RTD 389-250 Telling Stories for Radio

Tuesday-Thursday 12:15- 3:00pm beginning March 18, 2014
Room 9A New Media Center
Instructor: Professor Eileen Waldron ewaldron@siu.edu

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 3-5pm
Eileen’s cell: 317 938 2905
Office: Comm 1048 or TV newsroom 1015

RTD 389-250 TELLING STORIES FOR RADIO

COURSE OUTLINE & STRUCTURE

“Hearing is how we touch at a distance. “ Poet Susan Stewart

This class will be an audio storytelling class. Students will explore different types of audio journalism pieces. Typical styles to study and emulate will be the reporter stories that air on National Public Radio, This American Life or RadioLab.

After several “listening” sessions, each student will produce three assignments during this class: two audio stories and an online portfolio to incorporate that work.

The goal for the audio stories is to have your stories air on WSIU FM. The station has a feature spot titled “Radio Voices” which can incorporate student work. The reason this is important is an audience will be able to listen to your story, and moreover, that a large audience listens to it all at the same time.

The artist Ann Hamilton describes this as being intimate with many people at the same moment.

The purpose of creating an online portfolio is for you to showcase your work, which is especially important once you graduate and begin marketing yourself.
Project assignment deadlines:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chose stories from NPR, This American Life, RadioLab</td>
<td>Thursday, March 20</td>
<td>5 minute piece or excerpt to play and discuss in class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Story #1 focus sheet and pitch</td>
<td>Tuesday, March 25</td>
<td>Typed focus sheet and verbal pitch</td>
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<td>Story #1 Critique</td>
<td>Thursday, April 3</td>
<td>Due in folder on server by Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Story #2 focus sheet and pitch</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 8</td>
<td>Typed focus sheet and verbal pitch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Story #2 Critique</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 22</td>
<td>Due in folder on server by Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online Portfolio Critique</td>
<td>Exam week</td>
<td>Exact day/time TBA</td>
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**Points Breakdown**

- Story #1 30 points
- Story #2 30 points
- Online portfolio 20 points
- Attendance and on time for class 20 points

**Grading Scale for Stories and Portfolio**

- A – Broadcast Quality! Excellent Content & Production. Not Late; Exceeds Expectations (25-30 points)
- B – Broadcast Quality! Good Content & Production. Not Late; Above Expectations (19-24 points)
- C – Broadcast Quality! Fair Content & Production. Meets Expectations (13-18 points)
- D – Poor Broadcast Quality. Has Potential. Does Not Meet ALL Expectations (7-12points)
- F – Not worthy of Revision. Fails to Meet ANY/MOST Expectations (0-6 points)
Equipment required:
1 Professional SD card
Hard Drive
Professional Headphones!

All work will go on the NMC server:

From the Mac Finder, select **Go > Connect to Server...** (or press **Apple-K**):
* Server Address: `afp://nmclab.siu.edu`
* Name: `rtd389waldron`
* Password: `audionuts` (all lowercase)

**Late arrivals Are NOT permitted.** Once the classroom door is closed you can’t come in and you will be marked absent. There will be NO exceptions.

**Cell Phone Policy:** When you enter the classroom your cell phones should be on silent and stowed in a backpack or purse. Calls or texting are not allowed during class. If you ignore this once you will be marked absent but you must stay in class. If you continue to ignore this policy your grade will drop one grade for each incident.

**Computer policy:** This is a computer lab so if there isn’t a class in the room -you are allowed to use the computer before or after class. Once class begins you are to log out of Facebook or email. There is no personal computer use during class. If you ignore this once you will be marked absent but you must stay in class. If you continue to ignore this policy your grade will drop one grade for each incident.

**Class Communication:** We will communicate through Desire2Learn: `online.siu.edu` This SIUC site is where I will post my electronic syllabus and make any announcements related to the class. I will use this to email everyone in the class if need be If you need to write a return email please enter this into the subject line: 389-last name.