ORIGINAL COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: May 2009
REVISED COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 2019
COURSE TO BE REVIEWED (six years after UEC approval)**:** May 2024
Course outline form version: 10/27/2017

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

Course Code and Number: MACS 235	**Number of Credits:** 3 Course credit policy (105)

Course Full Title: Introduction to Journalism in Canada
Course Short Title: Intro to Journalism in Canada
(Transcripts only display 30 characters. Departments may recommend a short title if one is needed. If left blank, one will be assigned.)

Faculty: Faculty of Social Sciences	**Department (or program if no department):** Social, Cultural & Media Studies

Calendar Description:

Journalists inform us about events and issues from around the world. But what factors determine their choice of stories to cover and the perspectives that they bring to these stories? This course takes a critical look at the role of the journalist in Canadian society.

Note: This course is offered as JRNL 235 and MACS 235. Students may take only one of these for credit.

Prerequisites (or NONE):	None.
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	

Antirequisite Courses *(Cannot be taken for additional credit.)*
Former course code/number:
Cross-listed with: **JRNL 235**
Dual-listed with:
Equivalent course(s):
(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)

Typical Structure of Instructional Hours

Lecture/seminar hours	30
Tutorials/workshops	15
Supervised laboratory hours	
Experiential (field experience, practicum, internship, etc.)	
Supervised online activities	
Other contact hours:	
Total hours	**45**

Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: ☒ No ☐ Yes

Special Topics
This course is offered with different topics:
☒ No ☐ Yes *(Double-click on box to select it as checked.)*
If yes, different lettered courses may be taken for credit:
☐ No ☐ Yes, repeat(s) ☐ Yes, no limit
(The specific topic will be recorded when offered.)

Transfer Credit
Transfer credit already exists: *(See **bctransferguide.ca**.)*
☐ No ☒ Yes
Submit revised outline for rearticulation:
☒ No ☐ Yes *(If yes, fill in transfer credit form.)*

Grading System
☒ Letter Grades ☐ Credit/No Credit

Expected Frequency of Course Offerings:
Annually
(Every semester, Fall only, annually, every other Fall, etc.)

Department / Program Head or Director: Martha Dow	**Date approved:**	March 26, 2018
Faculty Council approval	**Date approved:**	April 6, 2018
Dean/Associate VP: Jacqueline Nolte	**Date approved:**	April 6, 2018
Campus-Wide Consultation (CWC)	**Date of posting:**	May 11, 2018
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval	**Date of meeting:**	May 18, 2018

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify the central role played by journalists in a democratic society;
- Describe how the news media in Canada are organized;
- Explain the political and economic context in which journalists operate;
- Discuss the influence of sources, colleagues, employers, and audiences on journalists;
- Identify the factors affecting what stories get covered by the media and how they are covered;
- Explain how technological developments have affected journalists over the years.

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

☒ Yes ☐ No, PLAR cannot be awarded for this course because

Typical Instructional Methods *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.; may vary at department's discretion.)*

Lectures, in-class discussions, group discussions, student-led activities, videos, music, and practice tests.

NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.

Typical Text(s) and Resource Materials *(If more space is required, download Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form.)*

	Author (surname, initials)	Title (article, book, journal, etc.)	Current ed.	Publisher	Year
1.	Kovach, Bill, and Tom Rosenstiel	The Elements of Journalism: What Newspeople Should Know and the Public Should Expect, 3rd ed.	☒	Three Rivers Press	2014
2.	Gorman, Brian	Crash to Paywall: Canadian Newspapers and the Great Disruption	☒	McGill-Queen's University Press	2015
3.			☐		
4.			☐		
5.			☐		

Required Additional Supplies and Materials *(Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)*

None.

Typical Evaluation Methods and Weighting

Final exam:	25%	Assignments:	30%	Field experience:	%	Portfolio:	%
Midterm exam:	25%	Project:	%	Practicum:	%	Other:	20%
Quizzes/tests:	%	Lab work:	%	Shop work:	%	Total:	100%

Details (if necessary): Two assignments, the first worth 10%, the second worth 20%; "Other" includes a presentation (15%) and participation (5%).

Typical Course Content and Topics

Week 1 Journalism's role in a democratic state;
Week 2 Government influences on journalism;
Week 3 Business and advertising influences on journalism;
Week 4 Concentration of media ownership;
Week 5 How sources affect news coverage;
Week 6 The audience's needs and wants;
Week 7 Pack journalism;
Week 8 Infotainment and celebrity culture;
Week 9 Celebrity journalism;
Week 10 Journalism at the CBC;
Week 11 Canada's under-reported stories;
Week 12 The role of alternative news media;
Week 13 The decline of print journalism and the rise of Internet journalism.