



School of English, Journalism  
& European Languages

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## Unit Outline

**HEJ330**  
**Research Project in Journalism & Media Communications**  
**Semester 5, 2008 (Spring School)**  
<http://www.utas.edu.au/journalism>

<b>Unit coordinator:</b>	Dr Nicola Goc Room: Hum544 Phone: 6226 2473 Email: Nicola.Goc@utas.edu.au
<b>Consultation hours:</b>	Tuesday 4pm-5pm Room 544; Thursday 4-5pm Room 544
<b>Unit description:</b>	This unit gives students the opportunity to undertake supervised research on a special topic in Journalism, Media and Communications. Intensive workshops early in semester focus on developing advanced skills in media research and/or practice: project conception and planning, information literacy, writing and presentation. Students meet regularly with a supervisor throughout the remainder of semester. Approval of the Head of School is required to enrol in this unit.
<b>Unit aims and objectives:</b>	This unit offers students the opportunity to research a topic in the field of journalism, media and communications, which will enhance their knowledge and understanding of the practical and theoretical issues of the journalism, media and communications disciplines.
<b>Learning outcomes:</b>	Students through research and or through practical application will gain an understanding of the practical and theoretical issues of the journalism, media and communications disciplines.
<b>Required texts:</b>	n/a
<b>Recommended texts:</b>	<i>Photography Handbook</i> by Terence Wright, New York: Sage 2004
<b>When taught:</b>	2x 2-hour workshops and six supervision meetings See details of program below
<b>Assessment:</b>	5000 word assignment/s or equivalent as agreed with supervisor

## LECTURE/SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Lecturer
<p>December 11  <b>Tasmanian School of Art, Hunter Street.</b></p>	<p><b>10.30am-1.30pm: Seminar One: Tasmanian School of Art, Hunter Street.</b>            Two-hour seminar and one-hour discussion on Imaging News:            This seminar covers issues such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief history of photojournalism</li> <li>• The influence of the Magnum Agency</li> <li>• The role of the photojournalist in the 21<sup>st</sup> century</li> <li>• The power/impact of the image as news</li> <li>• <i>A brief overview of semiotic readings of news images</i></li> </ul> <p><b>1.00pm-4.00pm: Workshop: Introduction to Fieldwork with Roger Lovell</b>            The workshop will introduce the basic framework for the technical and fieldwork component. Students will be briefed on and undertake a 'trial run' fieldwork project – take pictures, upload and prepare them for on-line publication. This is intended to confirm appropriateness of equipment, and to identify technical issues for resolution prior to the commencement of the actual photojournalism projects, 28<sup>th</sup> December – 3<sup>rd</sup> January.</p>	<p>Nicola Goc and Roger Lovell</p>
<p>December 12  <b>Tasmanian School of Art, Hunter Street.</b></p>	<p><b>10.00am-1.00pm: Seminar Two: Tasmanian School of Art, Hunter Street.</b>            Two-hour seminar and one-hour discussion on ethics and photojournalism. This seminar will cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ethical practice and photojournalism</li> <li>• Privacy and the paparazzi</li> <li>• Visual "lies": photo-manipulation and photojournalism</li> <li>• Censorship and the news image</li> </ul> <p><b>2pm–3pm: Workshop with Roger Lovell</b>            The one-hour workshop will review and resolve any issues of concern or clarification from the previous day's trial run project.</p>	<p>Nicola Goc and Roger Lovell</p>
<p>December 28</p>	<p>Field Trip: Sydney Hobart; Taste of Tasmania</p>	<p>Roger Lovell</p>
<p>December 29</p>	<p>Field Trip: Sydney Hobart; Taste of Tasmania</p>	<p>Roger Lovell</p>
<p>December 30</p>	<p>Field Trip: Sydney Hobart; Taste of Tasmania</p>	<p>Roger Lovell</p>
<p>December 31</p>	<p>Field Trip: Sydney Hobart; Taste of Tasmania</p>	<p>Roger Lovell</p>

January 1	Field Trip: Sydney Hobart; Taste of Tasmania	Roger Lovell
January 2	Field Trip: Sydney Hobart; Taste of Tasmania	Roger Lovell
January 3	Field Trip: Sydney Hobart; Taste of Tasmania	Roger Lovell
16 <sup>th</sup> January	Final Day: Day-long seminar; presentation of portfolio for critique to the group, feedback and discussion.  <b>PORTFOLIO DUE</b> <b>ESSAY DUE</b>	Nicola Goc and Roger Lovell

## **ASSESSMENT**

### **Theory: - 30% - Nicola Goc**

Write a 2,500-word essay: 30% **Due: January 16<sup>th</sup>** on one of the following topics:

- Henri Cartier Bresson said: “To take a photograph is to align the head, the eye and the heart. It's a way of life.” Discuss Bresson’s philosophy in terms of documentary photography and how documentary photographs contribute to the notion of freedom of speech and a free press.
- Discuss the ethical issues surrounding photo-manipulation and photojournalism in the 21st century. Drawing upon examples of photo-manipulation throughout the history of photojournalism. This assignment addresses all of the learning outcomes for this unit

### **Photography portfolio: images - 40% and critique 30% - Roger Lovell**

- Portfolio: 40% (as presented in response to each day’s brief and presented in full on January 16<sup>th</sup>)
- Critique of student’s work practice; participation, presentation and engagement within the workshops and critique sessions; working to deadlines; attendance at lab/tuition sessions: etc. 30% This assignment addresses all of the learning outcomes for this unit.

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## Photojournalism Spring Unit

### HEJ330 and FSA200/300

Start date	8 <sup>th</sup> December 2008
Census date	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2008
End date	13 <sup>th</sup> February 2009

This unit is divided into three sections:

- **Commencing with a two day seminar and workshop 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2008**
- **Followed by a fieldwork component set over six days around the dates of the Sydney Hobart Yacht Race and taste of Tasmania, 28<sup>th</sup> December 2008 – 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2009.**
- **The unit will conclude with a reflective seminar session on 16<sup>th</sup> January in which work produced will be discussed, critiqued and assessed. Due date of essay 16<sup>th</sup> January.**

Students don't need to be experienced with photography. The tutor will assist with technical requirements of the project. Whilst an Digital (min 6mega pixel) SLR camera would be best for the project, a standard digital camera with zoom and wide angle capacity and over 4 mega pixels would suffice. Students should also bring a USB memory stick and the cable to connector the camera to a computer for downloading images. Clothing and footwear should be suitable for walking and negotiating docks and boats.

#### **Day One: 11<sup>th</sup> December 2008**

##### **10am: Introduction to the Unit**

Dr Nicola Goc and Roger Lovell give an overview of the unit.

##### **10.30am-1.30pm: Seminar One with Nicola Goc (three hours)**

Two-hour seminar and one-hour discussion on Imaging News: This seminar covers issues such as:

- Brief history of photojournalism
- The influence of the Magnum Agency
- The role of the photojournalist in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- The power/impact of the image as news
- A *brief* overview of semiotic readings of news images

##### **1.00pm-4.00pm: Workshop - Introduction to Fieldwork with Roger Lovell**

The workshop will introduce the basic framework for the technical and fieldwork component. Students will be briefed on and undertake a 'trial run' fieldwork project – take pictures, upload and prepare them for on-line publication. This is intended to confirm appropriateness of equipment, and to identify technical issues for resolution prior to the commencement of the actual photojournalism projects, 28<sup>th</sup> December – 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

#### **Day Two: 12<sup>th</sup> December 2008**

##### **10am-1pm: Seminar Two with Nicola Goc (three hours)**

Two-hour seminar and one-hour discussion on ethics and photojournalism. This seminar will cover:

- Ethical practice and photojournalism
- Privacy and the paparazzi
- Visual "lies": photo-manipulation and photojournalism
- Censorship and the news image

##### **2pm–3pm: Workshop with Roger Lovell**

The one-hour workshop will review and resolve any issues of concern or clarification from the previous day's trial run project.

### **Fieldwork 28<sup>th</sup> December 2008 – 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2009**

The fieldwork component will commence on the 28<sup>th</sup> of December and run until the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January to coincide with the Taste of Tasmania and the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race. The fieldwork will be developed as 'real life' projects in partnership with *The Mercury* on line. Students will be set a picture brief for each day's fieldwork; images produced will be submitted for consideration and critique. Technical matters will be addressed each day in this process. A selection of each student's images will be forwarded to the *Mercury* for consideration by the picture editor for its online publication, so a 'real life' component is at the centre of the project.

**Final Seminar 16<sup>th</sup> January 2008 10.00am-4.00pm: Reflective Seminar Session:** The unit will conclude with a reflective seminar session in which work produced will be discussed, critiqued and assessed. **January 16<sup>th</sup> is also the due date for handing in the essay.**

#### **Assessment:**

##### **Theory: - 30% - Nicola Goc**

- Write a 2,500-word essay: 30% **Due: January 16<sup>th</sup>** on one of the following topics:
- Henri Cartier Bresson said: "To take a photograph is to align the head, the eye and the heart. It's a way of life." Discuss Bresson's philosophy in terms of documentary photography and how documentary photographs contribute to the notion of freedom of speech and a free press.
- Discuss the ethical issues surrounding photo-manipulation and photojournalism in the 21st century. Drawing upon examples of photo-manipulation throughout the history of photojournalism.

#### **Assessment:**

##### **Photography portfolio: images - 40% and critique 30% - Roger Lovell**

- Portfolio: 40% (as presented in response to each day's brief and presented in full on January 16<sup>th</sup>)
- Critique of student's work practice; participation, presentation and engagement within the workshops and critique sessions; working to deadlines; attendance at lab/tuition sessions: etc. 30%

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Submission of Assignments

Students are required to submit a signed cover sheet with every 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](http://www.utas.edu.au/plagiarism) or in the Student Information Handbook.

Assignment cover sheets are available from the School office or the School website. **Assignments submitted without a signed cover sheet will not be marked.** Students who submit assignments without a signed cover sheet will be contacted once via their UTAS email address; in such instances the cover sheet must be completed within two weeks of the due date.

All assignments must be submitted in hard-copy (not by email) and placed in the essay box at the School office on or before 5pm on the due date. Students are required to keep copies of all submitted assignments. Assignments submitted on time will be returned within three weeks of the due date; once on time assignments have been returned no further late assignments will be accepted. All marked assignments will be returned in tutorials unless otherwise advised.

### Late Assignments

Late submissions will be penalized as follows: 5% of the available marks for the first day, and then 2% per working day thereafter. Late work will be accepted without penalty if accompanied by a medical certificate for the relevant period or a letter from a 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
- Disability Adviser
- Careers Adviser
- Student Counsellor

### 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 and any persons authorised by the University may submit your assessable works to a plagiarism checking service, to obtain a report on possible instances of plagiarism. Assessable works may also be included in a reference database. It is a condition of this arrangement that the original author's permission is required before a work within the database can be viewed.**

### Assignment Presentation

The Journalism, Media and Communications discipline uses the Harvard style of referencing. Please see <http://www.utas.edu.au/journalism/> for a brief introduction. For journalistic writing, refer to the JMC Style Guide, also available at <http://www.utas.edu.au/journalism/>.

For journalistic assignments, you must not use material gathered for a story, including interviews, for assessment in more than one unit. If in doubt, please discuss with your unit coordinator.

### Equipment

Please note that this unit may require access to sound and/or video recording equipment and that while the school will provide access to equipment during tutorials, access to equipment outside of tutorials is not guaranteed. Where the loan of equipment is possible students will be required to sign and agree to the terms and conditions of the loan, including the penalties for late return, as presented at the time of the loan. We encourage students, where possible, to purchase their own recording devices. Teaching staff will advise on suitable equipment.

### 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.

### IT Support

Learning online—for online learning and Vista support – <http://www.utas.edu.au/coursesonline/>  
Information Technology Services—for general IT Support (includes link to UTAS download website)  
<http://www.utas.edu.au/servicedesk/student/index.html>

Library Services—for information literacy support – <http://www.utas.edu.au/library/>  
Help Desk (email [HelpDesk@utas.edu.au](mailto:HelpDesk@utas.edu.au) or 6226 1818, within University 1818)