

Spring 2023	
Meeting days: Monday, Wednesday, Friday	Instructor title and name: Nathan Gibbs Associate Professor of Multimedia Journalism
Meeting times: 11 – 11:55 a.m.	Office Phone: (619) 849-2415
Meeting location: Bond 156	Email: nathangibbs@pointloma.edu
Final Exam: May 3, 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Office location and hours: BAC 123 MWF 9:30 - 11 a.m. & TR 1 - 2:30 p.m. and by appointment.

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

The study of the philosophy and practice of journalism with an emphasis on news gathering and writing as a process in traditional and current technological formats. Explores broadcasting, electronic media, and the role of journalists in society.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

Outcome	Assessment
Demonstrate an understanding of the what the First Amendment to the Constitution refers to as “the press” and how that protection impacts the news media and society.	Chapter Responses Final Exam
Develop an understanding of the role news media plays in a democracy.	Quizzes on Current Events Film Presentation
Exhibit increasing competence in gathering and reporting news as a means for developing professional writing ability.	News Stories Canvas Assignments Quizzes on AP Style

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

The Department of Literature, Journalism, Writing & Languages uses the following outcomes to assess the Multimedia Journalism program.

Outcome	Assessment
Students will exhibit effective research and reporting practices including the creation and editing of a news story based on accepted industry standards and values.	Written Communication Information Literacy Critical Thinking
Students will identify and apply appropriate ethical and legal standards in their service to their communities and cultures.	Critical Thinking
Employ oral communication appropriate to various news performance situations.	Written Communication Oral Communication
The student will be able to describe how technologies shape the way people perceive and interact with the world and apply (Application) these digital tools and technologies appropriately for the communications professions in which they work.	Written Communication Information Literacy Critical Thinking Quantitative Reasoning

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

The Associated Press Stylebook 2023, 56th ed., 2022. The Associated Press.

The Journalism Behind Journalism, 1st ed., 2022. Baleria.

Talk To Me, 1st ed., 2019. Nelson.

ASSESSMENTS AND GRADING

Your grade is based on the following areas of work:

News Stories	35%
Chapter Responses	25%
Quizzes on AP Style	10%
Quizzes on Current Events	10%
Final Exam	10%
Canvas Assignments	5%
Film Presentation	5%

The following grading scale represents the minimum total percentage required to receive a given final grade:

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-
93	90	87	83	80	77	73	70	67	63	60

News Stories (350 points): Students will write 10 news stories during the semester for a maximum of 35 points each. When stories are published by The Point, 10 points of extra credit will be awarded. Since spelling and deadlines are critical in journalism, they rate special emphasis in grading. Misspell a proper name and the story will receive a zero, which can be made up by doing a different story the following week. Missing a deadline will reduce the total potential score by 10 percent each day it's late. News stories will be assessed for a total of 35 percent of the final grade.

Chapter Responses (250 points): Students will write 23 responses to assigned book chapters for a maximum of 12 points each. The two lowest scores will be dropped. These responses account for 25 percent of the final grade.

Quizzes on AP Style (100 points): Students will take 11 open-book quizzes on AP Style for a maximum of 10 points each. The lowest score will be dropped. These quizzes account for 10 percent of the final grade.

Quizzes on Current Events (100 points): Students will take 10 in-class quizzes on current events valued at 10 points each. Quizzes will include one bonus question for a maximum potential of 12 points each. These quizzes account for 10 percent of the final grade.

Canvas Assignments (50 points): A series of assignments will be submitted in Canvas to prepare students to write news stories. These exercises account for 5 percent of the final grade.

Film Presentation (50 points): In groups, students will make a presentation on a journalism-related film from the provided list for a maximum of 50 points. This project accounts for 5 percent of the final grade.

Extra Credit Film Analysis (35 points): Watch a journalism-related film from the provided list and write a 1- to 2-page analysis. Limit the plot summary to two paragraphs and include at least one full page analyzing the journalism issues based on concepts explored in class. This may be repeated up to three times for total potential extra credit of 10 percent of the final grade.

STATE AUTHORIZATION

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Deadlines for publication are set in collaboration with the editors of *The Point*. If you miss a deadline and the story is not of sufficient quality to be published, no credit will be given for that attempt. You can try again on another story and still receive full credit for a given project category.

PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the U.S. Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the 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 dishonesty 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 [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities. Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will issue an academic accommodation plan ("AP") to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not wish to utilize some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC.

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of 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.

SPIRITUAL CARE

Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If students have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain or have prayer requests you can contact the [Office of Spiritual Development](#).

COURSE SCHEDULE

See Canvas for deadlines, assignments, readings and quizzes.