

## CMST 207: Newswriting in the Information Age

Learn the basics of reporting, editing, and writing news and feature stories, for print, broadcast and the web. News reports and feature stories are fundamental tools for passing useful information and knowledge to an engaged citizenry. Stories are the primary tools of information, entertainment and persuasion. These stories impart universal themes and knowledge whereby people learn how to navigate potential hazards and gain survival skills. (H)

### Course Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students must exercise writing skills in a variety of conditions. These will include writing news stories in class under deadline pressures that simulate real newsrooms. Emphasis will be placed on developing news judgment, accuracy and balance. Students must also comply with journalistic conventions of Associated Press style, grammar and syntax.
2. Students will learn feature-writing techniques by developing stories on longer deadlines and more in-depth reporting. These stories are planned in class over roundtable discussions and pursued outside of class. Stories will be culled from events at Peninsula College and in its surrounding community. Stories may be considered for publication in the campus student newspaper if they meet professional standards of accuracy, clarity, fairness, neutrality and creativity.
3. Student evaluations will come from in-class news assignments, feature assignments, weekly quizzes and class discussions. Classroom discussions will be led by student teams. These teams will provide student leadership on news coverage read in metropolitan dailies and regional news outlets, such as *The New York Times*, the *Seattle Times*, the *Oregonian*, the *Peninsula Daily News* and the *Sequim Gazette*. Students will read these daily newspapers for their quality coverage, news reports, narrative stories and writing style.

Credits: 5

Program: **Communication Study**