

Title: Data Journalism
Code: DMC-401
Semester: 7th
Rating: 3 Credit Hours

DMC-401: Data Journalism

3 Cr. Hrs

Course Description:

Data journalism is a fast growing field in digital journalism. This course is designed to train the students in this field. Students will be imparted with the skills to create data stories from conception to development and presentation.

Learning Outcomes:

The student will be able to

- Develop the understanding of data types and their utilities in journalism
- Learn to write and present the information the language of data
- Learn the use of tableau and excel for data stories
- Practice the art of data visualization for Journalism

Course Contents:

1. Introduction to Data Journalism. Data for public interest stories
2. Planning a data story; hypothesis and questions
3. Common data formats
4. Finding data online, alternative data sources
5. Analyzing fact sheets based on data, understanding, organizing and verifying data
6. Summarizing and simplifying data insights
7. Essential statistics and data interpretation
8. Data visualization; Purpose of data visualization, matching data and graph types, design and color basics, map theory
9. Data-driven stories; finding a story in data, anatomy of a data story, beat-specific stories
10. Data driven interviews, data-driven leads and data-driven writing
11. Visual storytelling and data
12. Solution Journalism
13. Scraping and Cleaning; Scraping PDFS, Scraping websites, Cleaning in Excel and Open Refine
14. Data Analysis; Basic calculations, summary statistics
15. Working with excel; Percentage change, working with large datasets, pivot tables, advanced merging and formulas
16. Data visualization; Data Wrapper and Pictochart
17. Working with Tableau, mapping CARTO, Tableau public, Tableau dashboards
18. Reaching your audience
19. Ethics of Data journalism; Data Privacy

Suggested Readings:

- Houston, B. (2018). Data for Journalists: A Practical Guide for Computer-Assisted Reporting. NY: Taylor & Francis.
- Gray, J., Bounegru, L., & Chambers, L. (2012). The Data Journalism Handbook. Tokyo: O'Reilly.

Teaching Learning Strategies:

1. Class Discussion
2. Projects/Assignments
3. Group Presentations
4. Students LED Presentation
5. Thought Provoking Question

Assignments:

Assignments may include special reports, projects, class presentations, field work. The nature of assignments will be decided by the teacher as per the requirements of the course.

Assessment and Examinations:

Sr. No.	Elements	Weightage	Details
1	Midterm Assessment	35%	It takes place at the mid-point of the semester.
2	Formative Assessment	25%	It is continuous assessment. It includes: classroom participation, attendance, assignments and presentations, homework, attitude and behavior, hands-on-activities, short tests, quizzes etc.
3	Final Assessment	40%	It takes place at the end of the semester. It is mostly in the form of a test, but owing to the nature of the course the teacher may assess their students based on term paper, research proposal development, field work and report writing etc.