Newspaper Production

Course Description
This class will consist of producing the Island Waves newspaper. The student must work a minimum of 120 hours during the semester to complete the course. The content will be an introduction to the organization of a student news entity, and will include production, writing, meeting deadlines, managing electronic media and also social media.

Learning Objectives
(Student learning objectives)
1. Students will practice effective communication techniques, specifically in writing and oral aspects.
2. Students will practice project development through completion.
3. Students will practice critical analysis through reporting and creating news and feature articles.

Major Course Requirements
The student will be required to report and submit two stories per week to be published in the Island Waves newspaper. The student will be required to promote stories on social media. The student will work on at least two larger projects that cover a multi-media approach to reporting news and/or feature stories. Student must meet with professor each week to discuss assignments, workshop writing and learn new reporting skills.

Print/Web Content Assignments (20).......60% (worth 3% each of final grade)
[7 stories/press releases & 8 pieces of additional content – photos, graphic, sidebar, opinion/critical review, etc.]
Social Media (10)..............................10% [promote your stories and your peers’ on Social Media]
Multi-Media Project..............................10%
Online Portfolio/Professionalism..............5%
Class Attendance/Participation...............15% [mostly blackboard assignments, must be present for at least 7 of the 20 classes]

Required or Recommended Readings
(Lists of required/recommended texts and reading)

Textbook:
Engaged Journalism by Jake Batsell
AP Style Book (Associated Press)

Recommended or Supplemental Reading:
The Caller Times
CNN.com
Any news/media outlet to read examples of professional writing
Course Policies

Attendance/tardiness
The student will be expected to be on time to class meetings. If an exception is needed, he/she should contact the editor beforehand. All deadlines should be met and if a deadline might be missed, it is imperative to let the professor and the editor of the newspaper know in ample time to help find a solution.

Late work and Make-up Exams
Late work will not be accepted and there will be no exams to make up.

Extra Credit
There will be no extra credit in this course.

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism.
University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a zero for that assignment that cannot be retaken or resubmitted. In this class, students must attribute every source used in stories. Students must NEVER fabricate quotations, facts, sources or any other information in their stories, nor may they misrepresent any sources or information. Plagiarism and fabrication are major offenses in journalism and other professions; if students use them for an assignment in this class they will receive a ZERO on the assignment. All work in this class must be original. Students may not use assignments turned in for other classes previously or that are being worked on for another current class without permission from the instructor. The professor reserves the right to give a failing grade for committing any of these offenses and to refer any academic dishonesty or misconduct to the University.

Academic Advising
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466 or log onto http://cla.tamucc.edu/advising/.

Disabilities Accommodations
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.
Grade Appeals
As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s Office.

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Dropping a Class*
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop this course. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. Nov. 15 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

Classroom/professional behavior**
Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

Statement of Academic Continuity*
In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use
of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.

*Required by SACS or HB2504
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<th>Week</th>
<th>Class Discussion &amp; Assignments</th>
<th>Work Due</th>
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<tr>
<td>#1</td>
<td>* <strong>Tues:</strong> Introduction, syllabus, discuss goals/expectations and textbook. Interview 101. Talk about appropriate stories for Island Waves. Newsworthiness Lesson. Look for ideas – have three ready for class Thursday. &lt;br&gt;<strong>Assignments:</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>BB Discussion 2</strong> - Story #1 Plan: Figure out two sources for first story. Set up interviews. Plan 10 Questions. Answer Discussion Questions on BB. [Due by noon next Tuesday]&lt;br&gt;<strong>BB Discussion 3</strong> – Inverted Pyramid [Due by noon next Tuesday]&lt;br&gt;<strong>BB Discussion 4</strong> – Read Chapter 2 [Due by noon next Thursday]</td>
<td>Thurs: BB Discussion 1</td>
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<td>#2</td>
<td><strong>Tues:</strong> Budget meeting for next Issue. College Scavenger Hunt [BB Discussion due at the end of class today]</td>
<td>Tues: BB Disc. 2, 3&lt;br&gt;Thurs: BB Disc. 4</td>
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<td>#3</td>
<td>* <strong>Tues:</strong> Discussion on Inverted Pyramid, Ws&amp;H, Law &amp; Ethics Budget next week/Peer Eval&lt;br&gt;<strong>Thurs:</strong> Story #1 Due, Discuss Multimedia Project</td>
<td>Tues: BB Dis. Chapter 4</td>
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<td>#4</td>
<td>* <strong>Tues:</strong> Budget next week/Peer Eval Budget next week/Peer Eval &lt;br&gt;<strong>Thurs:</strong> Pass Out Paper Day Story #2 Due – Peer Eval</td>
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<td><strong>Tue:</strong> Budget next week/Peer Eval&lt;br&gt;<strong>Thurs:</strong> Story #3 Due – Peer Eval</td>
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<td>#7</td>
<td>* <strong>Tue:</strong> Budget next week/Peer Eval&lt;br&gt;Introduce Multimedia Project&lt;br&gt;<strong>Thurs:</strong> Story #5 Due – Peer Eval</td>
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<td>#8</td>
<td>* <strong>Tue:</strong> Budget next week/Peer Eval&lt;br&gt;Budget for August paper, Introduce Final Portfolio&lt;br&gt;<strong>Thurs:</strong> Pass Out Paper Day Story #6 Due – Peer Eval</td>
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<td>Thurs:</td>
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