



MASTER COURSE OUTLINE

A. ENGL 1106 Composition II: Journalism

B. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is a second semester composition course based upon writing journalistic pieces and researching topics related to the practice and craft of journalism. Students will learn ways of interviewing and writing for various media, including print, broadcast, and online formats, study ethical issues facing journalists, and explore diversity issues specific to journalism. Students will also develop an understanding of First Amendment rights related to Freedom of the Press, the Freedom of Information Act, and the special role journalism plays in a democracy. Prerequisites: ENGL 1101
MnTC (Goals 1/CM and 2/CT); (3 Cr – 3 lect, 0 lab)

C. *MnTC Discipline: Communication **Core Theme: Critical Thinking

D. RIVERLAND INSTITUTIONAL LEARNING OUTCOMES:

This course addresses the following Riverland Institutional Learning Outcome(s):

- ILO 1: critical thinking (*Core Theme Goal 2*)
- ILO 2: awareness of the larger global community (*Core Theme Goal 7 or 8*)
- ILO 3: ethical, engaged citizenship (*Core Theme Goal 9 or Goal 10*)
- ILO 4: communication and collaboration (*Discipline Goal 1 and by any learning outcome(s) involving communication or collaboration*)

E. MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:

- Basic principles of reporting, writing and editing news, features, commentary
- Critical evaluation and verification of sources, data, interviewees
- Research writing
- Journalism ethics (objectivity, censorship, libel, privacy, obscenity, plagiarism)
- First Amendment: Freedom of the Press, Freedom of Information Act
- Trends: online media, new media, independent and alternative media, blogs
- Media diversity issues (including but not limited to): race, gender, ethnicity

F. GOAL TYPES, OBJECTIVES, AND OUTCOMES:

| <u>GOAL</u> | <u>OBJECTIVES</u> Students will be able to | <u>OUTCOMES</u> The student will successfully |
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| <u>MnTC Goal 1a</u> | understand/demonstrate the writing and speaking processes through invention, organization, drafting, revision, editing, and presentation. | 1. compose stories, articles, or other journalistic pieces that demonstrate steps of the writing |

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|---------------------|--|---|
| | | process, from generating ideas to publishing. |
| <u>MnTC Goal 1b</u> | participate effectively in groups with emphasis on listening, critical and reflective thinking, and responding. | 1. demonstrate ability to contribute to and benefit from constructive feedback provided through peer review. |
| <u>MnTC Goal 1c</u> | locate, evaluate, and synthesize in a responsible manner material from diverse sources and points of view. | 1. conduct research and present findings in a documented research paper that provides diverse perspectives on a journalism-related topic. |
| <u>MnTC Goal 1d</u> | select appropriate communication choices for specific audiences. | 1. write articles, stories, or other journalistic pieces that demonstrate ability to make decisions about content, style, and format, based on the media and the audience. |
| <u>MnTC Goal 2a</u> | gather factual information and apply it to a given problem that is relevant, clear, comprehensive, and conscious of possible bias in the information selected. | 1. demonstrate ability to gather information, determine possible bias of sources or interviewees, recognize how own biases might affect response, and use that information to write article, story, or online piece about relevant issue. |
| <u>MnTC Goal 2b</u> | imagine and seek out a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives, which can give alternative meanings or solutions to given situations or problems. | 1. demonstrate the ability to bring together a variety of perspectives in order to write a thorough and verifiable story or article about events, persons, or issues. |
| <u>MnTC Goal 2d</u> | recognize and articulate the value assumptions which underlie and affect decisions, interpretations, analyses, and evaluations made by ourselves and others. | 1. identify situations in which value assumptions may affect various aspects of journalism, from how different publications cover similar stories to how readers evaluate those stories. |
| <u>CS</u> | understand the role journalism plays in a democracy. | 1. articulate understanding of journalists' roles, responsibilities, and contributions in free societies. |
| <u>CS</u> | understand the First Amendment as it relates to Freedom of the Press. | 1. define and discuss the First Amendment as it relates to Freedom of the Press. |
| <u>CS</u> | understand the purpose of the freedom of Information Act and how it is used by journalists. | 1. explain the Freedom of Information Act, specifically how and why it is used by journalists. |

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION:

This course may require use of the Internet, the submission of electronically prepared documents and the use of a course management software program. Students who have a disability and need accommodations should contact Accessibility Services at the beginning of the semester. This information will be made available in alternative format, such as Braille, large print, or current media, upon request.

H. COURSE CODING INFORMATION: Course Code H/Class Maximum 30; Letter Grade

A member of Minnesota State

Revision date: 11/01/17; 02/06/23
AASC Approval date: 11/21/17; 03/28/23

| *Riverland Community College Disciplines | MnTC Goal Number |
|---|-------------------------|
| Communication (CM) | 1 |
| Natural Sciences (NS) | 3 |
| Mathematics/Logical Reasoning (MA) | 4 |
| History and the Social & Behavioral Sciences (SS) | 5 |
| Humanities and Fine Arts (HU) | 6 |

| **Riverland Community College Core Themes | MnTC Goal Number |
|--|-------------------------|
| Critical Thinking (CT) | 2 |
| Human Diversity (HD) | 7 |
| Global Perspective (GP) | 8 |
| Ethical and Civic Responsibility (EC) | 9 |
| People and the Environment (PE) | 10 |

*These five MnTC Goals have been identified as Riverland Community College Disciplines.
** These five MnTC Goals have been identified as Riverland Community College Core Themes.
NOTE: The Minnesota Transfer Curriculum “10 Goal Areas of Emphasis” are reflected in the five required discipline areas and five core themes noted in the Riverland Community College program of study guide and/or college catalog.