

Academic Year: ( 2023 / 2024 )

Review date: 17-07-2023

Department assigned to the subject: Communication and Media Studies Department

Coordinating teacher: GONZALEZ ALDEA, PATRICIA

Type: Electives ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : Semester :

**REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)**

Media Theory  
 News Reporting  
 Spanish Language and the Media  
 Theory and Analysis of the Audiovisual Documentary  
 Radio Journalism  
 Television Journalism  
 Online Journalism

**OBJECTIVES**

Ability to develop informative, interpretative and opinative journalistic messages of legal issues related to the scope of the events.

Knowledge of documentary systems and sources in the legal field.

Knowledge and training to treat event information as social reflection.

Ability to establish the boundaries between journalism and sensationalism.

Knowledge of ethical codes and legal requirements journalistic performance.

**DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME**

## 1. Journalism events and courts

- 1.1. Current events as a reflection of society: violence in society
- 1.2. Current events as a reflection of society: the spectacle of violence
- 1.3. Current events as a reflection of society: youth and violence; violence and gender; violence and media.
- 1.4. Origins and evolution of the specialty of events and courts
- 1.5. Factors of the news. Emotional stories, human interest and the public interest
- 1.6. Judicial journalism: basic legal notions
- 1.7. Typology of crimes
- 1.8. Crime report: events that left a mark in the history of Spain

## 2. Work with the usual sources of information: information dependence, reliability and interests

- 2.1. Police sources (National Police, Civil Guard, other police forces)
- 2.2. Personal sources (victims, defendants, affected, witnesses, relatives, lawyers, experts ...)
- 2.3. Institutional sources (political parties, associations, hospitals, Civil Protection, Red Cross ...)
- 2.4. Sources of the Administration of Justice (judges, magistrates, court clerks, prosecutors, lawyers ...)
- 2.5. Anonymous informers
- 2.6. Own research

## 3. The journalistic narrative: structure, style and images

- 3.1. The story of events: news, report, interview chronicle, opinion genre
- 3.2. The journalistic routine of the event journalist
- 3.3. The specialisation of the events journalist

- 3.4. Typology of crimes
- 3.5. Risks, uses and abuses of language. Specialized vocabulary

#### 4. Ethics of the journalism in information events and courts

- 4.1. The presumption of innocence
- 4.2. Parallel trials
- 4.3. Sensationalism. The rumor, conjecture and hypothesis

### LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

Combination of theoretical studies (1.5 ECTS) and case studies (4.5 ECTS). The first will be targeted in two ways: lectures and conceptual work by students from the guidelines provided therein and transmitted conceptual repertoires.

Case studies will include the development of interpretive journalistic messages of nature, serving both morphology journalistic account as relevant documentation processes.

Development of chronicles and profiles. Implementation of theories, rules and practices of the respective interpretative genres, adapted to the respective channel, involving the appropriate professional management to the purpose of the message, gathering information from information sources and resources that materializes the message (choice of theme or character, qualifications, structure, style, graphics and audiovisual elements). The teacher supervises all phases of the development to address such practical difficulties, solve specific questions and provide personalized assistance to students.

Analysis of journalistic message: chronicle and reports (press, radio, television, digital). The methodology includes both the study of the purpose of the message (more or less explicit or hidden, intentional or not), and the resources that employs the reporter (fonts, titles, structure, style, graphics and audiovisual resources). It allows familiar with the actual exercise of the profession, with the discussion of its merits or shortcomings. The student text, discussed, considered and discussed collectively in class after previously working individually.

Compulsory reading of a work related to chronicle or interview, a renowned journalist, whatever the age, geographical location or thematic area. The student should reflect on reading those contents directly related with the interpretive genres or the factual professional work of reporters. Personal critical reflection on the foreign example enables learning professionals at the same ethical approaches of proper techniques.

Individual tutorial. Allow a more precise skills and attitudes of students in relation to the theoretical and practical content of the subject orientation, resolution of doubts and address of practical work.

### ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

- 1. Mandatory final exam with a theoretical issues (40%)
- 2. Practices (60%)
  - Reporting chronicles and journalistic profile (interview) (35%).
  - Analysis of journalistic messages. Case study (25%).

Delivery is required at least 80% of practices charge during the semester. Not be allowed to work outside the delivery date, unless justified force majeure.

In order to average theory and practice, both parts must be approved: Theory 2/4 and practice 3/6

Mastering the rules of the Spanish language is a prerequisite for passing the subject (proofreading punctuation, accentuation, correct grammar and lexical precision).

<b>% end-of-term-examination:</b>	40
<b>% of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...):</b>	60

### BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- HALTOM, W. Reporting on the Courts. How the Mass Media Cover Judicial Actions, Chicago (IL): Nelson-Hall Publishers, 1998
- PETLEY, Julian Media and Public Shaming, I. B. Tauris, 2013

#### ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

- ALEXANDER, S.L. Covering the courts: a handbook for journalists., Maryland (EE.UU.): Rowman & Littlefield, , 2003. 2d ed.