LSC Use Only Number: FFB 1 0 1997 Number: Submission Date: Submission Date: Action-Date: Action-Date: With drawn PROPOSAL COVER SHEET University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee ١. CONTACT Robert Russell \_Phone x7831 Contact Person Department Journalism 11. PROPOSAL TYPE (Check All Appropriate Lines) JN 340/FEATURE WRITING X COURSE Suggested 20 character title New Course\* Course Number and Full Title X Course Revision JN 321/FEATURE WRITING Course Number and Full Title \_\_\_\_ Liberal Studies Approval + for new or existing course Course Number and Full Title Course Deletion Course Number and Full Title X Number and/or Title Change JN 321/FEATURE WRITING Old Number and/or Full Old Title JN 340/FEATURE WRITING New Number and/or Full New Title \_\_\_\_ Course or Catalog Description Change Course Number and Full Title PROGRAM: Major Minor Track \_\_\_\_ New Program\* \_\_\_\_ Program Revision\* \_\_\_\_\_ Program Name \_\_\_\_ Program Deletion\* \_\_\_\_ Program Name \_\_\_\_ Title Change

III. Approvals (signatures and date)

Old Program Name

New Program Name

+Director of Liberal Studies (where applicable) \*Provost (where applicable)

## **DESCRIPTION OF CURRICULUM CHANGE**

JN 340 Feature Writing 1

3c-01-3sh

Prerequisites: JN 328 or permission

Designed for the student who might work in journalism or who might wish to write on a part-time or free-lance basis.

#### SUMMARY OF PROPOSED REVISIONS

**Current:** JN 321 Feature Writing

3c-01-3sh

Prerequisites: JN 102, JN 120

Designed for the student who might work in journalism or who might wish to write on a part-time or free-lance basis.

**Proposed:** JN 340 Feature Writing

3c-01-3sh

Prerequisites: JN 328 or permission

Designed for the student who might work in journalism or who might wish to write on a part-time or free-lance basis.

# RATIONALE:

JN 328 is being proposed as a prerequisite for Feature Writing and should therefore have a lower course number.. Feature writing requires news reporting skills.

## SYLLABUS OF RECORD N/A

## LETTERS OF SUPPORT N/A

I **Catalog Description**  JN 340 Feature Writing

3c-01-3sh

**Prerequisites** 

Prerequisites: JN 328 or permission

Designed for the student who might work in journalism or who might wish to write on a part-time or free-lance basis.

#### II **Course Objectives**

• experience different writing styles appropriate to journalism

appreciate and develop the art of interviewing

• learn the "how-to" of how-to articles

• grasp the fine points of the personality profile

explore techniques of marketing articles
experience the "joys" of first reader; the "agonies" of rejection

• practice writing constructive critiques

#### Course outline Ш

Week One What is a Feature Story? Chapters 1-2

Weeks Two to Four: How To Interview - Chapters 3 and 4

The Personality Profile

Query Letters and Proposals - Chapter 6

Interview story due Week Four with mentor/editor notes

First Reader Selections/Critiques due Week Five

Rewrite due Week Six

Week Five to Six: The Review - Chapter 5

> Review due Week Six with mentor/editor notes First Reader Selections/Critiques due Week Seven

Rewrite due Week Eight

Week Seven: Reviewing Class Work

Week Eight - Nine: The How-to Story

How-To story due Week Nine with mentor/editor notes

First Reader Selections/Critiques due Week 10

Rewrite due Week 11

Week 10 - 11: The Narrative Approach - Chapter 7

> Narrative due Week 11 with mentor/editor notes First Reader Selections/Critiques due Week 12

Rewrite due Week 13

Week 12 - 13:

Researching the Story

Article 5 due Week 13 with mentor/editor notes First Reader Selections/Critiques due Week 14

Rewrite due at Final

Week 14:

The Best of Our Work

#### IV Evaluation

#### **ASSIGNMENTS**

1. Each student will write five articles of publishable quality: 1 interview story, 1 review, 1 how-to and 1 critique. The fifth article may be an additional article in any of these genres. Each student will be permitted one rewrite of each article.

Each student will write two query letters to a specific publication and one proposal.

- 2. Each student will participate in class exercises and discussions, including serving as a peer mentor, an editor and a first reader.
  - 3. Each student will contribute oral and written crtitiques.

**NOTE:** Each article **must** be submitted in two copies. One copy will go to the instructor with mentor and editor's notes. The second copy will go to the first reader. Students should retain the original both as a precaution and as a means of assessing the article's evolution. Mentor/editor's notes need to be submitted only to the instructor. First readers' selections/critiques **must** be submitted to both the instructor and the writer; therefore copies of these materials must be provided by the first reader.

#### **GRADING**

Assignments under 1 will constitute 50% of the grade.

Assignments under 2 will constitute 25% of the grade.

Assignments under 3 will constitute 25% of the grade.

This course does not follow the University's Attendance Policy. However, missing deadlines and in-class exercises and discussions will affect a student's grade.

V Required Textbooks <u>Voices of a Nation</u> by Folkerts and Tester

VI Special resource Requirements None

VII Bibliography N/A

JN340 FEATURE WRITING Prerequisite: JN328, Permission

#### CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Designed for the student who plans to work in journalism or who might wish to write on a parttime or free-lance basis.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

• experience different writing styles appropriate to journalism

appreciate and develop the art of interviewing

· learn the "how-to" of how-to articles

• grasp the fine points of the personality profile

explore techniques of marketing articles

• experience the "joys" of first reader; the "agonies" of rejection

practice writing constructive critiques

#### TEXT

Witt, Leonard, ed. The Complete Book of Feature Writing. Cincinnati: Writer's Digest Books, 1991.

# COURSE OUTLINE

Week One: What is a Feature Story? Chapters 1-2

Weeks Two to Four: How To Interview - Chapters 3 and 4

The Personality Profile

Query Letters and Proposals - Chapter 6

Interview story due Week Four with mentor/editor notes

First Reader Selections/Critiques due Week Five

Rewrite due Week Six

Week Five to Six: The Review - Chapter 5

Review due Week Six with mentor/editor notes First Reader Selections/Critiques due Week Seven

Rewrite due Week Eight

Week Seven: Reviewing Class Work

Week Eight - Nine: The How-to Story

How-To story due Week Nine with mentor/editor notes

First Reader Selections/Critiques due Week 10

Rewrite due Week 11

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Narrative due Week 11 with mentor/editor notes First Reader Selections/Critiques due Week 12

Rewrite due Week 13

Week 12 - 13: Researching the Story

Article 5 due Week 13 with mentor/editor notes First Reader Selections/Critiques due Week 14



#### Rewrite due at Final

#### Week 14: The Best of Our Work

#### **ASSIGNMENTS**

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Final Period: Final exam.