Media Writing (SS 233)

Credit Hours: 4

Instructor: Syed Javed Nazir

Schedule: Monday to Friday (2.00 PM – 4.50 PM)

This course introduces students to writing for mass media. These forms include news and feature stories, columns, editorials and articles for print and broadcast media. Fundamentals of media writing will also survey news styles, policy and ethical issues while delivering news. The Media Writing is not destined to be an inert lecture-and-reading class. It is meant to engage you, make you think critically about the world and about the people who bring it to you every day via the printed, spoken and visual word. Students should keep up with reading assignments and current events. Some classes will begin with discussion of news media coverage of a current column, feature, news story, editorial or article. Students will be given a topic in advance and should bring example and opinion to the class. Specific goals for this course include preparing students to write factually, persuasively and effectively in keeping with the desired standards. Alongside, it would enable them to distinguish modes of media writing styles between radio, television news and print (newspapers, magazines and internet) journalism. There would be some opportunity to explore the convergence of print and online media. Students would learn to use some key professional stylebooks and library sources. The course will feature guest lectures as well.