

Point Loma Nazarene University JRN 350/Special Topics in Journalism/ Border Reporting 3 Units

Fall 2018

Meeting days: Wednesday	Instructor title and name: Laura Castañeda	
Meeting times: 5:30 p-7 p	Phone: 614-855-4140	
Meeting location: BAC 156	E-mail: LCastane@pointloma.edu	
	Office location and hours: TBA	

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Focuses on current aspects of border journalism with a different concentration each time it is offered. May be repeated for credit as content varies up to six units. For JRN 350, you will gain an understanding of how to tell ethical, fair, accurate stories through a variety of mediums, with a better understanding of what it means to be a border reporter.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

- **Students will** show they have an understanding of how to differentiate between American and Mexican news and newsgathering practices.
- **Students will** create ethical, accurate and fair content related to border stories using digital tools by completing assignments and participating in class.
- **Students will** apply appropriate ethical and legal standards in all assignments by abiding by and learning ethical and legal requirements and suggestions.

- **Students will** research, present and learn how to gain access to sources in Mexico and the U.S. to find compelling and original content.
- **Students will** apply appropriate cultural techniques and methods while covering news stories in Mexico and along the U.S. Mexico border.
- Students will apply social media strategies to covering stories along the U.S. Mexico Border.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

DATE PRESENTED	CLASS CONTENT	
8/29/2017	Introduction to Course/ Getting to know you / Prep Story Pitches	
9/5/2017	Choosing Assignment Topics / Pitch Stories / SDLF	10 points
9/12/2017	Creating Sources / Language Barriers / Culture Differences	
9/19/2017	Applying for Permits/ Analyzing Stories/ Mexican Media & Law	
9/26/2017	Use of Subtitles / Analyzing Stories	
10/3/2017	Interviewing Skills & Best Practices	
10/10/2017	Field Trip TBA	
10/17/2017	Story Draft #1 due / Analyze in Class	20 points
10/24/2017	Media Interview Due / Midterm	20 points
10/31/2017	Documentary & Film (Border Related)	
11/7/2017	Guest Speaker(s)	
11/14/2017	Field Trip – TBA	
11/21/2017	Finding a job as a Border Reporter	
11/28/2017	Guest Speakers	
12/5/2017	Final Multimedia Border Story Due	
12/12/2017	Critique of Final Border Blog	30 points

REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES

You will be provided links to articles, television news stories, youtube clips, and other news organizations publications by the instructor. No textbooks are required, but writing will be based off the AP Stylebook.

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Assignment distribution by percentage:	Grade scale:
 Media Interview 20% Attendance and Participation 20% Oral / Written Pitch 10% Midterm Story Draft 20% Final Project 30 % 	A=90-100 B=80-89 C=70-79 D=60-69 F=Below 60

FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY

There will not be a written final exam. You will have one final project, assigned throughout the semester to complete and present to the class at the end of the semester. Successful completion of this class requires presenting **on its scheduled day, December 5, 2018**.

PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside class may violate the law.

PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic <u>dis</u>honesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See <u>Academic Policies</u> for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further information.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

If you have a diagnosed disability, please contact PLNU's Disability Resource Center (DRC) within the first two weeks of class to demonstrate need and to register for accommodation by phone at 619-849-2486 or e-mail DRC@pointloma.edu. See Disability Resource Center for more information.

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, the faculty member can file a written report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. See <u>Academic Policies</u>.

Education Records (FERPA) and Directory Information

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 as amended affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. These include: 1) the right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the university receives a request for access, 2) the right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the student believes are inaccurate or misleading, 3) the right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, and 4) the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by Point Loma to comply with the requirements of FERPA. For more information visit the Academic and General Policies page on the PLNU website.

NOTE: This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor and does not constitute a contractual agreement between the student and the instructor.