

**NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
ENG 121- INTRODUCTION TO JOURNALISM I (3 CR.)**

Course Description

Introduces students to all news media, especially news gathering and preparation for print. Lecture 3 hours per week

General Course Purpose

Eng 121 will prepare students to write for news media and will help students to better understand the news media so that they can be knowledgeable and informed journalistic consumers.

Course Prerequisites/Co-Requisites

ENG 111, ENG 112 or division approval.

Course Objectives**GOAL ONE:** Conventions of journalistic writing and reporting

Eng 121/122 will help students to understand the conventions and norms of journalistic writing and reporting. Students will be able to:

- identify the differences between news, features, and editorial writing
- master basic principles to determine whether a story is newsworthy
- write news stories using the inverted pyramid and other story forms appropriate to journalism
- demonstrate basic mastery of the conventions of journalistic writing
- report and write articles about varying topics and in varying styles
- read and discuss news stories
- edit stories for grammar and content

GOAL TWO: Law and Ethics in Journalism

Eng 121/122 students will understand the necessity to engage in ethical journalism and to follow key laws. Students will be able to:

- recognize the role of ethics and law in modern journalism
- evaluate issues relating to freedom of the press
- identify laws that limit freedom of the press, particularly libel laws
- appropriately apply ethical principles to journalistic dilemmas

GOAL THREE: The Media in the 21st Century

Eng 121/122 students will understand key changes that impact news gathering and delivery. Students will be able to:

- identify historical changes that have impacted modern news gathering and delivery
- distinguish online and broadcast journalism and from print traditional versions
- identify and employ strategies for composing multimedia stories

Major Topics to be Included

- Conventions of journalistic writing
- Distinctions between news, features and editorial writing
- Interviewing and gathering information
- Writing Leads
- Copy editing
- Media Ethics
- Media Law
- Changes in 21st Century Media