Course Description and Objectives

This course is designed to provide a theoretical foundation of television broadcasting and meteorology to supplement the hands-on television experience gained from the WeatherWatcher Living-Learning Community. By examining the history and characteristics of television, critical analyses of news and weather-related programming and special topics pertaining to meteorology, students will gain a rounded understanding of the medium and its impact on the field of meteorology and broadcasting.

Classes will consist of guest lecturers from the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, as well as from companies outside of Rutgers. Discussions of topical and relevant news relating to television production, industries and technologies relating to meteorology and broadcasting will also be included in the weekly classes.

Rannie Teodoro is an expert in Communication Studies, and will be in charge of the course each semester. She will work with Meteorology Professor Steven Decker, who will attend each lecture and fully participate in the discussions, giving his perspective based on his experience as a meteorologist. They will also arrange for guest lectures from television weathercasters from the New York/Philadelphia region, and will also make presentations in the classes.

Learning Goals

Upon completion of this class, students will be able to:

1. Exhibit critical thinking when confronting new information.

Requirements

Attendance

Students are required to attend the weekly class as part of the WeatherWatcher Living-Learning Community. If you are unable to attend a class, please notify the instructor as soon as possible. An online notification of absence is available; please use this method to inform the instructor.
Readings
It is the student's responsibility to stay up-to-date with all class assignments and assigned readings. Readings will consist of selected theoretical and research texts relating to the week’s topic, and will be available on the course Sakai website (sakai.rutgers.edu) under the “Resources” section. Please come to class prepared to discuss the readings. Readings for guest lecturers will be announced later in the semester.

Assignments
Response Papers:
Students will complete one response paper per week (1-2 pages double spaced), addressing a topic from the readings or class discussion. This response paper will not be a summary; instead, you will select one aspect of the readings or class discussion to critically evaluate. In the evaluation, you will compare the strengths, weaknesses, and applicability of the topic and your experiences in broadcasting and meteorology. The response papers are to be handed in at the start of class; no late papers will be accepted.

Speech Assignment:
In our third week of class, we will discuss what it means to effectively deliver a speech along with the constructs of creating a speech. The following week, students will be asked to select a topic that they would like to inform us about, a topic regarding or involving meteorology. An outline discussion and review will be conducted to properly prepare students for the final step, the in-class speech presentation. Visual aids and proper attire are requirement for this speech.

Grading
The final grades for the course will be determined by the following:
- Class participation and attendance: 20%
- Weekly response papers/In-class activities: 40%
- Speech: 40%

The following are the standard grades and criteria:
90-100, A: work fulfills terms of assignment, shows excellence, creativity, original thought
86-89, B+: work fulfills terms of assignment, some excellence, creativity, original thought
80-85, B: work fulfills terms of assignment, less evidence of excellent, creativity, original thought
76-79, C+: work fulfills terms of assignment, shows very limited evidence of original thought
70-75, C: work fulfills terms of assignment
65-69, D: failure to fulfill terms of assignment
64 and below, F: failing and incomplete work

There will be no extra credit assignments.
Student Conduct and Academic Integrity

Students are also responsible for adhering to the policies of this course and of Rutgers University, which includes the Code of Student Conduct. Please see http://www.rci.rutgers.edu/~polcomp/judaff/docs/UCSC.pdf for more information.

What is expected of you:

1. Check your email every day.
2. Read every assignment in the text before class, and come prepared to discuss it and ask questions about it.
3. Participate in class discussions. But be respectful of your listeners and give everyone time to talk.
4. Listen attentively and respectfully to whoever is talking in class, be it the professor or a fellow student. (This means no texting or web browsing.)
5. Attend every class. Arrive on time. You cannot pass the course if you have an unexcused absence.
6. Be curious.
7. Be skeptical. Demand evidence before you believe something.
8. Enjoy the class, and if you are not, express your concerns and work to change things.
9. Work three hours outside of class for every hour in a class.
10. Many decisions are based on your values. But be sure be aware of your values and to state then when appropriate.

Policy on Academic Integrity (including cheating, fabrication, and plagiarism). A detailed explanation of these policies can be found at http://ctaar.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html. Failure to comply with the policies of this course and of the university will result in disciplinary action.

Academic integrity includes:
1. Develop and write all your own assignments
2. Show in detail where the materials and sources you use in your papers come from
3. Do not fabricate information or citations in your work
4. Do not facilitate academic dishonestly for another students by allowing your own work to be submitted by others.

Do not plagiarize. Do not copy anything word for word without putting it in quotes and referencing it. Do not copy any idea without referencing it. Do not copy anything from the Internet and submit it as your own work. Every sentence or paragraph in your paper will fall into one of three categories: 1) Direct quote from an article you read; 2) Idea from article you read, expressed in your own words; or 3) Your own idea. In the case of 1 or 2, it is necessary to reference the article from which the quote or idea came. If it is a quote (1), it must appear in quotation marks. Try to use your own words to express your ideas. For more information on
If you are doubtful about any issue related to plagiarism or scholastic dishonestly, please discuss it with the instructor.

Class schedule
This schedule is subject to change at any time. In the event the schedule changes the instructor(s) will try and provide advanced notice.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>What’s due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 7</td>
<td>Welcome and Intro</td>
<td>In class we will assign “Speeches of Introduction.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 14</td>
<td>Assessing communicative settings for constraints and opportunities</td>
<td>Reading: Chapter 1 “Becoming a Public Speaker” Present: Speeches of Introduction</td>
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<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>Open House</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<td>Oct. 12</td>
<td>Sara Espinoza from EarthGauge</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<td>Oct. 19</td>
<td>Dan Zarrow from News 12 New Jersey</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<td>Nov. 2</td>
<td>Communication Theories and Persuasive Framing Perspectives</td>
<td>Reading: Chapter 16 (“Using Language to Style the Speech”) Hand in: Response paper.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 16</td>
<td>Focus Group</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 21 (Weds., Fri. schedule)</td>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
<td>Happy Thanksgiving!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 30</td>
<td>New Media and Meteorology: Convergence &amp; Online Communication</td>
<td>Readings: Media Essentials – Chapter 9 – Internet and New Media Hand in: Response paper.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 7</td>
<td>Final Speech Presentations</td>
<td>Final Speech Presentations</td>
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