



Spring 2021

Meeting Days: Mon/Wed/Fri	Instructor: Lynn Walsh
Meeting Times: 11-Noon PT	Phone: 614-579-7937
Meeting Location: Zoom	E-mail: LWalsh@pointloma.edu
Office Hours: Upon request using this link	

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.

Foundational Explorations Mission

PLNU provides a foundational course of study in the liberal arts informed by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In keeping with the Wesleyan tradition, the curriculum equips students with a broad range of knowledge and skills within and across disciplines to enrich major study, lifelong learning, and vocational service as Christ-like participants in the world’s diverse societies and culture.

Course Description

The study of the philosophy and practice of journalism with an emphasis on newsgathering 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

1. Understand what the 1st Amendment to the Constitution means in society and how that amendment is played out by the news media
2. Develop an understanding of and appreciation for the news media in a democracy
3. Achieve competence in gathering and reporting news as a means for developing professional writing ability.

Department Learning Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate the skills necessary for effective research, writing, and oral communication in various genres and media.
2. Students will display interpretive, analytical, and

critical skills developed through the close study and analysis of texts. 3. Students will demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures and literary texts. 4. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the nature, structure, and history of language. 5. Students will develop redemptive social and spiritual engagement through studies of language, text, cultures, and media.

Journalism Program Learning Outcomes

Students who complete the program in Journalism will be able to 1. exhibit effective research and reporting practices. 2. display strong interpretive, analytic, and critical thinking skills. 3. communicate ideas clearly and accurately in forms appropriate to the purpose, medium, and audience. 4. employ appropriate ethical and legal standards and professional codes in their service to their communities and cultures.

Required Texts

[Associated Press Stylebook](#): Students can either purchase a digital subscription to the stylebook or the physical book.

Students are also expected to consume news content every day, monitor news websites or news broadcasts and be ready to discuss events and coverage. Subscribing to news apps is a good idea.

Course Credit Hour Information

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a three-unit class delivered over 15 weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated 112.5 total hours meeting the course learning outcomes. The time estimations are provided in the Canvas modules.

ASSIGNMENT VALUES:	GRADE % SCALE:
News Coverage Assignment (25 points)	A=90-100
Story Pitching Assignment (25 Points)	B-=80-89
Discussion Board Assignments (10 Points)	C=70-79
News Stories (50 Points)	D=60-69
Identities and Bias Assignment (25 Points)	F=0-59
FOIA/CPRA Assignment (50 points)	
Participation/Attendance (50 points)	

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.

Incomplete and Late Assignments

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

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 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

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 by e-mail at DRC@pointloma.edu. See [Disability Resource Center](#) for additional information.

PLNU Attendance And Participation Policy

Regular and punctual attendance at all synchronous class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions (virtual or face-to-face), 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. In some courses, a portion of the credit hour content will be delivered asynchronously and attendance will be determined by submitting the assignments by the posted due dates. See Academic Policies in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog. If absences exceed these limits but are due to university excused health issues, an exception will be granted.

Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

A day of attendance in asynchronous content is determined as contributing a substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission by the posted due date. Failure to meet these standards will result in an absence for that day. Instructors will determine how many asynchronous attendance days are required each week.

Use of Technology

In order to be successful in the online environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the Technology and System Requirements information. Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers compatible with their computer available to use. If a student is in need of technological resources please contact student-tech-request@pointloma.edu. Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your classwork.
