

FINAL NEWSCAST PROJECT
SPRING 2008
DUE: MONDAY, APRIL 28
TURN IN AT CLASSROOM BETWEEN 10 A.M. AND 11 A.M.

Your final exam project will combine many of the things you have learned in this class. Each of you will produce an individual five minute newscast to be turned in (CD or flash drive and script—each story on its own page with proper heading information and numbered pages) on the date and time above. In heading, indicate type of story (POS, wrap, etc). Example Slug: Commencement Changes (POS)

The newscast is the final one of the semester for the student radio station's "C of C Scene" program. The newscast must be all local, consisting of College of Charleston and Charleston/Lowcountry news and sports. Any national/international stories must have local angles or local/campus soundbites.

To find your stories, use your enhanced reporter's knowledge, instinct and resourcefulness to generate fresh, original news items. If you take story ideas from local and campus news and events publications, flyers/posters around campus, and online resources (C of C news, sports and events websites/links or campus email), make them into your own stories. Make sure all the news and sports you report are timely and relevant to the College of Charleston community on the date it airs: Monday, April 28.

Your open should be something like this: "It's time for this week's edition of C of C Scene—a look at campus and Charleston area news. This will be our last program of the spring semester. I'm (your name)."

Closing: "That wraps up this week's C of C Scene. Thanks for listening. This has been our last program of the semester. Have a great summer! For C of C Scene, I'm (your name)."

The format of your newscast must include the following elements:

1. Opening and closing music, jingle, or spoken word intro/close (can be someone other than you doing this part)—note: there are music clips on our website that you are welcome to use, including some with "newsy" sounds to them.
2. One POS or "person on the street" reaction story with at least three different soundbites from three different people
3. One reader story with a soundbite(s)
4. One wrap report on an issue, controversy, feature or human interest topic (must have two soundbites, two different people- at least)
5. Two or three short reader stories
5. A sports report—reader or reader with soundbite(s)—
6. A "kicker" final story—something offbeat, ironic, or humorous to end your newscast (doesn't have to be local)
7. Closing music to go with your closing and sign off

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Final Exam Newscast (page 2)

Rundown (news stories don't have to be in this order):	Length:
1. Intro music/theme	5 seconds
2. Anchor opening	5 seconds
3. Reader with soundbite(s) (include slug)	45 seconds to one minute
4. POS story (include slug with each story)	One minute (approx.)
5. Wrap story	One minute to one and half minutes
6. Other reader stories (approx. 20 sec. each)	45 Seconds to one minute (approx.)
7. Sports report	30 seconds to one minute
8. Kicker closer	20-30 seconds
9. <u>Sign off and closing music/theme out</u>	<u>15-20 seconds</u>
TOTALS	5 MINUTES

Note: Arrange news stories as you see fit. But do have your news stories first, then follow with sports, then end with the “kicker” story and your sign off and closing.

***The first page of your scripts should be a rundown or lineup which lists, in order, your open/close, stories (use slugs), types of stories (wrap, POS, etc), and the length for each story, adding up to your TRT (just like the rundown shown above but with slugs too along with the type of story).

TOTAL RUNNING TIME SHOULD BE NO LESS THAN 4:45 and no longer than 5:15.

This newscast will be graded on accuracy, story quality, writing (remember to adhere to broadcast writing style rules regarding numbers, symbols, attribution placement, etc), scripting, production and delivery. The attached sheet will be used to grade your newscast. Stories do not have to be in the order they are on this sheet.

Make sure CD or flash drive is labeled properly with your name. Your project can be turned in early to me. Drop it off in my box at the Communication Department or the box outside my office in the Robert Scott Small Building (old library), Room 203.

If you would like me to mail you your tape and scripts, include your address.

Project must be completed to receive a final grade in this course.

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