

Political Journalism

Code: 104977
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2501933 Journalism	OT	3	1
2501933 Journalism	OT	4	1

Contact

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: catalan (cat)
Some groups entirely in English: No
Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Other comments on languages

Practical works and testing can be made in Catalan and Spanish

Prerequisites

Prerequisites are not considered, beyond having taken the subjects related to journalistic genres

Objectives and Contextualisation

1. Promote a critical and responsible view of journalism that covers events and situations understood as political, and the role of journalists and media specializing in politics.
2. Apply and optimize journalistic approaches and techniques acquired in previous courses to produce news, interviews, analysis columns and reports on political content.
3. Distinguish and use languages and formats of journalistic genres and the various degrees of interpretation they entail, from news to opinion texts, with high skills.

Competences

- Journalism
- Abide by ethics and the canons of journalism, as well as the regulatory framework governing information.
 - Act with ethical responsibility and respect for fundamental rights and duties, diversity and democratic values.
 - Be familiar with and apply the theoretical and practical foundations of journalistic writing and narrative and its applications in the different genres, media and formats.
 - Demonstrate a critical and self-critical capacity.
 - Differentiate the discipline's main theories, its fields, conceptual developments, theoretical frameworks and approaches that underpin knowledge of the subject and its different areas and sub-areas, and acquire systematic knowledge of the media's structure.

- Identify modern journalistic traditions in Catalonia, Spain and worldwide and their specific forms of expression, as well as their historic development and the theories and concepts that study them.
- Introduce changes in the methods and processes of the field of knowledge to provide innovative responses to the needs and demands of society.
- Relay journalistic information in the language characteristic of each communication medium, in its combined modern forms or on digital media, and apply the genres and different journalistic procedures.
- Research, select and arrange in hierarchical order any kind of source and useful document to develop communication products.
- Students can apply the knowledge to their own work or vocation in a professional manner and have the powers generally demonstrated by preparing and defending arguments and solving problems within their area of study.
- Students must be capable of collecting and interpreting relevant data (usually within their area of study) in order to make statements that reflect social, scientific or ethical relevant issues.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills in order to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Take sex- or gender-based inequalities into consideration when operating within one's own area of knowledge.
- Value diversity and multiculturalism as a foundation for teamwork.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyse the sex- or gender-based inequalities and the gender biases present in one's own area of knowledge.
2. Communicate using language that is not sexist or discriminatory.
3. Compare the different traditions in handling specialised information.
4. Conceptualise the theories and techniques of specialised journalism.
5. Consider how gender stereotypes and roles impinge on the exercise of the profession.
6. Critically analyse the principles, values and procedures that govern the exercise of the profession.
7. Demonstrate a critical and self-critical capacity.
8. Demonstrate practical knowledge of specialised journalism.
9. Distinguish theories of journalistic writing and narrative to apply them to the different theme-based information specialisms.
10. Explain the explicit or implicit code of practice of one's own area of knowledge.
11. Identify situations in which a change or improvement is needed.
12. Incorporate the principles of professional ethics in developing narrative journalism specialised in environmental and travel information.
13. Incorporate the principles of professional ethics in developing narrative journalism specialised in political information and parliamentary articles.
14. Propose projects and actions that incorporate the gender perspective.
15. Relay in the language specific to each communication medium narrative journalism specialised in political and parliamentary information.
16. Research, select and arrange in hierarchical order any kind of source and useful document to develop communication products.
17. Students can apply the knowledge to their own work or vocation in a professional manner and have the powers generally demonstrated by preparing and defending arguments and solving problems within their area of study.
18. Students must be capable of collecting and interpreting relevant data (usually within their area of study) in order to make statements that reflect social, scientific or ethical relevant issues.
19. Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
20. Students must develop the necessary learning skills in order to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
21. Use interactive communication resources to process, produce and relay information in the production of specialised information.
22. Value diversity and multiculturalism as a foundation for teamwork.

23. Weigh up the impact of any long- or short-term difficulty, harm or discrimination that could be caused to certain persons or groups by the actions or projects.

Content

1. Journalism specialized in Politics. Conception of politics: theory confronted with practice. Feedback between political and journalistic languages. Warlike, sexist and classist clichés in political information.
2. Political actors and systems: the key issue of power. Elections, institutions and administrations: parliaments, provincial councils, city councils. Differences and coincidences. Political parties and other political organizations.
3. Current political journalism and contextualization. Hierarchy of news and actors. Sources of information: who marks the news or who provides contextualization. Press offices, communication and image consultancy.
4. Media policy sections and areas. Politics in the opinion sections. Gender bias in opinion and social gatherings. Editorial lines and pluralism. Territorial policy and areas: international, national / state and local.
5. The media as structures of power. Newspapers (or media) as political actors. Narrators, commentators and participants in conflicts / political situations. Permanent goals: to profit and influence ideologically.
6. Conflict as a basic structure of political information. Protagonists, antagonists, third parties. Conflicts between equals or unequals. Explanation and understanding of political conflicts. Patriarchal historical views and alternative views.
7. Narration / exposition of political conflicts. Journalistic genres and political information. News of various types (negative, positive, sudden, predictable news, etc). Political interviews. Chronicles (parliamentary, municipal...). Reports.

Methodology

Methodology

Teaching methodology:

The 3-hour module is divided into a first hour defined as theory and two hours defined as laboratory practices. The classes will alternate debates on texts previously read by the students and on political problems and their journalistic treatment, as well as comments on journalistic pieces and fragments of theory presented by the teachers.

Theory

Presentation by the teacher on the various contents of the syllabus and debate on the related texts, with previous reading by the students.

Practices

Individuals:

- In-depth report on a current political conflict (local and regional, preferably).
- 4 journalistic texts: news, chronicle, interview and opinion text.

Group: analysis of current political conflicts and media coverage (specific topics will be set, but student proposals may be included), and presentation in class.

The detailed calendar, flexible depending on the development of the course, will be advanced in the first sessions and can be consulted in the Virtual Campus, with the detailed description of exercises and practices, in addition to the disposition of the teaching materials and the indications. for the follow-up of the subject.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Theory sessions	16	0.64	15, 4, 7, 18
practical laboratory sessions	32	1.28	15, 8, 7, 13, 19
Type: Supervised			
Evaluation	6	0.24	16, 15, 8, 19
Tutorials	3	0.12	4, 7, 9
Type: Autonomous			
Development of 5 journalistic texts	54	2.16	6, 15, 8, 13, 19, 21
Readings and study of various texts	33	1.32	6, 4, 7, 18

Assessment

Evaluation

For the evaluation, it is mandatory to have done 3 of the 4 individual practices, in addition to the in-depth report.

The evaluation of the theory (30% of the overall grade) will be based on a personal reflection on some of the issues on the agenda.

The set of 4 practices will specify 40% of the overall grade of the subject.

The in-depth report will represent 20% of the final grade.

Conflict analysis and its classroom presentation, which is done in groups (and will be assessed by the rest of the students) will represent 10% of the overall grade.

Reassessment: Depending on the practical activities schedule and its performance, the goal is that both the in-depth report and the 4 journalistic exercises throughout the course can be repeated if they have been failed. The same goes for the theory exercise.

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Analysis and group presentation of the social situation of conflict	10%	0.5	0.02	16, 3, 2, 4, 7, 9, 10, 20, 19, 17, 18, 22
Elaboration of 4 diverse journalistic pieces	40%	3	0.12	1, 15, 2, 8, 13, 14, 19, 21, 5
Reflection and participation on theory texts	30%	1	0.04	6, 2, 4, 7, 9, 11, 12, 18, 21, 5, 23

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Software

No special programme is required