Bultler University Short Term Program, Indianapolis, USA
July 2009
Electronic Journalism – Practical Course

See Macquarie Abroad for the most up to date information about this program. Details are subject to change. Information last updated 07/04/2010.

Overview
The Media Arts department of Butler University conducts most of its classes in the Fairbanks Center for Communication and Technology, which opened during the summer of 2001. The centre houses two full-sized television studios, a control room, edit bays and two digital audio recording studios. With facilities like these, this course is an incredible opportunity for Macquarie students to expand their television production knowledge and experience.

This course will enhance each student’s television news reporting skills, production abilities and understanding of the American media. Students will learn to use electronic news gathering equipment (portable cameras, audio equipment, and lighting equipment) to gather and produce television newscasts. Some of the areas of emphasis will be information gathering, videography, interviewing, visual storytelling, editing techniques, script preparation, and graphics preparation.

Student Profile
The program is targeted at second or third year media students, keen to develop their skills in practical media production. It is particularly relevant for screen production students, who wish to expand their production experience into the area of television production.

Course Goals
Upon completion of the course students should:
1. Understand television broadcasting as practiced in the U.S.
2. Understand the legal and ethical considerations in television broadcasting as practiced in the U.S.
3. Understand the writing structure for various television styles.
4. Understand the structure of television news in the U.S.
5. Understand the basics of reporting, shooting, and editing for television news.
6. Understand the elements of broadcast television pre-production and production.

Students will participate in various practical exercises. There will also be a written midterm exam and a written final exam.
Student Numbers
The course is restricted to a maximum of 13 students. At least 9 students need to enrol in the course for it to go ahead.

Program Dates
The proposed dates for the program are as follows:
Check in to campus housing on Monday 5th July, check out on Sunday 25th July.

Proposed Itinerary (Inclusive dates: July 6 – July 23, 2010)

Week one

Tuesday
10:00-12:00: Course introduction and facility tour
Hand out the course syllabus, discuss the class expectations, tour of the Fairbanks building production facilities, and general “housekeeping.”
12:00-1:00: Lunch break
1:00-3:00: Brief history of broadcasting and broadcast news in the U.S.

Wednesday
10:00-12:00: Writing for television
12:00-1:00: Lunch break.
1:00-3:00: Shot composition and visual storytelling

Thursday
10:00-12:00: Studio production
12:00-1:00: Lunch break
1:00-3:00: Studio production exercise

Friday
10:00-12:00: Field production
12:00-1:00: Lunch break
1:00-3:00: Field production exercise

Week Two

Monday
10:00-12:00: National news and cable news
12:00-1:00: Lunch break
1:00-3:00: Introduction to editing

Tuesday
10:00-12:00: Local news
12:00-1:00: Lunch break
1:00-3:00: News editing workshop

**Wednesday**
10:00-1:00: Visit local TV newsroom and watch noon news production
1:30-2:00: Mid-term exam
2:00-3:00: News editing workshop

**Thursday and Friday**
Chicago trip
*Visit television stations and production company*

**Week Three**

**Monday**
10:00-12:00: Legal issues in broadcasting
12:00-1:00: Lunch break
1:00-3:00: Production editing

**Tuesday**
10:00-12:00: Sports broadcasting in the U.S
12:00-1:00: Lunch break
1:00-3:00: Production editing workshop

**Wednesday**
11-5: Visit to Victory Field / Indianapolis Indians game
*Tour streaming and in-house production facility, followed by afternoon game*

**Thursday**
10:00-12:00 Ethical issues in News and Media
12:00-1:00: Lunch break
1:00-3:00: Production editing workshop

**Friday**
10:00-12:00 Multimedia convergence
12:00-1:00: Lunch break
1:00-2:00: Final exam
2:00-3:00: Course wrap-up

**Assignment and Assessment**
All assignments and assessment will be handled by Butler University. Assessment will include practical work such as production of a media product.

**Credit**
This program has been approved as a 200 level, 3 credit point MAS elective course by the Media
Department at Macquarie. All students must be enrolled for credit for this program.

Academic support
The program has been developed in consultation with Media department staff and students’ participation is strongly supported by the department.

Costs
(NOTE THAT THIS SECTION IS NOT FINALISED AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COSTS SHOULD ONLY BE TAKEN AS AN INDICATION, NOT AS THE FINAL AMOUNTS. FINAL COSTS AND LOGISTICS FEE WILL BE CONFIRMED BY LATE APRIL)

The Logistics Fee for this program is expected to be in the region of $1,200-$1,500.

This fee includes:
- Accommodation for the duration of the program
- Services in and around Butler University (airport pick up/drop off not included)
- Field trip to Chicago, with many inclusions
- Pre-departure pack, including a Lonely Planet of your destination country plus a voucher for a Macquarie t-shirt.

This does not include the cost of enrolment at Macquarie, which attracts regular HECS or Full fee rates. There is also separate from the $110 application fee (which is used towards the full cost of the program).

Students should also consider the following additional expenses:
- Airfare - ~$2500-3000 (depending on time of booking)
- Living expenses of around $1,000 - $1,500 for the 4 weeks should be expected – this will include meals, travelling around the USA and general expenses like travelling on weekends and going out.
- This amount really depends on your personal taste.

The logistics fee will be payable to Macquarie. Please note, flights are not included in this cost and all students are responsible for arranging their own flights to and from Indianapolis.
Visas
Students will be required to enter the US on a J1 study visa, and will not be allowed to participate in the course without one. Details of how to apply and proceed through this process will be provided by Butler University but each student is responsible for obtaining their own visa independently.

Application Process and Deadline and Selection Criteria
Students must apply, online, to Macquarie Abroad no later than 30th April 2009. The application form, and instructions, are available online at www.international.mq.edu.au/goingabroad

Successful students will then be guided through the rest of the application process for Butler.

Travel Grant
The travel grant for all students will be $1,500. Travel grants will be issued in the form of an EFT payment which should take place around mid June – we will collect your banking details at the pre-departure sessions.

Students should direct initial enquiries to:

Navya Chalasani
Outbound Programs Officer
Phone: +61 2 9850 4339
Fax: +61 2 9850 7733
Email: navya.chalasani@io.mq.edu.au
Testimonials
The following extracts come from Macquarie’s survey of students who participated in previous Butler University Short Term Programs.

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<th>Good</th>
<th>Very Good</th>
<th>Great</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
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<td>Total Experience</td>
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<td>27%</td>
<td>9%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Cultural Experience</td>
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1. This exchange program has been an excellent experience and I would definitely recommend it to anyone. Academically, the practical side was very useful in terms of my career goals. This exchange offered something that I would never have received while studying at Macquarie. Also, socially, I have made life long friends that I will continue to keep in contact with.

2. The course was a fantastic chance to experience a different part of the media industry. It definitely has opened up new pathways for me in terms of career. The experience gave me the opportunity to travel and meet new people.

3. It was such a great experience. I enjoyed the exchange program so much that I didn't want to leave. If I could I would go again.

4. On the whole an awesome experience which I would definitely do again!!

5. The academic side of the course was great, I got do to things that I would not have been able to do at Macquarie. It also gave me a wider understanding to my chosen industry and opened me to different areas of my field.

6. I really enjoyed it - if I wasn't finishing at the end of the year I would definitely go back for a semester at Butler.

7. It will be of use when I go for a job as an aspiring journalist; especially the DVD that we produced.