes	8 @ 10 points	80	000--599 = F
Participation		30	
USB “thumb” drive		30	
TOTAL		1000	