2016 Autumn Syllabus

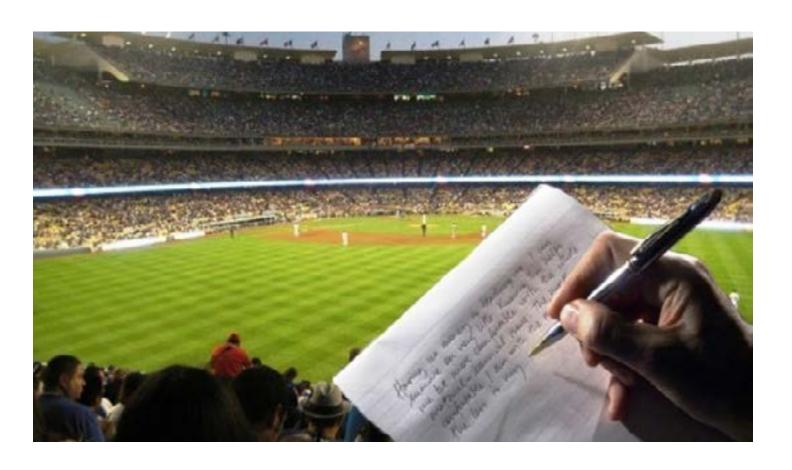
SPORTS MEDIA

Wednesday~Friday 12:45-2:05 p.m.



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Team Description & Season Goals

Description

It's easy to be a sports fan, but far more challenging is the chronicling the world of sports using the media tools on which consumers have come to count. This class is designed to teach all aspects of media interaction with sports, from legacy media reporter to web-based blogger, from broadcaster to communication specialist, from social media poster to in-house talent.

We will explore sports media as a career, utilizing journalism skills like interviewing, reporting, blogging, working with coaches and athletic directors, staging and covering press conferences, statistics, etc. We also focus on issues related to sports coverage, including race and gender, hero worship and the ethics of what sports journalists do and why they do it.

Remember, we are journalists, so leave your team jerseys at home!

This is not a class where you can be passive and do well--your engagement and participation is a key part of your success in the course.

Season Goals

By the end of the semester, journalists will have the ability to:

- 1. Understand the evolution of sports careers and what opportunities exist.
- 2. Create different types of sports stories in different media.
- 3. Learn how to work in a variety of sports environments, from reporting to PR.
- 4. Develop skills that relate to sports media jobs, from broadcasting to statistics.
- 5. Understand and follow proper sports reporting ethics.

Playbooks

Required: Field Guide to Covering Sports
(Joe Gisondi), ISBN 978-1-60426-559-0
Optional: Best American Sports Writing (2015), ISBN 978-0544340053
Required: AP Stylebook 2016 edition

Required: Read ESPN.Com, Sl.com, and the Columbus Dispatch and Lantern sports pages regularly.

Required: Watch a local sports newscast and ESPN SportsCenter a couple of times a week at least and try to listen to some 97.1 sports talk radio.



2016 AUTUMN SCHEDULE

All readings/videos due before class Wednesday Assignment due Wednesday Morning Quarterback **AUGUST** What is Sports Media? Class intro and review media guide 24 Go through syllabus & identify Ohio State sports schedules for coverage Careers in sports media Assignment: Develop class twitter & blog Post 1: Why do you want a career in sports, and what does that career look like? 26 Module 1b readings and video Evolution of sports media: How we got from Red Smith to Stephen A Smith. Module 2a readings and videos 31 WMQB Assignment: Submit to Canvas one each best/worst examples of sports coverage for evaluation How to Write for Sports News and PR Module 2b readings and video BL Sept. 2 Assignments: Identify beats and event to cover, generating three story ideas based around Ohio State sports and put on Google sheet. **OCTOBER SEPTEMBER Sports Multimedia Writing Sports** Feeling Social: Social Media in Sports Beat Writing and Developing Stories WMQB / WMQB 5 Module 7a readings and video Module 3a readings and video Assignment: Refining social media, guest speaker on careers. Assignment: Watch assigned event, write game story in class. Multimedia in Sports Coverage: Social and beyond Writing sports: Covering Games, Advance, Analysis Module 7b readings and video Module 3b readings and video Assignment: What media bring reporting to life? Assignment: Meet some sources in class Finding sources and developing relationships. Time for TV: Studio Work and Reporting **WMQB 14** Module 4a readings and video Module 8a readings and video Assignment: Edit and rewrite first article. Assignment: How to become an anchor/reporter. FALL BREAK-No Class Interviews and Press Conferences Α Module 8b readings and video Module 4b readings and video **16** Assignment: profile/feature due Assignment: Press conference Story Due A 14 Story ideas, finding angles WMQB 19 **WMQB** 21 **Pictures for Words: Sports Photography** Module 5a readings and video Module 9a readings and video Assignment: Working w/ data and develop story ideas. Assignment: Get ready to record your voice! All About Audio: Reporting for Sports Radio **Profiles and personalities** Module 9b readings and video Module 5b readings and video Assignment: Press conference + question development Assignment: Feature article development Building Relationships in Media Relations
Module 10a readings and video Column writing **WMQB** 26 Module 6a readings and video Assignment: Exploring in-house PR Assignment: Columns development Understanding Team Brand Journalism Learning to blog Module 10b readings and video Module 6b readings and video Assignment: Exploring in-house media, Assignment: Blog development, Game Story due

roadcast project due

2016 AUTUMN SCHEDULE

All readings/videos due before class Wednesday



Staff Directory

Nicole Kraft, Assistant Professor (clinical)

After 25 years as a journalist, Nicole Kraft joined the Ohio State School of Communication faculty as an assistant professor of journalism in 2010.

Nicole began her career in sports in 1984 as an intern with the Golden State Warriors before joining the Philadelphia 76ers in 1985 to work in publicity and statistics. She helped create the Sixers Media Guide and was a regular contributor to Hoop Magazine. She later covered high school sports for The Montgomery County Record and Montgomery Newspapers, before focusing her career on news, politics



and government reporting. After a stint as a Congressional press secretary and as editor at the Napa Valley Register, she returned to sports in 1996 as associate editor of Hoof Beats. She became the magazine's executive editor and director of communication for the sport of harness racing.

A USA Hockey certified coach and avid "hockey mom," Nicole currently writes for the Associated Press covering the Columbus Blue Jackets. She is vice president of communication for the Columbus Ice Hockey Club and president of the Bishop Watterson Hockey Board.

On the academic front, Nicole's focus in teaching and research has been utilizing iPads and iTunes U to create "active learning" environments in journalism classrooms and provide a self-contained learning environment for multimedia journalism. She teaches every summer in Ethiopia, where she focuses on distance education pedagogy.

In 2015 she was named an Apple Distinguished Educator, and is currently pursuing a PhD in global education.



The Main Points

Take every pre-conceived notion you have about classes and learning and professors and throw them out the window for this experience. You do not do work in here for a grade, and you do not do work for me as your professor. In truth, I am your editor, and you are all journalists, and the work you do is for a) readers and b) to make you employable once you move into the world.

You have now all become beat reporters, which will allow you to focus the sport you will cover and become master of your own story idea domain. That means the majority of ideas will be generated for you, by you.

The standards here are professional, not academic, and your primary work product will be questions. I expect you to ask "why" and "how" on a daily basis, while you discover and uncover and explore.



That said, you are here to fail as much as you succeed. Take chances, try new things, don't be afraid to fiddle. This is a life laboratory, and the more we experiment, the more discoveries we will make.

If you are seeking a "sage on the stage" who will lecture while you passively write down every holy nugget I say, I'm afraid this is not the class for you. My role here is your guide. We will discover together and learn much from each other.

To that extent, we don't have "office hours" (not even sure what that term means). Instead, we have a Sports Desk, where we can work in groups or individually, hang out and talk, debate topics of the day, etc.

I heard recently of a great question from an editor who called for a reference check on a student applying for a job: "What is he going to be ready to do on Day One and what is he not ready for that's going to mean more work for me?"

How do you want me to answer this question about you after you complete this course? How would you answer it? We will figure both out in here.

Actual Points

Course grades will be calculated in the following way:

Perusall Readings (25 points)

Professionalism and in-Class Tweets (25 points)

Weekly in-class assessment (including AP Style) (100 points)

Blogging/In-Class Assignments (100 points)

Game/event Coverage-DUE Sept. 16 (100 points)

Press Conference Story–DUE Sept. 30 (100 points)

Feature Profile–DUE Oct. 12 (100 points) **PR Package–DUE Oct. 28** (150 points)

Broadcast Reporting Project-DUE Nov. 18 (150 points)

Group Enterprise Project–DUE Dec. 7 (200 points)

These points tallied together will give you your final grade of the following percentages (100-93=A; 92-90=A-; 89-88 B+; 87-83=B; 82-80=B-; 79-78=C+; 77-73=C; 72-70=C-; 69-60=D; 59 and below=E). I do not negotiate grades, either during or after the semester.

DATE OF FINAL EXAM: Check Ohio State link

Assignments

Perusall Readings (25 points)

Our class readings will be engaged through a platform called PERUSALL, is a new ebook platform with collaborative annotation that keeps you on track before class. You annotate passages spread through each reading asking questions, respond to each other's questions (in threads, Facebookstyle), or share other perspectives or knowledge. You follow a specific grading rubric based on the annotations' intellectual content, timeliness, and helpfulness to their fellow students. Perusall's data analytics automatically grade these annotations more accurately than (human) teaching assistants can. See Pages 15 for more information.

Twitter and attendance (25 points)

In an effort to build your familiarity with using Twitter professionally, and to help you build a responsible and productive online "brand," we take attendance through Twitter. Every student gets credit for attendance by tweeting something about our coverage, our class session or asking a question, with the goal of engaging your classmates, the outside world and me. It cannot be just that you were there.

This, however, should be just the start of your Twitter engagement. Sources and stories live on twitter, and it enhances your potential access exponentially. Start posting TODAY about your beat, stories you plan to write, interviews you hope to do. Build brand YOU! We will spend time on this in class, but the impetuous and desire to engage must come from you.

Professionalism means many things in the working world–dressing for success, treating coworkers with respect, coming prepared, being on time, staying the whole session, not making excuses, no absences, accepting responsibility for work and effort. You will be assessed on all in here.

In the real world, failure to show up for your job or repeatedly coming in late will get you fired. I won't fire you, but there are always consequences for actions. Tardiness is unprofessional and rude. You get one. The second one gets recorded. At the third tardiness you will be docked half a letter grade for that one and every subsequent tardy. The same rules apply for absences.

Wednesday Morning Quarterback (100 point)

There are few better sports moments than the chance to analyze the action that has already transpired. To start most class we will discuss the sports that transpired between our meeting times, and we will assess your consumption and understanding of the material. This will, on 10 occasions, include a 10-question Speed Sports assessment assignment, including current events, AP Style and class lectures.

They will not be difficult IF you have read the assigned material and if you have been staying tuned to ESPN.com, Sl.com, the Columbus Dispatch sports pages, The Lantern and Lantern TV, and ESPN SportsCenter. The top 10 scores on the quizzes will count toward your grade. This means you could miss two of quizzes.

There will be NO excuses for missing class or a activity.

Blogging/In-Class Assignments (100 points—10 points each)

Blogging will be a big part of a modern-day sports writing career and we will use it in class to help build your online identity and report 10 in-class writing opportunities, including event coverage, press conferences, breaking news, game recaps, interview exercises, videos, photos and audio reporting. You will start these assignments in class but, if needed, finish as homework.

Press Conference Story (100 points)

Covering press conferences—the regularly scheduled player/coach access, as well as the post-game scrum and the special announcements—is an important part of a sports writers beat, and we engage in

that experience for this class. This assignment will involve question development, following proper press conference protocols, asking questions, taking good notes and, most significantly, writing a story that is interesting but not the same as every other sports journalist in the room.

Game/event Coverage (100 points)

For this assignment, you will attend an actual athletic event with the goal of reporting it for your readers. This is not the same as writing a game recap, which we will do as an in-class exercise. This will mean covering what happened, getting post-event quotes and looking at the event from a creative angle that makes your story stand out to those who already know the outcome of the event.

Advance Feature/Profile (100 points)

Capturing the spirit of those who play the game is one of the best parts of being a sports reporter. In this assignment, you will have the chance to write a mini-biography of an athlete, combining his or her past with the "news hook" of the upcoming game or match. The key in this assignment is to explore an athlete's life inside and outside their sport to bring them to life for fans and go behind the uniform.

PR Package (150 points)

Creating pre-game materials is a significant part of a sports PR professional. For this assignment, you will get us ready for an upcoming Ohio State game, by creating a feature on a player, a press release promoting some unique facet of the game, and 20 individual game notes including statistics, interesting facts and milestones.

Broadcast Reporting Project (150 points)

In this assignment, we will put down notepads and computers and learn to tell an event or athlete story through different forms of media, specifically video and audio. We will shoot and edit a video package to show, as well as tell, a story. This will require different types of interviewing and coverage skills that we will develop on class.

Group Enterprise Project (200 points)

For your final, you will take all the skills you have developed in class and work with a team to create a comprehensive package on a significant sports issue, utilizing strong journalistic writing, data analysis, comprehensive interviewing, multimedia storytelling and a blog platform. This project cannot be just game coverage or a profile of a person. You will need to look at an in-depth issue, such as head injuries in football, fighting in hockey, pass-fail rates for college athletes, injuries suffered by pre-teen athletes, etc.

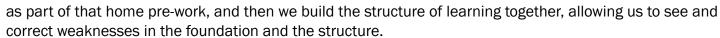


Coaching Methods

I am a great believer in the power of students to engage in and drive their own education, which means taking a greater responsibility for an engagement in what happens in your classes. To that end, I do not subscribe to the "sage on the stage" class ideology, whereby I would lecture and you would (hopefully) listen. Instead, we follow what is known as the "ac" model,tive learning which means your you read and watch short videos at home on BEFORE CLASS.

Our class time is then dedicated to engaging with the material through a variety of activities and assessments to determine and build your comprehension.

With the active class model, students establish the foundation



I believe that this model helps students learn better, and in a speed and style that is more conducive to their needs. Do you learn better at 3 a.m. or 7 p.m.? Great! Class materials are available to you at any time of day or night through this model.

The workload is the same—meaning for a three-credit class for every hour of work you do in class you will spend three hours working at home. The main difference is your class time will not be spent being lectured to; you will be engaged in actively learning the material through discussion, exercises, activities and assignments.

The quality and quantity of our in-class learning means that your attendance and participation are crucial to your success, so please do not think that watching lectures and reading at home means you do not

Lunch anyone?

My goal is to get to know each of you better as students and people, to help your academic goals throughout this semester and beyond. Invite me to coffee or lunch—I would love to go and talk about class or anything else! And did you know the College of Arts & Sciences will buy our lunch? Check out Take Your Professor to Lunch!

need to come to class. As I said, that is the foundation. To truly build something meaningful, all of us we must work together.

College is intended to prepare you for the real world, and that for many—especially in journalism—your undergraduate career is like a first job. You can and will make a lot of mistakes here, but the goal is to learn from them and not to make them again.

To that end, I will treat you professionally, and need you to do the same. Behaviors that work in the "real world" and here include:

- 1. Coming on time and ready to work on the material for the day: The inverted model only works if we all do the foundational work ahead and then we can build. If you do not do that work and we have to "catch you up," you are impacting everyone else in class.
- 2. You are missed when you are absent: When you don't come to class, I notice, and you are missed personally and for your contribu-

tions.

- 3. Staying in class: I know you have things to do. We all do. But we have committed to being in class together for the full time.
- 4. Treating classmates/coworkers with respect: Everyone's ideas have merit, and allowing a civil discussion, even when we disagree, is a key to future success.
- 5. Dressing for success: I know this is college, but you never know who might come to class who could help you with am internship or guide your

academic or professional career. Pajamas are for sleeping. Swimsuits are for beaches. Please know I don't want to discuss appropriate class attire with you, but I will if need be.

Extra credit

campus lectures and films, etc.

The total amount of extra credit available in this class

Taking part in School of Communication research.

Attend journalism-themed meetings or events identi-

fied by me, such as Society for Professional Journalism

meetings (every other Thursday), Ed2010 meetings,

is 20 points (2 percent). It can be earned in these

- 6. **Email ID**: Please include your class number in your emails, as I teach four classes and this will help me understand/respond more quickly to your questions.
- 7. **Email tone/use**: To ensure we are preparing for the "real world," your mails should be written using standards of courtesy (address, proper tone, and signature). I do not edit articles over email, so if you wish to work on your article one-on-one (which I encourage!), please make an appointment or drop by my office hours.
- 8. Deadlines are deadlines: Assignments must be submitted by the assigned time and will not be accepted late.
- 9.Let's Type: Due to the professional (and relatively paperless) environment of this class, I won't be able to accept any handwritten assignments, with the exception of the key concepts.
- 10. Feeling Social: I believe in using social media in class, but we use it for good and not evil. I encourage you to use your devices, and we will do much research in class using all electronic devices. But remember that I can see what you post—and so can future employers. Please be responsible about how to present yourself to the outside world. Also remember I can see when you post—even if it's during class—so let's stay on topic while we are together.
- 11. Lying, cheating or stealing will get you fired: In this class, if you plagiarize anything you will fail the assignment and I will report you to academic misconduct, even if you accidentally do it while taking your notes. We have no wiggle room here.

Technology Excuse Statement

This course, like journalism as a whole, relies heavily on access to computers, specific software, and the Internet.

At some point during the semester you will likely have a problem with technology. Your laptop will crash; your iPad battery will die; a recording you make will disappear; you will accidentally delete a file; the wireless will go down at a crucial time.

These, however, are inevitabilities of life, not emergencies. Technology problems are not excuses for unfinished or late work. Bad things may happen, but you can protect yourself by doing the following:

Plan ahead: A deadline is the last minute to turn in

material. You can start--and finish--early, particularly if challenging resources are required, or you know it will be time consuming to finish this project.

Save work early and often: Think how much work you do in 10 minutes. I auto save ever 2 minutes.

Make regular backups of files in a different location: Between Box, Google Drive, Dropbox and iCloud, you have ample places to store and back up your materials. Use them.

Save drafts: When editing, set aside the original and work with a copy.

Practice safe computing: On your personal computer, install and use software to control viruses

Special Attractions

Sources

You need at least at least two human sources for every article but, more importantly, you must have sources that have expertise to speak on your article topic. If you can Urban Meyer, that is a coup—unless you are writing on volleyball or baseball or tennis or any other sport for which he has no knowledge or experience. Then he is useless.

As convenient as they may be, we do not use friends, roommates, relatives, etc., as sources for your stories, photographs, graphics etc. This is a conflict of interest. That said, we recognize you have the potential to be classmates with any athlete. If you are, great! Start asking some questions.

That conflict policy also spreads out to any activities, organizations, projects, companies, etc. in which you are involved in, but you can share story ideas with fellow reporters.

No Sharing

As much as we love to share information, we do not share your stories with other classes. Stories done for credit/grade in this class cannot be used for credit in any other class. They can, however, be utilized for publication in The Lantern!

Ask Away

I know no matter how many times I encourage you to talk to me if you have questions, many of you will instead reach out to friends and classmates. I still desperately want you to reach out to me, but to help you reach out to fellow class reporters, everyone has been assigned to an editorial team with whom you will be able to work this semester.

Mobile Technology

Although many classes may ban or limit the use of mobile technology, in this class we will learn to use your mobile phone and tablet for reporting and disseminating news—in other words, for good and not evil. Keep it out and be prepared to use it for class work, which will include tweeting, posting to Instagram and Facebook, Snapchatting, using Periscope and finding sources on LinkedIn. That said, this is not the time to text and tweet your friends to hook up later or surf the web. It's time to use all the tools at our disposal for work!

Developing Life Skills

Dr. Tony Wagner, co-director of Harvard's Change Leadership Group, has identified what he calls a "global achievement gap," which is the gap between what even our best schools are teaching, and the must-have skills of the future (2009). These are the skills we will aim for you to develop in here!

- 1. Critical thinking skills
- 2. Collaboration across networks and leading by influence.
- 3. Agility and adaptability
- 4. Initiative and entrepreneurism
- 5. Effective oral and written communication.
- 6. Accessing and analyzing information.
- 7. Curiosity and imagination

Post-Game Notes

Withdrawal Policy

Not all classes fit your schedule or your academic plan, and I understand that. Please know, however, that I very much wish to meet with you before you drop (especially the deeper we get into the semester) to see what we can do to work through any challenges together. If you do have questions about how to drop or the impact on your transcript or financial aid, please visit the Academic Advising website.

Resources

During the course of this class and throughout your university career, you may find the following helpful: The Writing Center. This may be the last time in your life that you have easily accessible, free help availble for your writing skills—use it. Being a good writer will give you an advantage in every walk of life, and if you are a Communication major, it is expected. Visit http://cstw.osu.edu/writing center to learn more or to schedule an appointment.

Strunk & White's The Elements of Style. If you are uncertain of what constitutes good writing, this classic book is very straightforward and extremely helpful. The advice and direction offered in this book applies to writing in all fields. Find it at the campus bookstore or at a used bookstore for cheap.

Attendance and Make-Ups:

Only students enrolled in this section are permitted to attend class. Attendance (both physical and mental) is key to your success in this class. Your grade is largely contingent on your presence and participation in class. Listen, take notes, and ask questions. Much of the material presented in lecture is not found in your readings. If you miss class for whatever reason, it is your responsibility to obtain notes from a classmate; the instructor will not provide notes in any circumstance. If you miss class, you will not be able to make up any in-class work or extra credit opportunities.

Syllabus

Every effort has been made to create a syllabus that is as comprehensive and accurate as possible, but each class is a living entity and changes may arise. Please know I will notify you in writing as soon as any syllabus change may arise.

Safe & Healthy

Keeping students healthy and preventing the spread of illness is important to The Ohio State University (and to me!). Students are encouraged to stay home if they are sick and may be asked to leave class if they are coughing/sneezing. Students who are sick and cannot attend class must contact Prof. Kraft BEFORE class to receive class any materials and turn in assignments via the drop box or e-mail. If you do not notify Prof. Kraft, your assignment will not be accepted.

Managing Stress

College can be a stressful time, and I am always here to help you—in this class and beyond. If, however, you feel you need more support, I encourage you to reach out to the Student Advocacy Center at 292.1111. They will always work with professors on your behalf.

Special Accommodations

Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. Please contact the Office for Disability Services at 614-292-3307 in room 150 Pomerene Hall to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

Annotating in Perusall

Perusall helps you master readings faster, understand the material better, and get more out of your classes. To achieve this goal, you will be collaboratively annotating the textbook with others in your class. The help you'll get and provide your classmates (even if you don't know anyone personally) will get you past confusions quickly, and will make the process more fun. While you read, you'll receive rapid answers to your questions, help others resolve their questions (which also helps you learn), and advise the instructor how to make class time most productive. You can start a new annotation thread in Perusall by highlighting text, asking a question, or posting a comment; you can also add a reply or comment to an existing thread. Each thread is like a chat with one or more members of your class. Your goals in annotating each reading assignment are to stimulate discussion by posting good questions or comments and to help others by answering their questions.

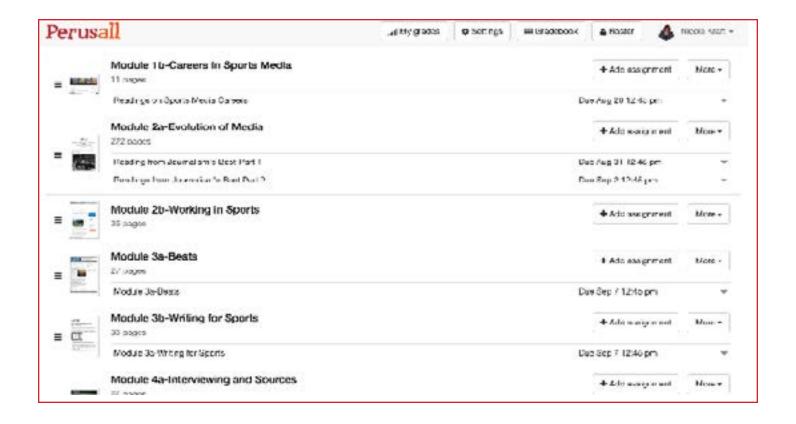
Research shows that by annotating thoughtfully, you'll learn more and get better grades; so here's what "annotating thoughtfully" means: Effective annotations deeply engage points in the readings, stimulate discussion, offer informative questions or comments, and help others by addressing their questions or confusions. To this end your annotations are evaluated on the basis of quality, timeliness, quantity, and distribution:

Quality

The reading replaces the lectures so that you can engage in more useful activities in class. Therefore it is important that you read the text thoughtfully and attempt to lay the foundation for the work in class. Each of your annotations is assigned one of the following evaluations:

- 2 = Demonstrates thorough and thoughtful reading AND insightful interpretation of the reading
- 1 = Demonstrates reading, but no (or only superficial) interpretation of the reading
- 0 = Does not demonstrate any thoughtful reading or interpretation

See the examples on the next page to see the quality criterion applied to sample annotations.



Ouantity

We compute your overall score using your five highest-quality annotations for each assignment, so be sure to write at least this number to ensure the best score. Because we want you to engage in a natural conversation with your classmates through your annotations, your overall score only depends only on these five highest-quality annotations. So, as long as you have five high-quality annotations, a brief response to another student (e.g., answering "Yes" to what is just a yes or no question) won't hurt your overall score, even though by itself that response is nominally a "0."

Timeliness

The work done in class depends on you having done the reading in advance, so completing the reading and posting your annotations before the posted deadline is required to receive credit. Your instructor may choose to allow a late annotation period during which the credit for your annotations linearly decreases from 100% at the deadline to 0% at the end of the late annotation period.

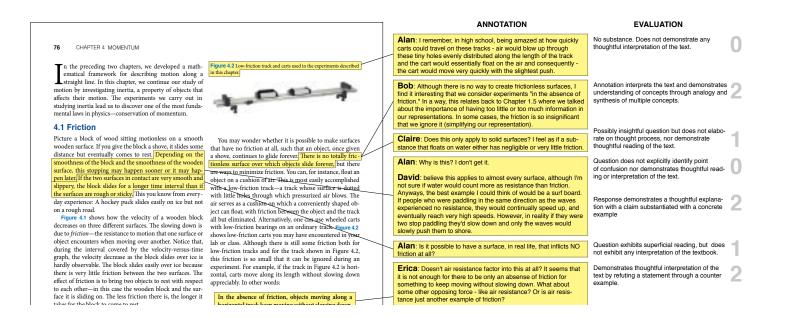
To encourage discourse, there is always a three-day reply window after each posted deadline during which you can continue to reply, for full credit, to questions posted by others. However, the number of additional points you can earn during the post-deadline reply window is capped at the credit you receive for annotations made on that assignment before the deadline.

Distribution

To lay the foundation for understanding the in-class activities, you must at least familiarize yourself with each assignment in its entirety. Annotating only part of the text and/or failing to distribute your annotations throughout the document lowers your overall score.

Overall Evaluation: You will receive an overall evaluation for each reading assignment based on the criteria above as follows: 3 = exceptional (rarely given), 2 = meets expectations, 1 = needs improvement, 0 = insufficient

Perusall Scoring Example



Academic Dishonesty

It is your responsibility to complete your own work as best you can in the time provided. The Ohio State University's Code of Student Conduct (Section 3335-23-04) defines academic misconduct as: "Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University, or subvert the educational process." Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, possession of unauthorized materials during an examination, and falsification of laboratory or other data. Ignorance of the University's Code of Student Conduct is never considered an excuse for academic misconduct, so I recommend that you review the Code of Student Conduct and, specifically, the sections dealing with academic misconduct at http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp

Academic misconduct is a serious offense, and it is my responsibility to make sure it does not occur. If I suspect that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, I am obligated by University Rules to report my suspicions to the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM). If COAM determines that you have violated the University's Code of Student Conduct, the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in this course and suspension or dismissal from the University. If you have any questions about this policy or what constitutes academic misconduct, please contact your professor or TA, or visit the COAM web page at http://oaa.osu.edu/coam.html.

In most instances, taking your own work from one course and submitting it in a different course is also considered academic dishonesty. This does not apply to submitting articles to The Lantern or Lantern TV for publication—that is encouraged!

When in doubt, consult me before doing anything about which you are uncertain. You should also read through the "Ten Suggestions for Preserving Academic Integrity" available at https://oaa.osu.edu/coamtensuggestions.html



Time for Twitter

Treating this class like a job will go a long way toward helping you be prepared for your post-graduation life. Your ability to come on time, contribute to discussions, turn in work on time, treat classmates with respect, dress appropriately, and communicate respectfully and clearly in person and in writing will earn you professionalism points.

Among the skills you need to master is how to use social media for good and not (potential) evil. I Believe it or not, everything you do or eat is not worth putting on public, open-to-the-world social media. What is worth publishing are the activities, experiences, thoughts, work product and information that will make a potential employer think you worthy of hiring.

To that end we will use Twitter, professionally, for every class.

Between the beginning and end of class tweet something significant to your followers—a concept from class, an article, information shared by a guest speaker. Include a photo and link where possible.

This will count as your attendance and your initial foray into the professional nature of your social brand. In addition to your posts, make your profile as professional as possible with a strong Twitterography that includes details of significance to who you wish others to think you to be.

Put in a photo that helps others see you as a serious journalist (it should just be you with no companions). Include a website if you have one, or create a LinkedIn to serve as a resume site.

The goal is we all learn the potential impact of Twitter in "talking" to the word—and learn how to prevent negative impacts. Your tweet cannot be just that you were in class. There has to be a complete thought behind it. Use the hashtag #osusportsmedia for all posts.

Please follow the hashtag #osusportsmedia and follow me (@nicole_kraft), so I can put you in our list.



Sports Desk Meetings

Every semester, professors around Ohio State include a line in their syllabi encouraging students to visit them in "office hours."

And every semester those same professors sit alone in their offices, wondering why students do not come by.

Not so for Comm 3403.

Instead of office hours, this class will feature a "Sports Desk," where students will be able to come and get help on their articles, and discuss topics and techniques.

The goal is for students to join in a collective and congenial environment of dialogue and discussion, as opposed to simple questions and answers.

Bring your favorite sports publications and articles for us to break down and figure out how to emulate. Read a compelling piece and let's discuss how it was put together, and how you might craft one that is similar.

In addition, students can come and get assignment and class help from Kraft and a team of students who will offer weekly "Writing Bar" sessions.

The Writing Bar will be much like an Apple Genius Bar, where students can come and get one-on-one help from people who know the subject matter best-students who have already taken journalism classes and excelled.

Sports Desk

The Comm 3403 Sports Desk will be meet Tuesdays from 1-3 in 3045E Derby Hall. Come to discuss topics or articles, get feedback on ideas, or just to talk sports.

Writing Bar

Writing Bar hours will be Mondays from 4:15-6:15 in the Digital Union, located in the basement of Denney Hall. Bring your articles or magazine designs to get on-on-one help from writing experts, who can walk you through the process from idea to reporting to execution. Clinics will be held to facilitate your projects. Appointments are welcome but not required. Please sign up on Slack at #writingbar.

The Comm 3403 Writing Bar mentors will include students and professional journalists. We can also connect you with journalists who cover your are of interest.

Among the key areas for which we wish to prepare you are internships at publications and sports teams.

Please keep your eyes open for these opportunities as they come in, for they go quickly!



Slack

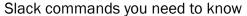
To keep us communicating as closely as possible, I have created communities for us on an application

called Slack, which is available on both your laptop, desktop and mobile devices.

Slack will take the place of email, allowing us to have both public and private discussions about class, share files (but not assignments), and keep a record of all we discuss in themed "channels."

Slack works through a system of hashtags, much like Twitter. But only members of a given team can see the postings on the hashtag.

You'll also get the most out of Slack if you install the mobile app (iOS / Android) and the desktop app (Mac / Windows) so you get desktop notifications about new messages and can keep up with what's happening without needing to leave a browser window open.



@channel

A channel in Slack is like a "room" for discussions, usually arranged around a topic of discussion or the relevant team. To send a notification to everyone in the channel, type @channel and then your message.

This can be annoying if you're in a large channel, particularly if there are people across a lot of time zones. People tend to use @channel a lot, but it's useful for getting everyone's attention.

@username

To send a notification to a specific person inside a channel, type @username. To alert me, type @nicole. @here

Like @channel but only notifies people that are online and active, so less annoying.

/me

If you want to talk in third person, this is for you. For example, if you're going to lunch, you'd type "/me is going to lunch" and it would show as "Owen is going to lunch."

DM

Direct/private message between you and one other person.

Private Group

Like a channel, but by invitation only. Useful as a 'disposable' room for events, quick team discussions or gossip.

/open

Opens a new channel.

/leave

Drop out of a channel.

/collapse

Hides all images and GIFs in a channel.

When you sign in to Slack for the first time, every type of notification imaginable is enabled. There are many different ways to manage notifications.

Each channel has individual notification preferences, so you can get notifications for every message, just your name being mentioned or nothing at all.

To get to the settings, open the channel you want to change and click the name of it at the top of the screen, then "channel notification preferences."

From here you can set up both mobile and desktop notifications so the alerts only go where you want them.

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Important Links and Personalities

OhioStateBuckeyes.com (OhioStateBuckeyes.com)
Ohio State Athletics Twitter Homepage (https://twitter.com/OhioStAthletics)
Big Ten Conference Media List (http://office.bigten.org/media)

Follow key athletes and personnel on Twitter, including

@Landgrant33
@brdispatch
@claywsyx6
@Todd_Jones
@AdamJardy
@ShaunMRichard
@RDonnellyBG
@CampusRush
@BuckeyesRadio
@BuckeyeNotes
@OSURec
@OSUManagers
@B1GHockey
@bigten

@OhioState_WBB @OhioState WHKY **@SGSR OSU** @OhioState WSOC @OhioState MHKY @Nick Red19 @Jacob_Myers_25 @OSUADAthComm @OhioState_WLAX @OhioState MLAX @OhioState TFXC @OhioStateHoops @OhioState_SB @OhioState BASE @OhioState MSOC @LanternSports

Guest Speakers

@Buckeye_Sports

We are lucky to have many friends in the sports media industry who will be sharing their and experiences with us. Here are some potential guest speakers to visit or Skype in!

Talk Radio

Lori Schmidt, 97.1

Print/Online

Todd Jones, Columbus Dispatch*
Aaron Portzline, Columbus Dispatch*
Craig Merz, NHL.com
Charlie Leerhsen (Former SI editor)
Zach Meisel (MLB.com, Lantern editor)*

Social Media

Zach Fleer, 270 Hoops*
Kurt Gies, social media coordinator, Philadelphia 76ers*

Team PR

Karen Davis, Columbus Blue Jackets*
Dan Wallenberg, Ohio State Buckeyes*
Leann Parker, Ohio State Buckeyes*
Patrick Maks. Cleveland Browns
Alex Stec, Columbus Crew*
Colleen Mar, U.S. Olympics*

Sport PR

Brent LaLonde, Arnold Classic

ΤV

Dan Plesac, MLB Network*
Bill Davidge, Columbus Blue Jackets*
Chris Spielman, Fox Sports
Marc Zumoff, Philadelphia 76ers*

Photography

Bill Frakes

*confirmed



10 Sports Journalism Rules

- 1. No cheering in the press box. You are not a Buckeye-you are a journalist.
- 2. No spirit wear during coverage of games, press conferences or any team events
- 3. Always prepare and background before a game or interview.
- 4. Technology demands redundancy. Take notes even if you're taping. Always have extra batteries, tapes, SD cards.
- 5. Act professionally in how you dress and how you act.
- 6. No one cares what you think; write what others think.
- 7. Do not date those who you cover.
- 8. No autographs or special favors from those you cover.
- 9. You are not the expert--your sources are!
- 10. It's better to be second and right than first and wrong.

Commitment to Diversity

The School of Communication at The Ohio State University and Kratf Comm Classes embrace and maintain an environment that respects diverse traditions, heritages, experiences, and people. Our commitment to diversity moves beyond mere tolerance to recognizing, understanding, and welcoming the contributions of diverse groups and the value group members possess as individuals. In our School and this class, the faculty, students, and staff are dedicated to building a tradition of diversity with principles of equal opportunity, personal respect, and the intellectual interests of those who comprise diverse cultures.



WELCOME TO THE GAME