

Danish School of Media and Journalism
Course description
Spring semester 2025
Video Journalism and Foreign Reporting
4th semester

Number of ECTS Credits: 30 ECTS

Aims

The semester programme combines journalistic training with intensive studies and field reporting and the programme consists of four courses:

- Feature Video Journalism
- People Behind the figures
- Foreign News Reporting
- International Semester Project

You will learn about video journalism and feature video production, as well as how to tell the stories about the people behind the figures. You will learn about the news media's role on the global scene, practice foreign reporting, and work with elements of factchecking, AI and other tools in newsroom setups. Your semester concludes with a project based on your own research as a journalist in Denmark or another European country.

The programme is a full course load semester programme run in English. Group work and coaching are given high priority, and students are expected to attend all classes, group work, lectures, and other scheduled activities.

Course Description

Feature Video Journalism

Number of ECTS Credits: 5 ECTS

Aims

Enable the students to master methods to achieve the skills of research, production and analysis of journalistic feature video stories.

Plan, record and edit a video feature story, in a group with fellow students.

Pedagogical and didactic approaches

Lectures with interactive discussions and exercises in groups based on the readings and relevant videos. Group work and peer feedback are the working methods for the video assignments, including individual tuition in groups. Re-edit the video assignment based on the feedback given by teachers and peers.

Working methods

Research, planning and production of Journalistic video feature stories.

Lectures, groupwork, class discussions, self-study of literature, video features and journalistic video stories.

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, students are expected to have achieved:

Knowledge

- Know the methodology of feature video production: Different research techniques, source critique and story structures.
- Know how articulated pictures, visual storytelling and natural sound, contribute to information, fascination and identification.
- Know different forms of storytelling templates and the characteristics of the formulas.
- Know how to research and plan a feature video story.
- Know the importance of thorough research and journalistic ethical awareness of the workflow and its outcome.

Understanding

- Understand the characteristics of feature video stories and criteria for choosing a relevant angle, content and use of credible sources.
- Understand how to critically analyse sources and how to develop a focus that corresponds to the target audience.

- Understand the different characteristics of short- and long format video stories.
- Understand different dramaturgical storytelling templates used in journalistic video storytelling.
- Understand the importance of cooperation in video production.

Skills

- The students will be able to produce feature stories by using relevant journalistic criteria and story structures.
- They will gain methods in gathering information and documentation in a foreign country (Denmark).
- They will know how to find and use sources in their collection of information.
- Be able to conduct source critique and develop interview strategies according to different types of sources.
- Be able to produce feature video stories.
- Know how to use a digital HD camera and how to edit with Final Cut ProX.
- Know how to perform on-camera and how to write speak and do voice over.
- Know how to give feedback on other students' productions.
- Learn to cooperate across cultural and linguistic differences.
- Learn how shared knowledge and productive work contribute to a journalistic product.

Preconditions for exam

Attendance: Students must actively attend all scheduled classes and class activities, as described in the calendar. A 90 per cent attendance is required, calculated one working week prior to finalisation of the course.

Participation: All group work and other mandatory activities. Submission of pre-script, video, final script and feedback. Includes also coaching, preparation tasks, class presentations, and feedback related to the assignments.

Compensation: A possibility of compensation assignments applies in the event of allowed absence, cf point 6.2.2 in the DMJX Journalism BA Curriculum,

Exam/Grading

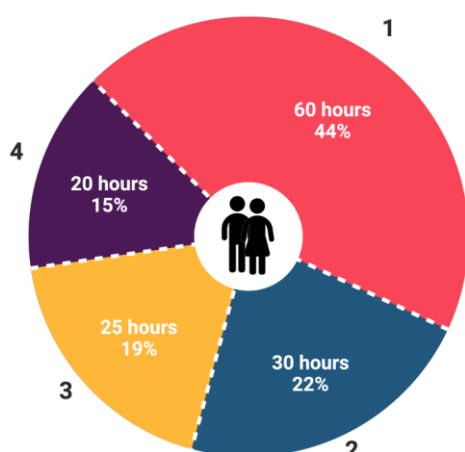
Grading by the Danish 7-point grading scale.

The grade is based on a pre-script, video assignment, final script and written peer feedback.

The Study Activity Model

Feature Journalism

135 hours in total
5 ECTS points



Category 1

The lecturer has primary responsibility for the study activities, and the students have co-responsibility through their preparation and participation. Participation by students and one or more lecturers.

Category 2

The lecturer has primary responsibility for defining the learning activities, and the students have primary responsibility for taking an active part in the planned study activities. Participation by students only.

Category 3

Students have primary responsibility for the study activities, and the lecturer has co-responsibility for ensuring appropriate settings for the activities. Participation by students only.

Category 4

Students have primary responsibility for the learning activities, and the lecturer has co-responsibility for ensuring appropriate settings for the activities. Participation by students and one or more lecturers.

Course Description

People Behind the figures

Number of ECTS Credits: 10 ECTS

Aims

- to encourage students to understand, reflect and report on the statistics of a country.
- to make the students focus on how to find relevant stories in statistics and unfold them with human sources for an interesting video story.
- to discuss the challenges the students might meet in making stories based on statistics.

Learning outcomes

On completion of the module, students are expected to have achieved:

Knowledge

- on the database Statistics Denmark and the purpose of it, as a point of departure for journalistic work
- on methods for finding and understanding statistics for journalistic storytelling
- on how to work creatively with statistics
- on different ways of presenting statistics in video storytelling
- on the responsibilities, hereunder ethical choices journalists must take in producing video stories for different target groups.

Understanding

- understand how to read and use statistics for journalism.
- understand how to unfold specific statistics in journalistic video stories
- understand the variety of ways to include statistics in a video story.

Skills

The students should be able to

- find and understand different statistics in Denmark
- use different methods for analysis of statistics
- choose creative ways in presenting statistics in a video story
- be aware on ethical values in reporting
- be aware of and reflect on own biases and stereotypes in the approach and production of journalistic stories.

Pedagogical and didactic approaches

Lectures with interactive discussions and exercises in groups based on the readings and relevant videos. Group work and peer feedback are the working methods for all the video assignments, including individual tuition in groups. Re-edit the video assignment based on the feedback given by teachers and peers.

Working methods:

Research methods, production planning and technical production of journalistic video feature stories. Lectures, groupwork, class discussions, self-study of texts and video features and documentaries.

Preconditions for exam

Attendance: Students must actively attend all scheduled classes and class activities, as described in the calendar. A 90 per cent attendance is required, calculated one working week prior to finalisation of the course.

Participation: All group work and other mandatory activities. Submission of pre-script, video, final script and feedback. Includes also coaching, preparation tasks, class presentations, and feedback related to the assignments.

Compensation: A possibility of compensation assignments applies in the event of allowed absence, cf. point 6.2.2 in the DMJX Journalism BA Curriculum.

Exam/Grading

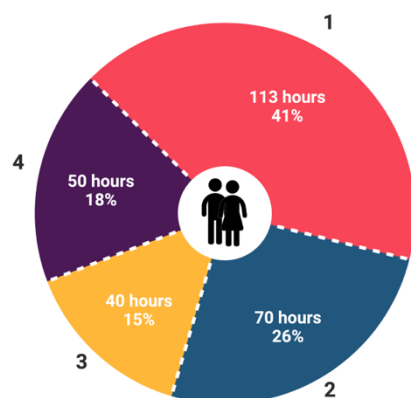
Grading by the Danish 7-point grading scale.

The grade is based on a pre-script, video assignment, final script and written peer feedback.

The Study Activity Model

People Behind the Figures

273 hours in total
10 ECTS points



Category 1

The lecturer has primary responsibility for the study activities, and the students have co-responsibility through their preparation and participation. Participation by students and one or more lecturers.

Category 2

The lecturer has primary responsibility for defining the learning activities, and the students have primary responsibility for taking an active part in the planned study activities. Participation by students only.

Category 3

Students have primary responsibility for the study activities, and the lecturer has co-responsibility for ensuring appropriate settings for the activities. Participation by students only.

Category 4

Students have primary responsibility for the learning activities, and the lecturer has co-responsibility for ensuring appropriate settings for the activities. Participation by students and one or more lecturers.

Course Description

Foreign News Reporting

Number of ECTS Credits: 10 ECTS

Aims

- Provide students with new transnational perspectives on global and local issues, and on the media's role.
- Enable students to master basic methods in foreign reporting.
- Introduce different forms of global reporting (breaking international news, foreign news for national audiences, and local news with international perspective).
- Give an overview of the global news cycle, and of factors influencing the flow of foreign news.
- Let students combine text, video, photos and infographics in their own international journalism.

Learning outcomes

The students will obtain the following during the course:

Knowledge and understanding

- knowledge about the media's role in a global society
- awareness of national versus international reporting
- knowledge about major actors in the global news ecosystem
- knowledge about the foreign correspondent's tools of trade, and how newsrooms work with international news
- understanding concepts of news judgement and news criteria
- knowledge about news story structures and story telling techniques
- understanding relations between disinformation, propaganda and news media

Skills

On completion of the course, students should be able to:

- work at the 'global news desk', with elements of foreign correspondance
- produce journalism for publication, with rich text and visual elements
- apply key practices from the foreign reporting toolbox
- gather and verify facts and statements from a wide range of sources - in/from foreign countries
- assess foreign news by using relevant news criteria, and develop new angles in journalistic stories
- work professionally in groups and individually, and manage own time effectively

Pedagogical and didactic approaches

- Lectures, groupwork, study visits, class discussions, analysis of examples, reading of literature, exercises, assignments, peer and teacher feedback.

Working methods

- Planning and execution of journalistic stories; international research; verification of information; source analysis; newsroom work with management of time and resources; synopses; production of text, video, photo, infographics; editing; pitching.

Preconditions for exam

Attendance: Students must actively attend all scheduled classes and class activities, as described in the workshop calendar. A 90 per cent attendance is required, calculated one working week prior to finalisation of the workshop.

Participation: All group work and other mandatory activities. Submission of the course assignments. Includes coaching, preparation tasks, class presentations, and feedback related to the assignments.

Compensation: A possibility of compensation assignments applies in the event of allowed absence, cf point 6.2.2 in the DMJX Journalism BA Curriculum,

Exam/Grading

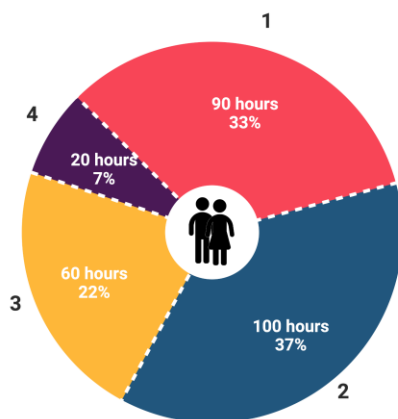
Grading by the Danish 7-point grading scale.

The grade is based on a written portfolio submission with presentations; the portfolio package is based on the workshop's assignments.

The Study Activity Model

Foreign News Reporting

270 hours in total
10 ECTS points
6 weeks



Category 1

The lecturer has primary responsibility for the study activities, and the students have co-responsibility through their preparation and participation. Participation by students and one or more lecturers.

Category 2

The lecturer has primary responsibility for defining the learning activities, and the students have primary responsibility for taking an active part in the planned study activities. Participation by students only.

Category 3

Students have primary responsibility for the study activities, and the lecturer has co-responsibility for ensuring appropriate settings for the activities. Participation by students only.

Category 4

Students have primary responsibility for the learning activities, and the lecturer has co-responsibility for ensuring appropriate settings for the activities. Participation by students and one or more lecturers.

Course Description

International Semester Project

Number of ECTS Credits: 5 ECTS

Aims

- Prepare students to practice foreign reporting.
- Train different reporting techniques in real-life settings.
- Provide the inspiration to work journalistically with the EU and other international organisations.
- Introduce the main institutions and decision-making processes in such organisations.

Pedagogical and didactic approaches

- Lectures, groupwork, class discussions, reading of literature, exercises, assignments, analysis of examples, peer and teacher feedback.

Working methods

- International, European and national research; database search; verification of information; source analysis; synopses; text, video, photo, infographics; pitching; planning, interviewing, production and editing.

Learning outcomes

The students will obtain the following during the course:

Knowledge and understanding

- Understand the main decision-making processes in the European Union, and its relations to other countries and organisations
- Know the basic requirements for and have experienced publishing for a broader audience in other countries
- Know about sources and research possibilities in foreign reporting

Skills

- Identify the role and competence of EU-institutions versus member states
- Identify, find and use EU-related sources in Brussels as well as from other countries and other stakeholders
- Develop ideas and plan stories relevant for audiences in other countries
- Understand the skills needed to execute such story plans

The Semester project is a group or individual project in a newsroom setup and with a research period in Denmark or another European country (2 weeks with no scheduled classes/appointments at the school).

The project package includes

- journalistic productions
- a list of sources
- a report, and
- presentations and analyses

Preconditions for exam

Attendance: Students must actively attend all scheduled classes and class activities, as described in the workshop calendar. A 90 per cent attendance is required, calculated one working week prior to finalisation of the course.

Participation: All group work and other mandatory activities. Includes coaching, preparation and wrapup tasks for lectures, class presentations, and feedback.

Compensation: A possibility of compensation assignments applies in the event of allowed absence, cf point 6.2.2 in the DMJX Journalism BA Curriculum,

Exam/Grading

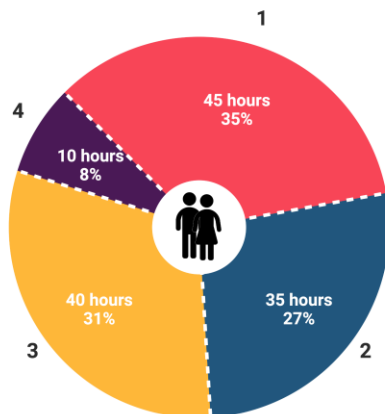
Grading by the Danish 7-point grading scale.

The course is graded based on the submission of a project package, consisting of journalistic products and other elements. The project is done in groups, or individually. It must be clear who is responsible for which part of a group submission. Students receive individual grades.

The Study Activity Model

International Semester Project

130 hours in total
5 ECTS points
4 weeks



Category 1

The lecturer has primary responsibility for the study activities, and the students have co-responsibility through their preparation and participation. Participation by students and one or more lecturers.

Category 2

The lecturer has primary responsibility for defining the learning activities, and the students have primary responsibility for taking an active part in the planned study activities. Participation by students only.

Category 3

Students have primary responsibility for the study activities, and the lecturer has co-responsibility for ensuring appropriate settings for the activities. Participation by students only.

Category 4

Students have primary responsibility for the learning activities, and the lecturer has co-responsibility for ensuring appropriate settings for the activities. Participation by students and one or more lecturers.

HB / 16.12.2024