



School of English, Journalism
& European Languages

Unit Outline (revised)

HEJ203/303

Television Journalism

Semester 2, 2006

<http://www.utas.edu.au/units/HEJ203>

Convenor:	Dr Jason Bainbridge Room: HUM 579 Phone: 6226 7146 Email: Jason.Bainbridge@utas.edu.au
Consultation Hours:	Mondays, 12 noon – 2 pm
Unit Description:	This unit introduces students to the practice of news production and on-camera news reporting. Students will learn television news scripting, camera presentation, news reading and interviewing techniques, together with theories of address and programming and an understanding of how audiences make meaning. Technical skills taught include camera work, sound, lighting and program editing, as well as instruction in how to write for television.
Unit Aims and Objectives:	The major aims of this unit are: (b) to familiarise students with the practical requirements of television journalism; (c) to provide students with a basic knowledge of the history and structure of television journalism in Australia and abroad; (d) to introduce students to television interviewing and scripting techniques; (e) to acquaint students with the types of basic technical skills needed to be a television journalist; and (f) to encourage students to think critically about television journalism, the social context surrounding television journalism, and their own social and cultural subject position in relation to this.

<p>Learning Outcomes:</p>	<p>Students taking this unit will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. build <i>knowledge</i> in the areas described in the Unit Aims and Objectives (above); 2. enhance skills in: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) written <i>communication</i>, with special emphasis on writing practice in the form of assignments; and b) oral <i>communication</i>, through participation in presentations; 3. develop technical and practical skills through intensive workshops; and 4. develop a <i>global perspective</i> through the study of media texts from a range of national and cultural contexts.
<p>Required Texts:</p>	<p>There are no set texts for this unit. Students will be provided copies of readings when required.</p>
<p>When Taught:</p>	<p>Tuesday 4 – 6 pm, Physics Lecture Theatre 2 and four weekend workshops at Rosny College (see below)</p>
<p>Assessment:</p>	<p>Students must complete every assignment and sit the two-hour exam. Failure to do so will result in a fail grade in this unit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment One: Essay on Television News 30%. Due Tuesday, 29 August, 4 pm. • Assignment Two: Interviewing 20% (During workshops Weeks 4 to 7) • Assignment Three: Oral Presentations 20% (Tuesday 4-6 Weeks 11 and 12) • Assignment Four: Scriptwriting 30%. Due Tuesday, 10 October, 4 pm. <p>Written assignments should be handed in by 4 pm on the due date to the box at the office of the School of English, Journalism and European Languages in room HUM557. You must read, fill-in and sign a pink (HEJ) assignment sheet and staple it to the front of your assignment. Please do not use any other coverings, such as plastic sleeves, folders, etc. Assignments cannot be accepted by e-mail or fax. <i>Assignments must be double-spaced, using a 12 point font in black ink and across an A4 page, and should be appropriately referenced.</i></p> <p>Before handing in, ensure you have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read and understood the plagiarism statement contained in this unit outline; • edited and redrafted your assignment; • kept a copy of your assignment; and • attached copies of medical certificates if the assignment is late. <p>For visual assignments / oral presentations please consult with the lecturer. For visual assignments / oral presentations, please consult with the lecturer.</p>

LECTURE/SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Week Beginning	Topic	Lecturer
Week One Tuesday Jul 18	MODULE ONE: BROADCAST NEWS Introduction to the Course	Jason Bainbridge
Week Two Tuesday Jul 25	An Introduction to Television Journalism	Graham Gates
Week Three Tuesday Aug 1	A History of Broadcast News	Jason Bainbridge
Week Four Tuesday Aug 8	MODULE TWO: WORKSHOPS AND INTERVIEWS Technical Skills	Graham Gates
Week Four Saturday Aug 12 Sunday Aug 13	GROUP A Workshop 9 – 4 Saturday (with 1 hr lunchbreak) 9 – 4 Sunday (with 1 hr lunchbreak)	Graham Gates
Week Five Saturday Aug 19 Sunday Aug 20	GROUP B Workshop 9 – 4 Saturday (with 1 hr lunchbreak) 9 – 4 Sunday (with 1 hr lunchbreak)	Graham Gates
Week Six Saturday Aug 26 Sunday Aug 27	GROUP C Workshop 9 – 4 Saturday (with 1 hr lunchbreak) 9 – 4 Sunday (with 1 hr lunchbreak)	Graham Gates
Week Seven Saturday Sep 2 Sunday Sep 3	GROUP D Workshop 9 – 4 Saturday (with 1 hr lunchbreak) 9 – 4 Sunday (with 1 hr lunchbreak)	Graham Gates
Sep 4 - 10	Mid-Semester Break	

Week Eight Tuesday Sep 12	MODULE THREE: SCRIPTING AND PRESENTING The Wrap - Up Performing News – Analysing Current Affairs	Graham Gates Jason Bainbridge
Week Nine Tuesday Sep 19	Scriptwriting I	Jane Bestwick
Week Ten Tuesday Sep 26	Scriptwriting II	Jane Bestwick
Week Eleven Tuesday Oct 3	Oral Presentations I	Jason Bainbridge
Week Twelve Tuesday Oct 10	Oral Presentations II	Jason Bainbridge
Week Thirteen Tuesday Oct 17	Conclusion	Jason Bainbridge

Study period: 23 October – 27 October

Examination period: 28 October – 14 November (There are no exams in this subject)

ASSESSMENT

Assessment in this unit takes the form of an essay on broadcast news, a scriptwriting exercise, an interviewing exercise and an oral presentation, all to be completed during the semester.

Assignment 1 will take the form of an academic essay reflecting on a historical aspect of television news in Australia or the reporting of a particular issue. The word limit is 2,000 – 3,000 words, and this essay is worth 30% of your final mark in this unit. Due Tuesday, 29 August, 4 pm.

Assignment 2 will take the form of an interviewing exercise to be completed during the second day of the weekend workshops. More details will be provided later in the course. This exercise is worth 20% of your final mark in this unit.

Assignment 3 will be an oral presentation utilizing the skills acquired in the course. This will be completed in either Weeks 11 or 12 and is worth 20% of your final mark in this unit.

Assignment 4 will be the production of a script following the structure and techniques presented in Weeks 9 and 10 of the course, and is worth 30% of your final mark in this unit. Due Tuesday, 10 October, 4 pm.

Attendance and performance requirements:

- Successful completion of this subject depends upon the completion and submission of all written work, oral presentations and **attendance at the weekend workshop(s)**.
- The school will notify students of the final date that any work will be accepted.
- **If you are having difficulty with any pieces of work please contact the Course Convenor, Dr Jason Bainbridge.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Submission of Assignments

Students are required to submit a signed cover sheet with every written assignment. This includes a declaration that all material submitted is their own work except where there is clear acknowledgement or reference to the work of others and that they have read the University statement on Academic Misconduct (Plagiarism) on the University website at www.utas.edu.au/plagiarism or in the Student Information Handbook. Assignment cover sheets are available from the School office. All written assignments must be submitted in hard-copy (not by email or other electronic means) and placed in the essay box at the School office on or before 4pm on the due date. Students are required to keep copies of all submitted assignments. Assignments will be returned within three weeks of the due date; once assignments have been returned no further late assignments will be accepted.

Late Assignments

Late written submissions will be penalised as follows: 2% of the available marks for each day late for the first ten (10) working days (ie. 10 days late -50%). Assignments submitted after this point will receive no marks and no comments. Late work will be accepted without penalty if accompanied by a medical certificate for the relevant period or a letter from a certified counsellor in the case of a serious non-medical reason.

Failure to be present when required to complete the oral presentation or interviewing exercise will result in a fail grade without a medical certificate for the relevant period or a letter from a certified counsellor in the case of a serious non-medical reason.

Difficulties with your Studies

If you are experiencing difficulties with your studies or assignments, have personal or life planning issues, disability or illness which may affect your course of study, you should raise these with your lecturer and/or one of the following Student Services staff as soon as possible:

- Learning Skills Adviser
- Student Counsellor
- Careers Adviser
- Disability Adviser

University Statement on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

“**Plagiarism** is a form of cheating. It is taking and using someone else's thoughts, writings or inventions and representing them as your own; for example, using an author's words without putting them in quotation marks and citing the source, using an author's ideas without proper acknowledgment and citation, copying another student's work.

If you have any doubts about how to refer to the work of others in your assignments, please consult your lecturer or tutor for relevant referencing guidelines, and the academic integrity resources on the web at <http://www.utas.edu.au/tl/supporting/academicintegrity/index.html>. The intentional copying of someone else's work as one's own is a serious offence punishable by penalties that may range from a fine or deduction/cancellation of marks and, in the most serious of cases, to exclusion from a unit, a course or the University. Details of penalties that can be imposed are available in the Ordinance of Student Discipline – Part 3 Academic Misconduct, see <http://www.utas.edu.au/universitycouncil/legislation/>”

The University reserves the right to submit assignments to plagiarism detection software, and might then retain a copy of the assignment on its database for the purpose of future plagiarism checking.

Assignment Presentation

The Journalism, Media and Communications discipline uses MLA Style, which is characterised by in-text referencing and a list of works cited. See the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 6th ed. Ed. Joseph Gibaldi (New York: The Modern Language Association of America, 2003).

Marking Scale

The following distribution of marks and grades is applied in assessing your work:

- High Distinction (HD)—80-100%
- Distinction (DN)—70-79%
- Credit (CR)—60-69%
- Pass (PP)—50-59%
- Fail (NN)—0-49%

All marks are subject to moderation.

Assessment Criteria

The following criteria apply to assessment of the first essay:

- Effectiveness of introduction
- Relevance and coherence of argument
- Effectiveness of conclusion
- Scope of textual referencing
- Use of critics
- Attention to expression, spelling, proof-reading and stylesheet.