

Week 1: Intro to Journalism (pt. 1)

This week, we will be covering the basics of Journalism as a concept, an institution, and a profession. We will explore the many ways we experience Journalism through the media and in our daily lives. We will also look into the role of Journalism in history. To do this we will be reading and watching many different sources in preparation for our discussion on Friday. I want all of you to have a broad understanding of what Journalism is, so you will need to explore a variety of news sources, which you will have some choice with. In addition to this, we will also read excerpts from our course readings that discuss the significance and foundations of Journalism. Also, remember to record your weekly news participation, where you will read or watch one piece from a reputable news/journalism source, then write and submit a short description or opinion about it in our Classroom discussion board, and then respond to at least one of your classmates' posts. Your participation will aid in our class discussion on Friday. Remember, if you have any questions or concerns about the week's assignments, please email me ASAP.

Monday (independent):

Read and annotate the Introduction and Chapter 1 of *The Elements of Journalism: What Newspeople Should Know and the Public Should Expect* (digital copy provided in Classroom, print copy due as requested) and jot down a few notes including three big-idea questions and three key takeaways. Turn in these notes on Classroom by Wednesday at 4 pm and show me your annotations in class on Friday. This will be a homework grade.

Wednesday (independent):

Read one of each of these article types (all of your own finding/choice): Political, Local Reporting News, Economic/Business, Editorial (opinion-based/essay style), Review, Magazine, and Interview. Up to two of these may be non-written sources (ex: video, photography, etc.). You are not required to take notes

(although they will come in handy!), but you must record the names of the pieces that you read/watch and be prepared to discuss them in class. Your participation in Friday's class will be a homework grade in order to show that you completed your readings.

Friday (class day):

The work from Monday and Wednesday is in preparation for this class's discussion/presentation, so please come to class with all the required work finished and be ready to talk about what you read and learned. We will briefly discuss the book excerpts and then dive into talking about your thoughts on the pieces you found and what they show us about Journalism as a whole. We will also begin a presentation about what Journalism is and how it affects our society which we will finish throughout next week. Over the weekend, watch 30 minutes of a local newscast (online or televised) and answer these three questions: Which segment did you find most interesting, and why? How does television reporting differ from the written reporting you read last Wednesday? What might broadcast journalism lack? These should each be answered in 3-4 sentences and should be turned in to Classroom by Monday at 4 pm.