



JOUR 207: Reporting and Writing I **3 Units**

Fall 2020 - Tuesdays - 9-11:30 a.m. PST

Section: 21094D

Location: Online

Instructor: CJ Jackson

Office: Home/Virtual

Office Hours: Tuesdays at 8 a.m. or by appointment.

Contact Info: jack387@usc.edu

I. Course Description

Hello – and welcome to JOUR 207. Over the course of this course, you hone and sharpen your writing, reporting, critical thinking and basic journalistic skills. In addition, we'll focus on news values, ethics, copy editing, interviewing, fact-checking, AP style and how to accurately report and write about a diverse world on deadline.

This course will serve as an introduction to and a step-by-step process for producing news content, including understanding the concept of news judgment –when an event is news and why– research, reporting, writing and dissemination of news in our current environment.

Our focus will begin by helping you understand elements that make a story newsworthy, including how that can vary based on news outlet and audience. We'll also cover the essential elements successful stories must have. As the semester progresses, we'll focus acquiring more news skills, including writing leads, briefs, short stories, tweets and fundamentals of reporting, researching and fact-checking through a variety of in-class and homework assignments.

All students will also complete online self-directed learning modules on Associated Press style and Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation. We will focus on how to copy edit the work of others and how to self-edit work. As a part of this course, your training will include professionalism through a thorough review and discussion of codes of ethics and ethics case studies.

This course will be conducted online through Zoom and Blackboard. Each week, you will be expected to complete a set of readings and exercises independently (asynchronously) before we meet for class. During class, we will work together on other assignments and projects, work together (synchronously) to answer questions, review your work and continue to hone skills.

Basic expectations include: logging in to class on time, coming prepared (having done your readings and homework assignments), and being ready to discuss various news-related topics.

By the end of the semester, you will have a full appreciation for what makes an event newsworthy and be able to produce accurate, well-written, well-sourced tweets and short news stories on deadline.

You will report and write news stories while also learning about some of the basic types of coverage media outlets focus on - crime, courts, government meetings, speeches, press conferences, and polls.

If you miss class, you cannot make up an in-class assignment. In addition, homework assignments will be weighted more heavily in the second half of the semester, meaning they will count for a higher portion of your grade at the end of the semester as stories get more complex. You will be given the opportunity to rewrite one homework assignment (the two grades will be averaged).

Please note: You are not allowed to interview friends and family members for stories. When in doubt – ask and we can talk about it. You also must not misrepresent yourself when seeking an interview (i.e., telling a source you are writing for The Daily Trojan or the Annenberg Media Center if you are not actually doing so). You are not allowed to submit single source stories unless given the okay by your instructor.

The course that follows, JOUR 307, will build on the skills learned in JOUR 207 and focus on longer enterprise (i.e., feature) stories.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Write a hard news story on deadline with multiple sources, effective quotes, and a compelling lead, using clear and concise language and correct grammar, punctuation, spelling and AP Style.
- Conduct research and verify information using diverse primary and secondary sources
- Have a full appreciation and understanding of journalistic ethics and best practices and procedures.

III. Course Notes

All assignments for our course will be graded on accuracy, grammar, spelling, AP style, clarity, deadlines, conciseness, structure, proper punctuation, quality of interviews/reporting and use of quotes, if applicable, use of numbers, quality of sources, attribution, research, objectivity, etc.

Rubrics will be provided for each assignment.

Your work must abide by Society of Professional Journalists Code of Ethics (<http://www.spj.org/ethicscode.asp>), NPPA (<https://nppa.org/ethics>), SND (<http://www.snd.org>) and the RTNDA Code of Ethics (http://www.rtdna.org/content/rtdna_code_of_ethics#.VTNMjltAwUU).

IV. Description and Assessment of Assignments

- News leads: You will learn how to write an info-packed, yet readable news lead in a sentence of 35 words or less from a factsheet. You also will learn to support this lead.
- News briefs: You will write short yet complete news stories, or briefs, of one to three paragraphs from a factsheet.
- News stories: You will research, report on and write 500-word news stories on deadline. We will start with factsheets, but then you will report stories. The stories will be assigned by your instructor.
- AP/GSP modules on Blackboard: These self-paced modules must be completed before the midterm.
- Tweets: You will learn how to use social media for reporting, especially about live events, and developing sources. You also will learn how to write Tweets.
- You also will learn how to use Twitter to have conversations with your audience and verify information.
- Ethics/Media tear-ups: Students will be paired up and assigned a specific journalistic ethical question to research. In class, students will be responsible for leading a class

discussion. These should reference specific stories from mainstream outlets such as CNN, the Los Angeles Times USA Today , etc. to share with the class and discuss key questions about its production and merit. (How to lead a tear-up and what is expected will be discussed in class, and an outline uploaded to Bb).

- News Quizzes: Each week, the instructor will prepare a brief news quiz on local and national news. These in class quizzes can't be made up if missed.
- Midterm: At the midpoint of the semester, you will be tested on grammar, spelling, punctuation, AP Style, ethics and writing.
- Final: You will report and write a 500 to 750--word story and write at least three Tweets for this story.

V. Grading

a. Breakdown of Grade

Assignment	% of Grade
AP Style/GSP Modules	5%
In-class assignments and participation	10%
Ethics presentation/media tear up	5%
Homework assignments pre-midterm	10%
News Quizzes	5%
Homework Assignments post-midterm	25%
Midterm	15%
Final	25%
TOTAL	100%

b. Grading Scale

95% to 100%: A	80% to 83%: B-	67% to 69%: D+
90% to 94%: A-	77% to 79%: C+	64% to 66%: D
87% to 89%: B+	74% to 76%: C	60% to 63%: D-
84% to 86%: B	70% to 73%: C-	0% to 59%: F

c. Grading Standards Journalism

All assignments will be edited on a professional basis and you will be judged first on the accuracy and fairness and of your stories. You will then be evaluated for broadcast style, editing, production value, originality and the ability to meet deadlines.

“A” stories are accurate, clear, comprehensive stories that are well written and require only minor copyediting (i.e., they would be aired or published). Video work must also be shot and

edited creatively, be well paced and include good sound bites and natural sound that add flavor, color or emotion to the story.

“B” stories require more than minor editing and have a few style or spelling errors or one significant error of omission. For video, there may be minor flaws in the composition of some shots or in the editing. Good use of available sound bites is required.

“C” stories need considerable editing or rewriting and/or have many spelling, style or omission errors. Camera work and editing techniques in video stories are mediocre or unimaginative, but passable. Sound bites add little or no color - only information that could be better told in the reporter’s narration.

“D” stories require excessive rewriting, have numerous errors and should not have been submitted. Camera work is unsatisfactory or fails to show important elements.

“F” stories have failed to meet the major criteria of the assignment, are late, have numerous errors or both. Your copy should not contain any errors in spelling, style, grammar and facts. Any misspelled or mispronounced proper noun will result in an automatic “F” on that assignment. Any factual error will also result in an automatic “F” on the assignment. Accuracy is the first law of journalism. The following are some other circumstances that would warrant a grade of “F” and potential USC/Annenberg disciplinary action:

- Fabricating a story or making up quotes or information.
- Plagiarizing a script/article, part of a script/article or information from any source.
- Staging video or telling interview subjects what to say.
- Using video shot by someone else and presenting it as original work.
- Shooting video in one location and presenting it as another location.
- Using the camcorder to intentionally intimidate, provoke or incite a person or a group of people to elicit more “dramatic” video.
- Promising, paying or giving someone something in exchange for doing an interview either on or off camera.
- Missing a deadline.

d. Grading Timeline

All homework assignments should be uploaded to Blackboard and shared via email (to both USC and Gmail addresses) no later than one week after they are assigned (e.g. before our next class). I will do my best to return graded in class assignments within 1 week.

VI. Assignment Rubrics

Rubrics for each assignment will be uploaded to Blackboard.

VII. Assignment Submission Policy

Short assignments will be due in class and homework assignments will be due before the next class session. Please upload your assignments to Blackboard in a Word doc, and also send via email to USC + Gmail addresses. Also, give your file a two-word slug followed by an underscore and your last name. Example: DumpsterFire_Jackson or TikTok_Jackson.

Students are encouraged to submit their work for consideration to Annenberg Media or the Daily Trojan, or pitch it to mainstream media outlets. Visit <http://bit.ly/SubmitAnnenbergMedia> for more information about that submission and review process and email Daily Trojan news editors at atdt.city@gmail.com for more on how to pitch your work to the campus newspaper.

VIII. Required Readings and Supplementary Materials

- * Inside Reporting: A Practical Guide to the Craft of Journalism (2012) Author: Tim Harrower. McGraw-Hill, 3rd edition, 2012 (ISBN: 978-007352617)
 - ISBN: 978-007352617
- * The Associated Press Stylebook and Briefing on Media Law, 55th Edition
 - ISBN-10:1541647572
 - ISBN-13:978-1541647572

The following Diversity Stylebooks are on Bb:

Diversity Styleguide: <https://www.diversitystyleguide.com/>

National Center of Disability and Journalism: <http://ncdj.org/style-guide/>

LGBT Terminology: <https://www.nlgja.org/stylebook/>

NAJA Styleguide: <https://www.naja.com/resources/naja-ap-style-guide/>

NABJ Styleguide: <https://www.nabj.org/page/styleguide>

AAJA Styleguide: <http://sjsujmc.com/MCOM285/alaban/2018/03/29/aajas-guide-to-covering-asian-america/> Immigration Styleguide: https://www.raceforward.org/sites/default/files/DTIW_update_JournalistStyleGuide4.pdf

Race Reporting Guide: [https://www.raceforward.org/sites/default/files/](https://www.raceforward.org/sites/default/files/Race%20Reporting%20Guide%20by%20Race%20Forward_V1.1.pdf)

[Race%20Reporting%20Guide%20by%20Race%20Forward_V1.1.pdf](https://www.raceforward.org/sites/default/files/Race%20Reporting%20Guide%20by%20Race%20Forward_V1.1.pdf)

SAJA Styleguide: http://www1.lasalle.edu/~beatty/310/ACES_CD/reference/reference_and_resources/SAJStyle.pd

Suggested Readings/Sources for News Quizzes:

Follow at least three news organizations on Twitter and sign up for three push alerts. Here are a few I suggest but feel free to choose based on likes and future interests. @AP, @washingtonpost @THR (The Hollywood Reporter), @latimes, @ABC, @CBSNews, @NBCNews, @nytimes, @BBCWorld, @reuters, @CNN, @HuffPost, @theskimm, @LAist, @LAMag, @FoxNews, @NPR, @KPCC

Watch at least one national and local newscast every day:

NBC Nightly News, CBS Evening News, ABC World News, KABC, KCBS/KCAL, KNBC, KTLA, KTTV

Listen to NPR

KPCC/Southern California Public Radio

Add these news organizations on Instagram and watch their Stories: The Guardian

CNN

New York Times

Helpful websites:

BBC Social Media Academy: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/academy/journalism/skills/social-media>

Media Shift: <http://www.pbs.org/mediashift/>

Journalist's Toolbox: <http://www.journaliststoolbox.org/archive/mobile-journalism/>

NPPA: <https://nppa.org>

SPJ: <http://www.spj.org>

NPR training: <http://training.npr.org/category/social-media/>

NPR Social Media Code of Ethics: <http://ethics.npr.org/tag/social-media/>

[Annenberg Media Guide to Thoughtful Language](#)

SPJ Code of Ethics at <http://www.spj.org/ethicscode.asp>

ONA Code of Ethics at <http://journalists.org/?page=onamission>

<https://www.poynter.org/news/what-every-young-journalist-should-know-about-using-twitter>

<https://www.nyguild.org/front-page-details/basic-best-practices-for-journalists-on-twitter>
<https://www.poynter.org/news/twitter-dustups-are-reminder-journalists-you-are-what-you-tweet>

IX. Laptop Policy

All undergraduate and graduate Annenberg majors and minors are required to have a PC or Apple laptop that can be used in Annenberg classes. Please refer to the [Annenberg Digital Lounge](#) for more information. To connect to USC's Secure Wireless network, please visit USC's [Information Technology Services](#) website.

X. Add/Drop Dates for Session 001 (13 weeks: 8/17/20 - 11/13/20)

Friday, September 4: Last day to register and add classes for Session 001

Friday, September 4: Last day to change enrollment option to Pass/No Pass or Audit for Session 001

Friday, September 4: Last day to drop a class and receive a refund to avoid a mark of "W" on student record and STARS report

Friday, September 4: Last day to purchase or waive tuition refund insurance for fall

Friday, October 2: Last day to drop a course without a mark of "W" on the transcript only. Mark of "W" will still appear on student record and STARS report and tuition charges still apply. [Please drop any course by the end of week three for session 001 (or the 20 percent mark of the session in which the course is offered) to avoid tuition charges.]

Friday, October 2: Last day to change a Pass/No Pass course to letter grade

Friday, November 6: Last day to drop a class with a mark of "W" for Session 001

XI. Course Schedule: A Weekly Breakdown

Important note: Our syllabus is subject to change based on progress, news events and the availability of special opportunities and speakers. This is a good framework and we will make a point of talking through updates in each class session.

Please note: Readings should be completed before the day's class session.

Week 1 – Tues., Aug. 18 – Introduction to our course and go over syllabus and expectations. Begin discussion of newsworthiness, ethics, diversity and hard news leads.

- * What makes something newsworthy? How does it change depending on the news outlet?
- * Basic journalism ethics: What are they today?
- * Diversity, ethics and coverage
- * Writing a hard news lead

* Homework:

- * Write 5 hard news leads from fact sheets (to be distributed)

Readings:

From Text:

Harrower: Ch. 7, 8

AP Stylebook: Review The Associated Press Statement on News Values and Principles

On Bb:

[The Elements of Journalism](#)

[SPJ Video: Media Ethics](#)

[Diversity is Accuracy](#)

Week 2 – Tues., Aug. 25 – Supporting your lead, objectivity, Fault Lines (The following should be completed before we meet for class)

- * What comes next? After a succinct and info-packed hard news lead, your second paragraph needs to support the lead. How do you do that?
 - * Discussion of objectivity and what that means.
- * Watch Bb videos about:
- Supporting paragraphs
 - Fault Lines
 - Objectivity

Homework:

Write five hard news leads plus supporting graphs for each from factsheets should be uploaded to Bb today by 9 a.m. in a Word doc.

Readings:

From texts:

Harrower, Chapter 3, Pgs. 36-47.

AP Stylebook, A,B,C,D,E

On Bb:

[“A Reckoning Over Objectivity, Led by Black Journalists.”](#)

[Twitter thread response to Lowery](#)

[How to Cross Your Fault Lines](#)

Week 3 – Tues., Sept. 1 – How to write news briefs, basic story structure, fighting bias

- * Writing news briefs and telling a complete story.
- * Story structure and the inverted pyramid.
- * Implicit bias and how that impacts newsrooms and journalism.

Watch Bb videos on:

- News briefs and story structure/inverted pyramid
- [How Journalists Minimize Bias](#)

Homework:

Three news briefs from factsheets – uploaded to Bb and emailed before next class.

From Texts:

Harrower, Chapter 3, Pg. 41-53.; 82-85.

AP Stylebook, F,G,H,I,J

On Bb:

[“How Implicit Bias Works in Journalism.”](#)

Week 4 – Tues., Sept. 8 – Writing longer stories, using quotes, sidebars, protest coverage and editing

- * Full news stories (300-500 words)
- * Story organization
- * Using quotes and what’s a good quote
- * Protest coverage and ethics
- * Sidebars
- * Begin discussion of copy-editing and self-editing

Watch Bb videos on:

- Writing longer stories, quotes, sidebars
- [SPJ Video -- Editing](#)
- [Journalist's Toolbox - Copy Editing Tools](#)

Homework:

Write one 300-word story and one 500-word story from fact sheets and upload both to Bb and via email before class.

Readings:

From Texts:

Harrower, Pgs. 50-64.

AP Stylebook, K,L,M,N,O

On Bb:

[“It’s Time to Change the Way the Media Reports on Protests. Here are some Ideas.”
By dismantling its copy desk, The New York Times is making a mistake that’s been made before](#)

Week 5 – Tues., Sept. 15 –Review for Midterm

- * Go over basics of writing a lead, hard news story, writing conventions, AP Style and editing tips.
- * Go over Fault Lines

Homework:

Come to class with any questions about what we’ve covered so far this semester.

Watch this video on verification: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o9rBZ5FwFjw>

Week 6 – Tues., Sept. 22 –Midterm

- * Editing and Writing Assignments
 - * Leads
 - * Brief
 - * Story

Due by the end of class. You may use the AP Stylebook and the dictionary for both.

Week 7 – Tues., Sept. 29 – Reporting and Interviewing

- * Reporting basics
- * Being sent out on a story
- * Finding sources
- * Interviewing and asking questions

Watch Bb videos on:

- Interviewing
- [5 Simple Journalist Techniques for Effective Interviews](#) (for broadcast, but good tips overall)
- [Katie Couric on how to conduct a good interview](#) (also from a broadcaster, but good pointers)
- [SPJ Student Law Video](#)

Homework:

Identify, get the contact info for, and send an email to, a local news reporter, requesting a short interview for this class. A copy of your email request to the reporter should be uploaded to Bb and emailed before next class.

The story should include the basic info about the reporter but also answer the following questions: what do young journalists need to master to succeed in the world of journalism today? Is the lack of diversity in newsrooms a problem? If so, what can be done about it? Write no more than 500 words. Upload it to Bb and email before

Readings:

From Texts:

Harrower, Pgs. 68-85.

AP Stylebook:

“Briefing on Media Law.”

https://archives.cjr.org/realtalk/the_art_of_the_interview.php Good tips on interviewing I cover this in my PP.

Week 8 – Tues., Oct. 6 – Covering polls, surveys and other numbers

- * Opinion polls and survey basics
- * Using research and survey data in stories
- * Using judgement and determining bias in research

Watch videos on Bb about:

- How to write about polls and surveys
- Tips for using numbers in stories

Homework:

Write a 500-word story about a poll or survey (it will be your job to find one). Include a quote from someone who released the poll, and someone who may disagree with the poll, and someone who has an interest in the subject. Upload your story in a Word doc to Bb and send by email before next class.

Readings:

From Text:

AP Stylebook, sections on Polls and Surveys; AP Social Media Guidelines

On Bb:

[11 Questions Journalists Should Ask about Public Opinion Polls](#)

[“Polls rarely ask about concerns vital to minority voters.”](#)

Week 9 – Tues., Oct. 13 –Speeches, meetings and news conferences, Tweeting

- * Covering speeches and meetings
- * News conferences 101
- * Tweeting the news

Watch Bb videos on:

- Covering speeches, meeting and news conferences
- Tweeting
- [SPJ Video: Fake News](#)

Homework:

You will write about a 500-word story about a meeting, news conference or speech (likely via Zoom). Include two Tweets. Something on campus is fine. Be sure to do research on the

subject/speaker or get a copy of the meeting agenda. Upload a 500-word story to Bb in a Word doc by Tuesday, Oct. 20.

Readings:

Form Text:

Harrower, Pgs. 106-110

Week 10— Tues., Oct. 20 –Covering law enforcement, writing headlines.

- * How to cover crime and safety
- * Avoiding stereotypes, journalistic norms and keeping victims safe
- * Treating suspects and minors fairly

Watch Bb videos on:

- The police beat
- [SPJ Video on Writing Headlines](#)

Homework:

TBD – contingent on speakers for class this week.

Readings:

Text:

Harrower, Pgs. 102-103

On Bb:

[“The Mug Shot, a Crime Story Staple, is Dropped by Some Newsrooms an Police”](#)
[The Dart Center - Working with Victims and Survivors](#)

Week 11 – Tues., Oct. 27 –Breaking news, self-care.

- * Covering difficult stories and breaking news
- * Planning for breaking events
- * How to get information
- * Understanding traumatic events and taking care of yourself

Watch Bb videos on:

- Covering breaking news/elections
- [SPJ Video on Reporting during the Covid pandemic.](#)

Homework:

A 500-word story, plus three Tweets, about the Presidential election, will be due next Tues., Nov. 3, four hours after the election is called. If it has not yet been called late into the night, file what you can by midnight. The Tweets should focus on something at the beginning of your coverage, the middle and the end of your coverage. Your story should include quotes from at least three people.

Readings: On Bb:

[PBS NewsHour: How to Cover the Presidential Race](#)
[Covering Elections: Journalist Safety Kit](#)

Week 12 – Tues., Nov. 3 – Covering court trials.

- * Covering a court case
- * How to handle a suspect after they are charged
- * Civil and Criminal Court cases

Watch Bb videos on:

- How trials work

Homework:

Write the body of a trial story -- or the "B" matter -- from a factsheet on Bb based on a Law & Order episode. Make it around 200 words. Upload to Bb today by 9 a.m. in a Word doc.

Readings:

From Text:

Harrower, Pgs. 104-105.

On Bb:

[About California Courts](#)

[Reporting on Courts](#)

[Should we be afraid of AI in the Criminal Justice System?](#)

Week 13 – Tues., Nov. 10 –Final exam review

- * Go over expectations for final exam
- * Final exam will be a 500-750 word story written on deadline during exam period. It will incorporate all of the skills, including research, reporting and a live presentation by a speaker during the final exam period and write the story.
- * The final exam will include all elements we have covered during the semester.
- * How to compile and prep B matter and why it helps

Watch Bb videos on:

- Writing "A" and "B" matter
- [Diversifying your Sources](#)

Homework:

Write draft of "B" matter for final story

FINAL EXAM -- Tues., Nov. 19, 8-10 a.m.

Incorporate guest speaker's comments into your previous research/writing ("B" matter). Due by the end of the exam period.

XII. Policies and Procedures

Additional Policies

Since this class will be conducted online, it is important that you regularly check your USC email for communication about this and other classes.

Communication

Student hours are listed at the top of the syllabus, but to reiterate, you are more than welcome to schedule a time to talk or confer via Zoom at any time during the semester. I will also respond to emails within 24 hours, if not sooner. If for some reason I don't, please follow up.

Internships

The value of professional internships as part of the overall educational experience of our students has long been recognized by the School of Journalism. Accordingly, while internships are not required for successful completion of this course, any student enrolled in this course that undertakes and completes an approved, non-paid internship during this semester shall earn academic extra credit herein of an amount equal to 1 percent of the total available

semester points for this course. To receive instructor approval, a student must request an internship letter from the Annenberg Career Development Office and bring it to the instructor to sign by the end of the third week of classes. The student must submit the signed letter to the media organization, along with the evaluation form provided by the Career Development Office. The form should be filled out by the intern supervisor and returned to the instructor at the end of the semester. No credit will be given if an evaluation form is not turned into the instructor by the last day of class. Note: The internship must be unpaid and can only be applied to one journalism or public relations class.

Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

a. Academic Conduct

Plagiarism

Plagiarism - presenting someone else's ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words - is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Part B, Section 11, "Behavior Violating University Standards" policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct.

USC School of Journalism Policy on Academic Integrity

The following is the USC Annenberg School of Journalism's policy on academic integrity and repeated in the syllabus for every course in the school:

"Since its founding, the USC School of Journalism has maintained a commitment to the highest standards of ethical conduct and academic excellence. Any student found plagiarizing, fabricating, cheating on examinations, and/or purchasing papers or other assignments faces sanctions ranging from an 'F' on the assignment to dismissal from the School of Journalism. All academic integrity violations will be reported to the office of Student Judicial Affairs & Community Standards (SJACS), as per university policy, as well as journalism school administrators."

In addition, it is assumed that the work you submit for this course is work you have produced entirely by yourself, and has not been previously produced by you for submission in another course or Learning Lab, without approval of the instructor.

b. Support Systems

Counseling and Mental Health - (213) 740-9355 - 24/7 on call

studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1 (800) 273-8255 - 24/7 on call

suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention and Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-9355(WELL), press "0" after hours - 24/7 on call

studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)- (213) 740-5086 | Title IX - (213) 821-8298

equity.usc.edu, titleix.usc.edu

Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants. The university prohibits discrimination or harassment based on the following protected characteristics: race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, physical disability, medical condition, mental disability, marital status, pregnancy, veteran status, genetic information, and any other characteristic which may be specified in applicable laws and governmental regulations. The university also prohibits sexual assault, non-consensual sexual contact, sexual misconduct, intimate partner violence, stalking, malicious dissuasion, retaliation, and violation of interim measures.

Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment - (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298

usc-advocate.symplicity.com/care_report

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office of Equity and Diversity | Title IX for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

The Office of Disability Services and Programs - (213) 740-0776

dsp.usc.edu

Support and accommodations for students with disabilities. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs.

USC Support and Advocacy - (213) 821-4710

uscса.usc.edu

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

Diversity at USC - (213) 740-2101

diversity.usc.edu

Information on events, programs and training, the Provost's Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

USC Emergency - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 - 24/7 on call

dps.usc.edu, emergency.usc.edu

Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

USC Department of Public Safety - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-120 - 24/7 on call

dps.usc.edu

Non-emergency assistance or information.

Annenberg Student Success Fund

<https://annenberg.usc.edu/current-students/resources/additional-funding-resources>

The Annenberg Student Success Fund is a donor-funded financial aid account available to USC Annenberg undergraduate and graduate students for non-tuition expenses related to extra- and co-curricular programs and opportunities.

Breaking Bread Program [undergraduate students only]

<https://undergrad.usc.edu/faculty/bread/>

The Breaking Bread Program is designed to provide individual undergraduate students with an opportunity to meet and have scholarly discussions with faculty members outside of the normal classroom setting. Through this program, students and faculty enjoy good company

and great conversation by literally “breaking bread” over a meal together and USC will pick up the tab! Your meal event can take place anywhere outside of the normal classroom setting. Your venue can be a restaurant or eatery on or off-campus.

XIII. About Your Instructor

C.J. Jackson leads the communications and thought leadership teams at Guild Education, an education technology company that works with Fortune 1000 companies to build education platforms for their workforce. This is his 5th semester teaching and working with students in Annenberg. Previously, he spent more than 15 years in newsroom roles, most recently as Director of Editorial Events for the Los Angeles Times, as well as press secretary for the paper’s owner, Dr. Patrick Soon-Shiong. He previously held writing and editing positions covering national politics, policy and local government at Politico, The Associated Press, Kansas City Star and The Wall Street Journal. He is a graduate of the University of Kansas (Rock, Chalk, Jayhawk) and has served as a fellow at KU’s Dole Institute of Politics.