

Television News Reporting
Fall 2007
Monday, November 5

ISSUE/CONTROVERSY PACKAGE ASSIGNMENT
DUE DATES: TUESDAY, NOV. 20 AND TUESDAY, NOV. 27

You have been assigned by the news director of the College of Charleston television program to produce a “hard” news package on an issue or controversy that could impact and be of interest to the College of Charleston community, especially students.

The total running time (TRT) of the report should be approximately two minutes. Your news package should have at least two soundbites from two different people. At least one of the interviews must be an official or someone directly involved with the story. In that regard, this report is different from the “person/man on the street” stories that you have done previously.

Start your report with an on-camera introduction (the anchor lead). Say your name first...”This is (your name) for College of Charleston News...” Then say the anchor lead part, setting up your package. It’s OK to say... “Here’s my report...” or “Here’s what I found out...”

The reporter’s package will follow, and then we see an anchor tag on camera. The reporter’s sign off should be...”Reporting for College of Charleston News...I’m (your name).” After the anchor tag, give a similar sign off.

The topic can be something at the College of Charleston or it can be a local or state issue. You can also “localize” a national/international story by interviewing local people, such as faculty members, who could comment about a newsworthy issue or controversy.

This assignment will receive a letter grade based on the following criteria: accuracy, newsgathering/enterprising, writing, scripting, production quality, delivery and overall quality—and, of course, meeting the deadline.

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