



Contra Costa College Course Outline

Department & Number	Journalism 124	Number of Weeks	18
Course Title	Sports Writing and Reporting	Lecture Hours per term	27
Prerequisite	There is no prerequisite for Journalism 124	Lab Hours per term	18
Co-requisite	There is no co-requisite for Journalism 124	*HBA per term	0
Prerequisite or concurrently		Activity Hours per term	
Challenge Policy	There is no challenge policy for Journalism 124	Units	2.0
Advisory	There is no advisory for Journalism 124		

HOURS BY ARRANGEMENT: Hours per week.

ACTIVITIES: (Please provide a list of the activities students will perform in order to satisfy the HBA requirement):

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is for the student with sports journalism interests. It covers basic game coverage of high school, college and professional sports for newspapers, magazines and online media. Also covered are sports news and issue writing and reporting, sports profile and feature writing, and sports column writing. Blogging and using Twitter and social media as reporting instruments are also covered in this course. Not repeatable.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the completion of the course the student will be able to:

		Write a competent sports game/match story and create a box score for that game. <i>SPORTS FACTORY</i>
		Handle a sports team beat — interview players and coaches, cover games or matches and produce a blog, tweets and multiple stories on that beat.
		Write a basic sports personality profile story on an athlete, coach or person associated with a team.
		Produce a sports blog detailing the events surrounding an athletic team during the course.
		Find an idea for a sports column and write an opinion column on a topic of importance.
		Understand techniques in reporting on important issues related to athletic teams and events.
		Produce a series of tweets covering a game/match — before, during and after the event.

Demonstrate understanding of

COURSE CONTENT: (In detail; attach additional information as needed and include percentage breakdown)

10	%	Introduction to sports writing
15	%	Sports writing basics — the lead, using quotes, highlighting important information
10	%	Using the AP Stylebook and Libel Manual — particularly the Sports Guidelines and Style section
20	%	Covering and writing the game/match story
20	%	Researching and writing the sports feature/profile story and/or sports issue story
15	%	Finding sports column and blog ideas, writing the sports column, and writing and updating sports blogs
10	%	Tweeting a game or match, including events that occur before and after the game

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Lecture and discussion
Article and online examples of professional work
Critiques of professional and student work
Guest speakers/field trips

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Instructor generated handouts
Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual, dictionary

Textbook Title:	<i>Inside Reporting</i>
Author:	Tim Harrower
Publisher:	McGraw-Hill ISBN: 978-0-07-337891-6
Edition/Date:	2nd edition (2010)

COURSE EXPECTATIONS (Use applicable expectations)

Outside of Class Weekly Assignments	Hours per week
Weekly Reading Assignments	1
Weekly Writing Assignments	3
Weekly Math Problems	0
Lab or Software Application Assignments	0
Other Performance Assignments	4

STUDENT EVALUATION: (Show percentage breakdown for evaluation instruments)

80	%	Completion of four assigned articles	
7.5	%	Associated Press style quizzes	
7.5	%	Completion of semester-long blog of beat coverage	
5	%	Completion of Twitter game/match assignment	

GRADING POLICY (Choose LG, CR/NC, or SC)

Letter Grade
 90% - 100% = A
 80% - 89% = B
 70% - 79% = C
 60% - 69% = D
 Below 60% = F

Pass / No Pass
 70% and above = Pass
 Below 70% = No Pass

Student Choice
 90% - 100% = A
 80% - 89% = B
 70% - 79% = C
 60% - 69% = D
 Below 60% = F
 Or
 70% and above = Pass
 Below 70% = No Pass

Prepared by:

Date: