

Faculty	Management and Social Science	
Department	Mass Communication	
Course Title	Introduction to News Writing and Reporting	
Year of Study	1	
Course Code	MCM 109	
Credit Hours	2	
Contact Hours	30	
Mode of Delivery	Classroom Lectures	
Mode of Assessment		Weight
Continuous Assessment		30%
Final Examination		70%
Total		100%
Course Lecturer	Ogunwuyi S.O	
Course Description	<p>This course is designed to train students to become skilled in writing publishable news copy within given deadlines. The course is a practical skill-based course designed to enable students become proficient reporters and writers of news stories for print and broadcast. The course also provides basic definitions of news and examines the structure of various journalistic formats, as well as methods of producing them.</p>	
Course Objectives	<p>This course would enable the understanding of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction to journalism and basic principles of reporting.</li> <li>2. Application of principles of reporting.</li> <li>3. Acquainting you with the legal and ethical rules guiding your job as a reporter.</li> <li>4. What news values is and its impact on news.</li> </ol>	

Learning Outcomes	<p>By the end of the course, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Define what is news</li> <li>2. Explain journalist and its functions in the society.</li> <li>3. Attributes of a reporter</li> <li>4. Identify news, news sources and how to gather news</li> <li>5. Understand journalistic interview and how to conduct interview</li> </ol>	
Teaching and Learning	The class will meet for two hours every week for a combination of both the lecture hours and tutorials.	
Detailed Course Content	<p>This is a practical course designed to enable students to become proficient in preparing a publishable copy under deadline. Students are taught what beats are, to develop stories for publication and encouraged to submit outstanding news stories that are publishable. The course examines various definitions of news as well as the structure of the news and other journalistic forms. Furthermore, it provides excellent material from the Nigerian and foreign news media for study and imitation.</p>	
	Course Content Sequencing	
Weeks	Detailed Course Outline	Allocated Time
Week 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Journalism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definition of journalism and journalist</li> <li>• Qualification of a journalist</li> <li>• Qualities of a good journalist</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	
Week 2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Reporter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe who is a reporter</li> <li>• Explain types of reporters</li> <li>• Types of reporting</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	
Week 3,4	<p>News</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definition of News, qualities of a good news story</li> <li>• Describe news values, determinants of news</li> <li>• Types of news</li> </ul>	

Week 5	<p>News Structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Headline</li> <li>• Lead</li> <li>• Body</li> <li>• Servants of News writing</li> <li>• Models for news presentation</li> </ul>	
Week 6	<p>The basics of information gathering, news writing and news reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definition</li> <li>• Problems of news gathering</li> <li>• General rules for news writing and reporting</li> </ul>	
Week 7, 8	<p>Journalistic Interview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definition of Journalistic interview</li> <li>• Types of interview</li> <li>• Points to note before, during and after the interview.</li> <li>• Interview skills</li> <li>• Tools needed by journalist during the interview</li> </ul>	
Weeks 9, 10, 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reporter's checklist</li> <li>• Checklist before a reporter writes a story</li> <li>• News writing and reporting for broadcast media</li> <li>• Criteria for selecting broadcast stories</li> <li>• News writing and reporting for print media</li> <li>• Continuous Assessment</li> </ul>	
Week 12	Revision	
Week 13, 14	Examinations	

### Recommended Reading Material

1. Aiyelabegan, C.J & Olohunbebe, F.T. (2015). Fundamentals Of News Writing And Reporting. Ilorin. Estim Impressions Publisher.
2. Mudathir, G. (2010). The Reporter's Companion. Ibadan. Emgee Publisher.