RTD 312 Electronic Sports Journalism – Fall 2015
12:35 – 1:50 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays – Comm 9a
Instructor: Joey Helleny Office: Comm 1050b
Mobile: 618-534-1667 Office: 618-453-6903

Office Hours: 2-4 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays
2-3 pm Mondays and Wednesdays
(If I’m not in 1050b at these times, check the RREE Newsroom)
Other times by appointment
I’m usually in my office every day so feel free to stop by or call to see if I’m there.

Email: jhelleny@siu.edu Please put RTD 312 in the subject line of emails you send me about this class.

Explores the foundations of electronic sports reporting, including legal and ethical considerations. Emphasis on responsible reporting practices while on deadline and enterprise reporting. Prerequisite: RTD 310.


Equipment: 1) headphones or earbuds 2) a flash drive or external hard drive 3) smartphone with audio recording app

Attendance:
Participation in class is a major part of the learning experience. Four absences will be allowed without any penalty. Beginning with the fifth absence, your grade will be lowered one full letter grade. Each additional two absences will result in another letter grade reduction. If you are covering a legitimate news story for WSIU-FM or RREE additional absences may be allowed if prior arrangements are made with the instructor. If you have other circumstances that require you to miss class, we may be able to make arrangements provided you notify the instructor prior to class.

No late entry to class. Once the door is closed, you are not allowed in. The only exceptions would be with prior permission from the instructor.

Cell Phone Policy: When you enter the classroom your cell phones should be turned to silent and stored in your backpack, purse, or pocket. Calls or texting are not allowed during class.

The following components will make up your grade:

Class presentation on how to cover a sport (100 points): You will be responsible to presenting to the class the basics of covering a particular sport. Topics you should cover include: a) the history of the sport b) leagues and/or sanctioning bodies c) differences between amateur and professional versions d) basic rules and procedures e) the venue (fields, tracks, etc) f) notable athletes and coaches g) tips for
covering the sport – what to watch for and how to prepare. You are encouraged to use video and other graphics to illustrate your presentation.
Your presentation should take at least 45 minutes. You are encouraged the class to participate in scorecard/scorebook/stats exercises or other “hands on” activities.

**Book Report on a sports media topic (50 points):** You will read and write a 2-3 page book report about a sports media topic or personality. The report should identify any important issues raised by the book. I may ask you to talk about this in front of the class.

**Play-by-play submissions (100 points):** You will submit four play-by-play clips during the semester. Two may be from watching the sport on television or online. Two must be done from the stands, sideline, or pressbox of a live event. No more than two can be the same sport. The clips should be 5 minutes each. They can be some simply with your cellphone audio recorder. You may use a partner but you cannot each submit the very same clip.

**Sports talk show exercise (100 points):** We will do a mock in-class sports talk show. You will be paired with a partner for a 25 minute segment.

**Interview exercise (100 points):** You will interview an athlete or coach and the entire interview will be critiqued. You may use your cellphone recorder or it can be an interview you’ve done for WSIU, WIDB, RREE (see below).

**Newsroom shift:** you must work a three-hour shift each week in one of the student media newsrooms. **Sports stories posted to blog from WSIU Radio, WIDB, DE, or RREE (200 points):** Stories that you produce in the student media newsrooms should also be posted to the class blog for credit.

**Quizzes on assigned readings (25 points)**

**Spotting chart assignment (25 points)**

**Twitter (50 points)**
You should tweet updates when you are covering stories.

**Sportscast (50 points)**
You will write and deliver a 4 minute sportscast in class.

**Class participation (50 points)**

**Mid term (50 points)**

**Final Exam (100 points) December 15, 12:30 pm**
The following extra credit opportunities are available:
Paul Simon Public Policy Institute and Global Media Research Center Lectures are always worth extra credit. Make sure you fill out a class card at the event. Some SINBA events will also count as extra credit. Working regularly in WSIU-FM Sports, WIDB Sports, or River Region Sports can also count for extra credit.

IMPORTANT DATES

9/1 – Baseball & Softball
9/3 – Football; Spotting Chart Due
9/15 – Soccer
9/17 – 1st play by play due
9/22 – Golf
9/29 – Auto Racing
10/1 – Interview assignment due
10/6 – Basketball
10/13 – Tennis
10/15 – 2nd PBP due
10/20 – Volleyball
10/22 – Midterm
10/27 – Swimming and Diving
11/3 – Track and Field
11/10 – Hockey
11/12 – 3rd play by play due/ sportscast exercise
11/17 – sportscast exercise
11/26 – Talk shows
12/1 – Talk Shows
12/3 – Talk shows
12/10 – 4th play by play due
Building Emergency Response Protocols for Syllabus:

University’s Emergency Procedure Clause:

Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on BERT’s website at www.bert.siu.edu, Department of Public Safety’s website www.dps.siu.edu (disaster drop down) and in the Emergency Response Guideline pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. **It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency.** The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.

**Students With a Disability:**

Instructors and students in the class will work together as a team to assist students with a disability safely out of the building. Students with a disability will stay with the instructor and communicate with the instructor what is the safest way to assist them.

**Tornado:**

During the spring semester we have a **Storm Drill**.

Pick up your belongings and your instructor will lead you to a safe area of the basement. No one will be allowed to stay upstairs. Stay away from windows. The drill should not last more than 10 minutes. You must stay with your instructor so he/she can take roll. Students need to **be quiet in the basement** as the BERT members are listening to emergency instructions on handheld radios and cannot hear well in the basement.

**Fire:**

During the fall semester we have a **Fire Drill**.

Pick up your belongings and your instructor will lead you to either the North or South parking lot depending on what part of the building your class is in. You must stay with your instructor so he/she can take roll. As soon as the building is all clear, you will be allowed to return to class.
These drills are to train instructors and the Building Emergency Response Team to get everyone to a safe place during an emergency.

Bomb Threat:

If someone calls in a bomb threat, class will be suspended and students will be asked to pick up their belongings, evacuate the building and leave the premises. Do not leave anything that is yours behind. We will not allow anyone back into the building until the police and bomb squad give us an all clear. **DO NOT USE YOUR CELL PHONES.** Some bombs are triggered by a cell phone signal.

Shooter in the Building:

If it is safe to leave, move to a safe area far from the building away from where the shooter is located. If anyone has any information about the shooter, please contact the police after they have gone someplace safe.

If it is not safe to leave, go into a room, lock the door and turn out the lights. Everyone should spread out and not huddle together as a group. Don't stand in front of the door or in line of fire with the door. Students' chair and desks should be piled in front of the glass and door as a barricade and the teacher's desk, podium and anything movable can be pushed against the door. This is intended to slow down any attempts to enter the classroom. If it looks like the shooter is persistent and able to enter, make a lot of noise and have the students use everything in their backpacks to throw at the shooter to distract him.

Silence all cell phones after one person in the room calls the police and informs them of their location and how many people are in the room. **Be quiet and wait for the police to arrive.** The police are looking for one or more shooters, and they have no way of knowing if the shooter is in the room people are hiding in. For this reason, when the police enter the room, no one should have anything in his/her hands and each person **MUST** raise his/her hands above his/her head.

Earthquake:

In the event of an earthquake, you are advised to take cover quickly under heavy furniture or crouch near an interior wall or corner and cover your head to avoid falling debris. Outside the building are trees and power lines and debris from the building itself that you will need to stay away from. In the building, large open areas like auditoriums are the most dangerous. Do not try to escape on a stairway or elevator. Do not hide under a stairway. We do not recommend that you stand in a doorway because the door could shut from the vibrations and crush your fingers trapping you there.
Rave Mobile Safety Alert System:

We recommend that you sign up for the Rave Mobile Safety Alert System. It is a new system that replaces the WENS system to alert you through emergency text messages on your cell phone and emails for emergencies on campus, weather reports and emergency school closures. You have to sign up. If you were signed up for WENS it does not roll over. You have to sign up for Rave Mobile Safety Alert System. Go to Saluki Net, go to my records tab, under SIUC Personal Records, click on View My SIUC Student Records, Under Main Menu click on Personal Information, click on View and Update Addresses and Phones, in the middle of the page click [Update Addresses and Phones], under phones click Primary: This will take you to Update Addresses and Phones – Update/Insert, under primary phone number for this address put in your cell phone and submit. For more information, visit dps.siu.edu, contact SalukiTech at 453-5155 or salukitech@siu.edu.

CPR/Defibrillator and First Aid Class:

If you would like to take a CPR/Defibrillator and/or First Aid class, contact LaVon Donley-Cornett, lavong@siu.edu or call 453-7473.

Women's Self Defense Classes are offered to female students faculty and staff by the Department of SIU Public Safety. For more information contact Officer Mary Stark marys@dps.siu.edu.