
PS204 : ADVANCED POLITICAL REPORTING AND ANALYSIS

Course Rationale:

This is advanced course in public affairs reporting comprises lectures, class discussion and actual reporting. The aim is to develop the skills of good political journalism – good reporting, good choice of stories and reporting with integrity. Course comprises filing news stories, writing press releases, working with newspapers and reporting from the Legislature.

Course Outline

Unit 1. Role of Media in a Democracy. Journalism and ethics. Types of newspapers. Media-Business linkages.	8
Unit 2. Analysing a newspaper. Newsworthiness. Where to find information. Journalists and the law.	8
Unit 3. Junior Reporter. Keeping diary. News gathering and copywriting. Tasks-writing a brief news item. Writing a press release. How to produce story based on handouts and press releases.	9
Unit 4. Senior Reporter. Importance of instinct, insight. Conducting an interview. Tasks- writing a court/crime report.	8
Unit 5. Political Reporting. Newspaper's house style. Reporting from Legislature. Attending Press Conference of Minister or Politician.	9
Unit 6. Writing & discussing features. Gossip and diary columns. Writing a Research article.	8
Unit 7. Watching and analyzing selected films.	10

Select Readings

Kiran Prasad Political Communication- The Indian Experience (2 Vols. Set) B R Publishing Corporation (Manohar Publishers & Distributors).
T K Ganesh (ed). News Reporting And Editing In Digital Age.
Leonard Thomas C The Power Of The Press: The Birth Of American Political Reporting.
Alok Mehta. Indian Journalism: Keeping It Clean
Online Journalism - A Basic Text by Tapas Ray
Principles of Communication Vijaya Somasundaram
Uma Joshi Media Research: Cross-Sectional Analysis,
Hicks W, Adams S, Gilbert H. *Writing for journalists*. London: Routledge, 1999 (6)
MV Kamath. A Reporter at large.

Web:

http://student.bmj.com/write/how_to.php (6)
Conducting interviews http://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/gradschool/research_training/conducting_research_interviews
Conducting Indepth interviews <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/FY393>