

Sources, Techniques and Organisation of Journalistic Work

Code: 104974
ECTS Credits: 6

2025/2026

Degree	Type	Year
Journalism	OB	2

Contact

Name: Ricardo Carniel Bugs

Email: ricardo.carniel@uab.cat

Teaching groups languages

You can view this information at the [end](#) of this document.

Prerequisites

The course requires students to be able to keep informed about current affairs, reading comprehension at university level, and a sufficient command and the proper use (spoken and written) of their own languages, as well as being able to read and understand texts in English.

It also required to be used to the environment and functionalities of the Virtual Campus, as well as the Microsoft Teams platform (or similar).

It is highly recommended that the students had enrolled and successfully passed most of the subjects of the 1st year of the Degree, specially the subject "Escritura Periodística I", considering that the contents dealt with in them will be considered known.

Objectives and Contextualisation

This subject is part of the field *Theory and Techniques of Journalism*, so it focuses on the organization of journalistic work and its main routines, systems, tasks or roles. The course emphasizes the stages that constitute the relationship between journalism professionals and their sources of information: search, documentation, contrast, validation of information (from the instrumental and deontological points of view).

In this way, the general objective of the course is that the students know these professional routines and the requirements to find, treat and use personal sources or sources of any other nature in the elaboration of their journalistic content. Attention will also be devoted to the issue of verification of sources, data and information produced by third parties, a topic that is especially relevant in the context of growing disinformation enhanced by the digital communication environment.

Competences

- Abide by ethics and the canons of journalism, as well as the regulatory framework governing information.
- Design the formal and aesthetic aspects in print, graphic, audiovisual and digital media, and use computer-based techniques to represent information using infographic and documentary systems.

- 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.
- Show leadership, negotiation and team-working capacity, as well as problem-solving skills.
- 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 account of social, economic and environmental impacts when operating within one's own area of knowledge.
- Take sex- or gender-based inequalities into consideration when operating within one's own area of knowledge.

Learning Outcomes

1. Adapt the presentation of the news to the needs established by the editorial space.
2. Analyse the sex- or gender-based inequalities and the gender biases present in one's own area of knowledge.
3. Communicate using language that is not sexist or discriminatory.
4. Consider how gender stereotypes and roles impinge on the exercise of the profession.
5. Describe the workings of editorial boards.
6. Handle information facts in the most appropriate journalistic genre.
7. Identify situations in which a change or improvement is needed.
8. Identify the social, economic and environmental implications of academic and professional activities within one's own area of knowledge.
9. Properly comment on and edit texts or other media productions related to journalism.
10. Recognise the potential and limits of freedom of speech in appraising information processes.
11. Research information sources, select them and apply critical appraisal criteria.
12. Research, select and arrange in hierarchical order any kind of source and useful document to develop communication products.
13. Show leadership, negotiation and team-working capacity, as well as problem-solving skills.
14. 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.
15. 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.
16. Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
17. Students must develop the necessary learning skills in order to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
18. Write news, articles and reports with their respective sub-genres.

Content

Subject Overview

- Basic organigram of a newsroom in conventional media and digital environments. The organization of work and professional routines in journalistic production.
- The construction of reality by the media: selection and hierarchy of information. Values or quality criteria in news production.
- Personal and documentary sources: data collection, interviews, types of informants, credibility factors.
- Communication offices, news agencies and other information providers. Websites of transparency and public registries as a source of data for journalists.
- Ethical and legal aspects that condition the treatment and use of sources in journalistic work.
- Internet as a universe of data and sources. Potential and dangers of social media and networks. Basics for checking hoaxes, false content and combating disinformation.

The order of the topics indicated may vary according to the final planning of the subject. The detailed calendar will be available on the first day of class and it will be published on the Virtual Campus.

The course content will be sensitive to issues related to gender perspective and the use of inclusive language.

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Seminars / Practical work at laboratory.	15	0.6	1, 2, 11, 12, 9, 3, 13, 5, 18, 8, 7, 16, 14, 15, 10, 6, 4
Theoretical presentations, case studies, debate and other participative dynamics.	30	1.2	1, 2, 11, 12, 9, 3, 13, 5, 8, 7, 17, 16, 15, 10, 6, 4
Type: Supervised			
Tutoring	7	0.28	1, 13, 8, 7, 17, 16, 14, 6
Type: Autonomous			
Search, selection and reading of bibliography and other resources. Personal study. Planning and individual work / teamwork.	91	3.64	1, 2, 11, 12, 9, 3, 13, 18, 8, 7, 17, 16, 14, 15, 10, 6, 4

The teaching methodology of this course aims to encourage active learning by students, as well as to increase their level of autonomy in decision-making, knowledge acquisition and performance of tasks that will allow them to develop professional skills related to the subject studied. Therefore, the teaching team is responsible for providing students with all the instructions, guidance and tutoring necessary for the proper follow-up of the course, but it is the student who are primarily responsible for achieving the objectives of the subject and passing the course satisfactorily.

The contents are divided into different types of training activities: expository sessions, case studies, debates, active participation in class, individual or team practical work, etc. In addition to the content explained by the teaching staff, the classes will follow specific dynamics, which will emulate basic routines and processes of the journalistic profession. In this way, while learning certain aspects of the syllabus, students will be experiencing and practising specific aspects that form part of the day-to-day work of journalism professionals.

All activities require the attendance/participation of all students, since the very first day of class. Eventually, according to the needs of the course, teachers could programme distance / non-classroom activities.

Virtual Campus: fundamental tool

A detailed schedule outlining the content of each session will be presented on the first day of the course and will be available on the course's Virtual Campus, where students will find all teaching materials and necessary information for effective course follow-up. Should the teaching modality change for reasons of force majeure according to the competent authorities, the teaching staff will inform students of any modifications to the course schedule and teaching methodologies.

The only valid sources of information for the development of the whole subject will be the orientations indicated by the professors during face-to-face classes, and the data, notices and documents published in the space of the subject in the Virtual Campus. Students must constantly consult the Virtual Campus in order to be up to date with the indications.

In addition, Virtual Campus will be the only way to submit evaluable assignments, except in those cases where the type of task or the format of the work does not allow it. In these specific cases, the teaching team will indicate the appropriate alternative route.

Tutoring

The tutorial meetings (individual or by teams) are a fundamental aspect for the proper development of the tasks of this subject. During the course, professors will inform their respective students the pre-established timetables and spaces for tutoring. The students' attendance to these tutoring is an aspect that the teaching staff will take into account when evaluating the assignments.

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.

Assessment

Continuous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
A) Current affairs test	10%	2	0.08	2, 11, 12, 9, 8, 7, 15, 10, 4
B) Individual Exams	35%	5	0.2	1, 2, 11, 12, 9, 3, 5, 8, 7, 17, 16, 14, 15, 10, 4
C) Practical exercises in seminar / laboratory	30%	0	0	1, 2, 11, 12, 9, 3, 13, 5, 18, 8, 7, 16, 14, 15, 10, 6, 4
D) Final coursework	25%	0	0	1, 2, 11, 12, 3, 13, 18, 8, 7, 17, 16, 14, 15, 10, 6, 4

The subject follows the system of continuous assessment, so it is assumed that is mandatory the participation of students to all training activities mentioned above.

The final grade of the subject will be calculated as a weighted average, based on the following assignments:

- Activity A. Current affairs test: 10% on the final grade;
- Activity B. Individual exams: 35% on the final grade;
- Activity C. Practice at seminars/laboratory: 30% on the final grade;
- Activity D. Coursework: 25% on the final grade.

IMPORTANT: Any written work or test that includes five mistakes spelling, grammar and/or barbarisms (five errors in total) will obtain a grade of 0.

To be able to pass the course, it is necessary:

- a) Carrie out and submit all the assignments (activities B, C and D). In case of absence for justified reasons of force majeure, the student must present the corresponding proof to the teaching team; otherwise, the activities will be considered as Not Completed.
- b) Obtain a minimum grade/average of 5,0 in each of the activities B, C and D.
- c) Regarding teamwork assignments, professors may adopt control measures to verify the participation of each member in the common work. Consequently, the grades may be different for members of the same team, which could mean that one or several members pass the evaluation, while the others don't.

In case of change in any evaluation activity for reasons of force majeure according to the competent authorities, the teacher will inform the class through the Virtual Campus.

Review of marks

The marks of the students' assessments will be published in the folder of the course in the Virtual Campus. Once the grades of each assessment activity are published, students will have a maximum period of seven calendar days to request a tutorial meeting and review of marks. After seven calendar days since the marks are published, they will be considered definitive.

Reevaluation

In order to be eligible for reassessment, students must fulfil the following two conditions:

- 1) not having reached the minimum criteria established to pass the subject;
- 2) to have been assessed during the semester of a set of activities, the weight of which corresponds to a minimum of 2/3 of the total grade of the subject.

Activities A and D are excluded from the reevaluation system.

Single-assessment system

This course does not provide for a single-assessment system.

Second Enrollment

In the case of a second enrolment, students may request the possibility (non-binding) of carrying out a single synthesis exam, a representative evaluation of the entire subject content (theory, practice and current affairs). The grade of the course will correspond to the grade of the synthesis exam. Students who wish to take this single test should contact the course coordinator during the first week of classes. Each case will be analysed individually, considering the mark obtained in the previous enrollment, number of activities carried out, etc. Depending on the case, the final coursework may also be required, so the final grade would correspond to the weighted average between the grades of the synthesis exam and the coursework.

Non-assessable

Point 9 of article 266 of the Academic Regulations of the UAB states that "when it is considered that the student has not been able to provide sufficient evidence of evaluation, this subject must be graded as non-assessable". In the case of the continuous evaluation, the student who has not attended at least 30% of the face-to-face and compulsory evaluation activities will be graded as not evaluable. In the case of the synthesis exam, the student who has not attended the face-to-face and compulsory synthesis test will be considered as not evaluable.

Plagiarism

If the student performs any irregularity (copy, plagiarism, identitytheft, etc.) that can lead to a significant variation in the qualification of an evaluation act, will be graded with 0 this evaluation. In case of more than one irregularity, the final grade of the course will be 0.

Artificial Intelligence

In this course, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies is not permitted at any stage. Any assignment containing content generated by AI will be considered a breach of academic integrity and may result in a partial or total penalty to the assignment grade, or more serious sanctions in severe cases.

Bibliography

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Required readings will be indicated in the first class and changes may be applied throughout the course.

Software

This course does not require any specialised software beyond the Office package (or equivalent). For virtual activities, Microsoft Teams will be used.

Groups and Languages

Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2025. You can check it through this [link](#). To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(PLAB) Practical laboratories	11	Catalan/Spanish	first semester	morning-mixed
(PLAB) Practical laboratories	12	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(PLAB) Practical laboratories	13	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(PLAB) Practical laboratories	21	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(PLAB) Practical laboratories	22	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(PLAB) Practical laboratories	23	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	2	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed