JOUR 2601  
Principles of Journalism & Networked Communication  
Instructor: Michael Kodas  
Armory rm. 213  
Michael.Kodas@colorado.edu  
(303) 492-3009  
Office hours: Mondays 1 to 2:30 in the Armory; Tuesdays 2:00 to 3:30 at Buckingham; and by appointment  
Class: Tuesdays & Thursdays 3:30 to 4:45  
Buck S106  
Teaching Assistant:  
• Abby Levene  

Purpose:  
This course is designed to provide an overview of the professional traditions, roles, practices and responsibilities of news media in a democracy. It promotes the highest professional values and norms, critiques how news organizations have compromised those values, and inspires students to be future leaders who recognize the possibilities and importance of journalism in a democracy. Students will read, view and listen to an abundant variety of journalism to become skilled consumers of news. During this class, we will cover a broad range of topics related to the practice of journalism and new media, including these:  
• The role of journalism in a democracy  
• How news is defined, and how journalists cover the news in print, broadcast and electronic media  
• Best journalistic practices  
• Objectivity and truth telling  
• Ethics for journalists  
• Trends in print, broadcast and electronic journalism  
• Impact of business concerns  
• Emerging new sources of news and methods of distributing content  

Course Structure:  
This is the required cornerstone course for students entering the News-Editorial or Broadcast sequences in the journalism program and is intended to give students a foundation for further coursework focusing on the practice of professional journalism and communications. Keeping up with the reading, attending class, and participating in discussions and exercises are essential to earning a good grade in the course. There will be two exams during the semester (see the class schedule for specific details), and a final examination, as well as in-class questions, and exercises and writing assignments in the recitation sections.  

Course Textbook:  
• "The Elements of Journalism: What Newspeople Should Know and the Public Should Expect," by Bill Kovatch and Tom Rosenstiel (Updated edition)  
• "Principles of American Journalism: An Introduction," by Stephanie Craft and Charles N. Davis  
• Other readings will be available online on D2L.  
Please note that although not all readings will be mentioned specifically in lecture, all are required.  

Grading:  
• Two examinations: 15% each (30% total)  
• Recitation (including attendance, participation and assignments): 40%  
• Final exam: 30%  
Make-up exams and incompletes will be given only in very limited circumstances.  
93 percent to 100 percent = A  
90 percent to 92 percent = A-  
87 percent to 89 percent = B+  
83 percent to 86 percent = B  
80 percent to 82 percent = B-  
77 percent to 79 percent = C+  
73 percent to 76 percent = C  
70 percent to 72 percent = C-  
67 percent to 69 percent = D+  
65 percent to 66 percent = D  
Below 65 percent = F  

Attendance:  
You are expected to attend all classes. Our discussions will form the basis for exam questions. I will post my presentations to D2L to help you study, but they will not include all content. Also, in my lectures I will from time to
time announce additional readings. So if you don’t attend, you will miss material that will be on the exams, and your final grade in the class will likely suffer as a result.

Religious Observances: Campus policy requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, you must notify me or your TA at least one week in advance of a conflict to request special accommodation. See full details of campus policies at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

Classroom Behavior
Use of cell phones and other electronic devices, other than laptops or tablets to take notes, is not allowed. If your cell phone rings during class, or we see you text messaging, you will be asked to leave and you will lose credit for attendance and any questions asked in that class.

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran’s status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities. See policies at:
http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html & http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

Accommodations for Disability:
If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit a letter to me from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. For exam accommodations provide your letter at least one week prior to the exam. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or by email at dsninfo@colorado.edu.

If you have a temporary medical condition or injury that gets in the way of attendance, an exam or assignment, please see Temporary Injuries under Quick Links at Disability Services website http://disabilityservices.colorado.edu/ and make sure to discuss your needs with me and/or your TA.

Discrimination & Harassment
The University of Colorado Boulder (CUBoulder) is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. The University of Colorado does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status in admission and access to, and treatment and employment in, its educational programs and activities. (Regent Law, Article 10, amended 11/8/2001). CUBoulder will not tolerate acts of discrimination or harassment based upon Protected Classes or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. For purposes of this CU-Boulder policy, "Protected Classes" refers to race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or veteran status. Individuals who believe they have been discriminated against should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Student Conduct (OSC) at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at http://hr.colorado.edu/dh/

Staying Informed:
Reporting on our world is what journalism is all about. So you can’t be a journalist — or do well in this course — unless you immerse yourself in what is happening in the world, at the local, state, national and international levels.

Deadlines:
Meeting deadlines is fundamentally important for journalists and communicators. You are expected to meet yours. Out-of-class assignments are due on the dates assigned; late papers will not be accepted (with the exception of genuine, documented emergencies cleared with the professor or TA). Missing too many deadlines will constitute grounds for failing the course. We are very serious about this.
Spelling and grammar:
Accuracy is a fundamental hallmark of journalism, and that includes using correct spelling and grammar. Persistent errors in your assignments will reduce your grade, so proofread your assignments. If you are struggling with spelling and/or grammar, speak with me to arrange for you to get help.

Academic Integrity:
All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-735-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to academic sanctions from the faculty member, and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). For information on the Honor Code: http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html

and http://honorcode.colorado.edu

An important note about one particular form of academic dishonesty: The copying of words or ideas from another person and claiming them as your own, whether intentional or not, is plagiarism and will result in an F for the assignment and possibly for the course, as well as a referral to the honor code office. The same sanction applies to fabricating information, cheating on quizzes and exams, and other forms of academic dishonesty.

Examinations
All of the exams must be taken on the dates noted in the syllabus. No early exams will be given. Make-up exams after the scheduled dates will be given only in very limited cases, such as serious medical problems with written verification from a doctor or other health service provider and notification before the exam occurs. See the university’s final exam policy here:
http://www.colorado.edu/policies/final_exam.html

Final Exam Date & Time:
TBD
COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1: Introductions
Tuesday, 1/14: Journalism seen through different lenses.
Thursday, 1/16: Continuing our discussion from Monday, detailed syllabus and schedule review.

Week 2: Defining Journalism & Its Role in Democracy
Tuesday, 1/21: Bearing Witness. What is journalism? Who gets to decide?
Also: Bearing Witness on D2L
Thursday, 1/23: What is journalism & who gets to decide? Continued.

Week 3: Defining Journalism (cont.). What is Truth?
Tuesday, 1/28: Reading for today: Please review readings from last week, and check D2L for supplemental readings.
Thursday, 1/30: What kind of truth do we pursue in journalism?
Reading for today: Elements Ch. 2. Also

Week 4: Applying to J-program & Freedom of Expression
Tuesday, 2/4: Applying to the University of Colorado’s journalism program.
Thursday, 2/6: The First Amendment, freedom of the press, and its limits, including libel
Reading for today: Principles: Ch. 7. Also: Lifeblood of Democracy on D2L

Week 5: 1st Amendment cont. Also: What’s News?
Tuesday, 2/11: The First Amendment, freedom of the press, and its limits, continued.
Reading for today: Principles: Ch. 7. Also: Lifeblood of Democracy on D2L
Thursday, 2/13: How is News Made?
Reading for today: Principles: Ch. 3.

Week 6: What is News?
Tuesday, 2/18: How do we evaluate the newsworthiness of a story?
Thursday, 2/20: Newsworthiness continued.

Week 7: Who Do We Work For?
Tuesday, 2/25: Test #1
Wednesday, 2/27: What are our loyalties as journalists? Also: Review for test.
Reading for today: Elements: Ch. 3
Week 8: Journalistic Ethics
Tuesday, 3/4: Journalism ethics, with possible guest speaker.
Reading for today and Wednesday: Principles: Ch. 6. Elements: Ch. 10.
Thursday, 3/6: Ethics discussion continued.
Reading for today: Same as Monday.

Week 9: Verification/Monitor Power/Public Forum
Tuesday, 3/11: The journalism of verification, the meaning of journalistic objectivity, and the importance of independence.
Reading for today and Wednesday: Elements: Chapters 4 & 5. Principles: Ch. 8.
Wednesday, 3/13: How do journalists monitor power? Also: journalism as a public forum — what that means and how we’re doing...
Reading for today: Elements chapters 6 & 7. Also, this article in Rolling Stone:
And listen to this:
http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2012/03/16/mpr_news_presents (I’ll post both links to D2L as well.)

Week 10: Print Journalism
Monday, 3/18: Print journalism — reporting methods and news sources.
Primary vs. secondary sources.
Reading for today: Please check D2L
Wednesday, 3/20: Broadcast journalism — guest speaker: TBA.
Reading for today: Please check D2L

Week 11: NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK

Week 12: Photojournalism & Test #2
Tuesday, 4/1: Photojournalism — guest speaker: ME!
http://www.michaelkodas.com
Reading for today: Please check D2L
Thursday, 4/3: Test #2

Week 13: Digital Revolution
Tuesday, 4/8: How has it affecting news media?
Reading for today: State of the News Media materials on D2L
Thursday, 4/10: New voices and new models
Reading for today: Principles ch. 5

Week 14: Digital Revolution continued
Tuesday, 4/15: Journalistic blogging
Reading for today: Please see the DotEarth blog at the New York Times.com and the ImaGeo blog at Discover Magazine,
http://dotearth.blogs.nytimes.com/
http://blogs.discovermagazine.com/imageo
Also check D2L
Thursday, 4/17: Social media
Reading for today: TBD

**WEEK 15: Opportunities**
Tuesday, 4/22: Guest speaker: Jeff Browne, instructor for the JMC’s News Corps and coordinator of dLab.
Reading for today: TBD. Make sure to check D2L
Thursday, 4/24: Tying up loose ends.
Reading for today: TBD. Check D2L

**Week 16: Wrapping Up**
Tuesday, 4/29: What are citizens’ responsibilities?
Reading for today: Elements: Ch. 11
Thursday, 5/1: My peroration.
Reading for today: TBD