

New York University
Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute
Syllabus
INTRO TO NARRATIVE PODCASTING
Summer 2021

Professor: Aguilera, Jazmin
T/TH 6:00PM-9:00PM

To contact professor: emailjazminaguilera@gmail.com

Course Description

Podcasting and audio journalism is an exciting medium for immersive and informative storytelling. In this course students will learn the basics of every aspect of narrative podcasting. From audio interviewing techniques, workflow and organization, construction and structuring episodes, script writing, and post production mixing, scoring, and critical review. Students will leave this class understanding the mechanics of audio storytelling and how to approach and evaluate pitches. This course is a hands on workshop, and students can expect to end this course with the start of an audio portfolio.

Learning Objectives

In this course, students will:

- Understand of the different structural formats of narrative podcasting and how and why to implement them
- Prepare pre-production documents, interview questions and script for narration
- Demonstrate understanding of the components of a strong narrative episode from narration, actuality tape, interview tape and score to structure, tone, and themes.
- Interview subjects, conduct research, and evaluate information
- Learn basics of sound editing software, assembling rough drafts with basic scoring and mixing

Listen before class

Storytelling Podcasts: This American Life, Snap Judgment, Memory Palace, Reply All, The Heart, Mystery Show

News/Investigation and Informational Podcasts: The Dream, The Daily, Serial, Radiolab

Fiction: Hello From The Magic Tavern, The No Series from The Heart , Everything Is Alive, Welcome to Nightvale

Course Requirements

Students are expected to attend the course and participate in class discussions. Students will have required Listen before class both in class and outside of class. Student groups or individuals will have completed on audio piece before the end of the course.

Grading

Final grades will be calculated as follows:

30% participation

20% attendance

50% Final Audio piece

7/06/2021 The basic structures of narrative podcasts Pt 1

- Listen before class: "[Words](#)" *Radiolab*
- Listen before class: "[Soundtrack of Silence](#)" *Snap Judgment*

7/08/2021 The basic structures of narrative podcasts Pt 2

- Listen before class: "[Five Women](#)" *This American Life*
- Listen before class: "[The Alibi](#)" *Serial*
- Listen before class: "[Living Room](#)" *Love and Radio*

7/13/2021 The basic structures of narrative podcasts Pt 3

- Listen before class: [The "No" Series](#) *The Heart*
- Listen before class: "[Russian Dolls](#)" *Everything Is Alive*
- Brainstorm begins for student projects

7/15/2021 Pre production – Scouting, Pitching, and Outlining

- Listen before class: "[Feral Hogs](#)" *Reply All*

7/20/2021 Pre production – Pitches for student projects

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7/25/2018 Pre production – Interviews and Organization

- Listen before class: *The Daily*
- Listen before class: "[This Is Not A Drill](#)" *Snap Judgment*
- Pitches due for student projects

7/27/2018 Production – Applied Technical skills pt 1

8/3/2021 Production – Applied Technical skills pt 2

8/5/2021 Production – First drafts, Scripting, and Narration pt 1

- Listen before class: "[Wanna Swim In Cash?](#)" *The Dream*

8/10/2021 Production – First drafts, Scripting, and Narration pt 2

- Listen before class: "[Source Code](#)" *Mystery Show*

8/12/2021 Production – Editing, Restructuring and Feedback

- Listen before class: [The Criminal Underworld of Child Abuse](#), *The Daily*

8/17/2021 Production – Applied Technical Skills pt 3

8/19/2021 Production – Scoring

8/24/2021 Real World Working Environments – podcasting jobs and freelancing

8/26/2021 Student Showcase – group listens to final projects

[8/26/2021] [Final Assignment – short audio piece due]

Optional Listening:

Planet Money
Memory Palace
Decoder Ring
Invisibilia
In The Dark
Hottest Take

Optional Reading:

[Should I make a podcast?](#)
[Early things to consider](#)

Additional Resources:

- [NPR Training](#)
- [Transom](#)
- [The Podcast Host](#)
- [Spotify for Podcasters](#)

Accommodations

Students with disabilities that necessitate accommodations should contact and register with New York University's Moses Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) at [212-998-4980](tel:212-998-4980) or mosecsd@nyu.edu. Information about the Moses Center can be found at www.nyu.edu/csd. The Moses Center is located at 726 Broadway on the 2nd floor.

Diversity & Inclusion

The Institute is committed to creating an inclusive learning environment. The Institute embraces a notion of intellectual community enriched and enhanced by diversity along a number of dimensions.