

Broadcast News—Radio Newscast  
Spring 2008  
April 9

On Friday, April 11 you will each deliver a two minute newscast in class. The scenario is that this is a live College of Charleston radio newscast that airs daily at 9 a.m. Here is the format:

- Open: “This is a College of Charleston News update for Friday, April 11. I’m (your name).
- Follow with four short news stories, about 20 seconds each. Each story should have a College of Charleston angle.
- Follow with a brief Sports report, about 20 seconds long...time for a few quick items, a couple scores, etc. These must also be C of C sports items.
- End newscast with a quick look at today’s weather.
- Close by saying, “For the College of Charleston News Service, I’m \_\_\_\_\_. I’ll be back with more news in one hour.

Lineup summary:

Open	5 seconds
News (4 items—20 seconds each)	1 minute, 20 seconds
Sports	20 seconds
Weather	10 seconds
Close	5 seconds
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TOTAL	2 MINUTES

Your news stories must be timely for the day and time you deliver this newscast. Think about the end of the semester and information that students need to know about. Should lead with at least two “hard” news stories that are issue, impact and/or controversy-oriented. Then you have have “softer” items about upcoming events on campus. For story ideas, check the C of C website, your campus email, or other C of C news/sports/information/calendar sources. Use also your newly refined and enhanced news sense! Strive for ways to update stories, to say what’s happening now. Avoid “yesterday” and “last night” in leads.

Write each story, including the open and the close, on its own page in the proper radio script format. Use script marks to stress key words and to speed up or slow down delivery and to help with difficult to pronounce words and phrases. Drop your voice at the end of one story, pause, then raise your voice at the beginning of the next story—this helps cue the listeners that one story has ended a new one has begun.

You will be graded on accuracy, writing, story selection and order, scripting, delivery, and length of newscast. Note: A newscast is marked down if it is shorter than 1:50 or longer than 2:05. So it needs to be carefully crafted and rehearsed in order to fall within this 15 second parameter.

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