RTCP 107-01 Practicum in Journalism Spring 2014

Faculty Instructor: Jan Cooper, Department of Rhetoric and Composition

Office: King 139A USE THE "Make an appointment to talk with Jan" tool on the Blackboard course menu to schedule a time to talk to the instructor

Email: jan.cooper@oberlin.edu twitter: wtg2participate

Phone: 440-537-4828 (email is usually a faster way to reach me than calling or texting)

General Description of the course
Practicum in Journalism exists to give Oberlin College students an opportunity to earn academic credits by working on approved campus publications (see list below). You can earn 1 full co-curricular credit per semester through the practicum. During your time at Oberlin, you can earn a limit of 8 full Co-Curricular Credits (of any kind) toward graduation. Under the old credit system, if you have served as an editor or major coordinator for an approved publication, you can earn an additional 2 hours of credit (for a total of 6) toward graduation. This distinction is not available under the new credit system.

Practicum credit can be earned by working for a combination of approved publications in any given semester, as long as all parties involved are informed of the arrangement from the beginning. It is not advisable to work for more than two publications in one semester, however. All Practicum in Journalism credit is graded Pass/No Pass.

After registering for Practicum in Journalism on PRESTO, you should log onto the RTCP 107 Blackboard site to sign up for the publication(s) you've chosen to work for as soon as possible. Signing up for your publication's group on this Blackboard site as soon as possible is necessary to enable your editors to communicate with you. Editors or coordinators of each publication will make all assignments, editorial decisions, and judgments as to whether or not you have fulfilled the requirements for earning credit for their publication.

In order to earn credit you will keep a work blog, which will be a list of all your work for your publication(s) during the semester. Your blog will be read and verified by the editor(s) or coordinator(s) of your publication(s) and Jan Cooper after update deadlines. Sample blog updates are posted in the "Instructions for Keeping a Work Blog" section of the course Blackboard website. Editors and coordinators must keep blogs in order to earn credit if they are officially registered in the Practicum.

Publications Approved for Practicum in Journalism Credit:
Fearless and Loathing
The Grape
Headwaters
In Solidarity
The Oberlin Review
The Synapse
Wilder Voice
WOBC News Corps/Documentary

DATES of Importance in Practicum in Journalism Spring 2014

Wed., Feb. 12, 2014--deadline for adding or dropping Practicum in Journalism; all students must sign up for the publication(s) they plan to work for by this day and start their course blogs.

NOTE: the course CANNOT be added later for 2nd module credit.

Wed., March 19, 2014--deadline for midterm blog update on the RTCP 107 Practicum in Journalism Blackboard website (email jan.cooper@oberlin.edu if you have questions)

Fri., March 28, 2014--deadline for editors of publications to verify blog updates by email to Jan Cooper

Mon., April 7, 2014--last day to withdraw from the course

Wed., May 7, 2014--deadline for completing your final blog update on the RTCP 107 Practicum in Journalism Blackboard website (email jan.cooper@oberlin.edu if you have questions)

Wed., May 14, 2014--deadline for editors of publications to verify completed blogs by email to Jan Cooper