

# Journalistic communication – Weekly planning

Fall Semester, Academic year 2017/2018

Instructor: Francisco Seoane Pérez

E-mail: [fseoane@hum.uc3m.es](mailto:fseoane@hum.uc3m.es)

Office hours: Thursdays, from 11am to 2pm at room 17.1.08

## Course schedule

### Part I.- Introduction to journalism

- Lecture 1.- Journalism: profession and business
  - Lecture 1.1.- Journalism as a profession (Week 1)
  - Lecture 1.2.- The media business (Week 2)
- Lecture 2.- Journalism and democracy (Week 3)

### Part II.- Reporting through text

- Lecture 3.- The news story (Week 4)
  - Assignment: News story (due on Week 6)
- Lecture 4.- Interviews (Week 5)
  - Assignment: Profile interview (due on Week 8)
- Lecture 5.- Features (Week 6)
  - Assignment: Feature report (due on Week 10)
- Lecture 6.- Opinion and editorial writing (Week 7)

### Part III.- Reporting beyond text

- Lecture 7.- Newspaper design and typography (Week 8)
- Lecture 8.- Photojournalism (Week 9)
- Lecture 9.- Illustration (Week 10)
- Lecture 10.- Infographics (Week 11)

### Part IV.- Broadcast journalism

- Lecture 11.- Radio journalism (Week 12)
- Lecture 12.- TV journalism (Week 13)

### Part V.- Journalism now

- Lecture 13.- Journalism on the Internet (Week 14)

- Final essay (description below) is due on due on Week 14.
- Final exam (description below) is usually held at the end of May.
- Unless otherwise noticed, all assignments must be delivered in print format, following the 'Assignments Template' available at the Aula Global Moodle-based platform.

## Grading policy

The final grade for this course will be result of the sum of the following items:

- **Coursework (15%).**- During our practical training hours, students will write short essays and a variety of journalistic texts.

- **Homework (25%).**- Students will have to write a news report (due on Week 6), a profile interview (due on Week 8) and a feature piece (due on Week 10) that will involve fieldwork and writing outside the classroom.
- **Final essay (20%).**- Students will write an essay of a minimum of 800 words and a maximum of 1,500 in response to one of these two questions, related themselves to a book by George Orwell:
  - "Are tramps like the rest of us?" In order to answer to this question, students will have to read 'Down and out in Paris and London' (1933)
  - "Was the Spanish Civil war as you had imagined it?" In order to answer this question, students will have to read 'Homage to Catalonia' (1938)

This final essay is due on Week 14.
- **Final exam (40%).**- The final written assessment will include a set of four questions on the lectures delivered during the course.

## Basic bibliography

The texts used to prepare the lectures are cited at the end of the Powerpoint slides, which are available for download at Aula Global. A good general overview of the craft of journalism is available from these two books by Tim Harrower:

Harrower, T. (2006). *Inside reporting: A practical guide to the craft of journalism*. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Harrower, T. (2002). *The newspaper designer's handbook*. New York: McGraw-Hill.

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