

JOMC 692H
Honors in Journalism and Mass Communication
Spring 2015
Tuesday, 2:00-4:45
Carroll Hall 340

Professor: Anne Johnston, Ph.D.
Email: amjohnst@email.unc.edu
Phone: 962-4286

Office: 356 Carroll Hall
Hours: 12-2 p.m. Tues.
& by appointment

REQUIREMENTS FOR ENROLLMENT:

- successful completion of JOMC 691H
- 3.3 overall GPA; 3.5 J-school GPA

Welcome back!

This semester you follow through on the research proposal you wrote in fall semester. We will begin by reviewing what you proposed and modifying as necessary. We'll have to move fast now to accomplish data collection, analysis and writing over the next three months, in time for defenses, which will take place April 6th – 10th, 13th. Then you'll graduate with honors in May!

The Honor Code

The Honor Code is, as always, in effect at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. You are expected to uphold all aspects of the Honor Code. If you have questions about the Honor Code, please see me. Read more at <http://honor.unc.edu>.

Grades

Your grade in JOMC 692H will be based on your finished product as well as your work during the course of the semester. Your grade will be assigned by me after consultation with your advisor and reader. Remember that your grade at the end of the fall semester was "SP" if you had made satisfactory progress toward your honors thesis. At the end of the spring semester, a permanent grade will be given for your spring semester's work, and your fall "SP" grade will be converted to a standard grade (A, B, C, etc.) This final grade in the honors courses (J691H and J692H) will reflect your work throughout the two semesters. Your grade will be evaluated in relation to the work, participation, and effort of all students in this year's J-School's Honors courses. An "A" will indicate that all parties believe that your participation, effort and work in the courses have been outstanding. A "B" indicates that your participation, effort and work in the courses have been good. A "C" indicates that your participation, effort and work in the courses have been average. Participation, effort and work include staying in touch with your advisor during the course of the semester and making excellent progress on your thesis.

The School of Journalism and Mass Communication's accrediting body outlines a number of values you should be aware of and competencies you should be able to demonstrate by the time you graduate from our program. Learn more about them here:

<http://www2.ku.edu/~acejmc/PROGRAM/PRINCIPLES.SHTML#vals&comps>

No single course could possibly give you all of these values and competencies; but collectively, our classes are designed to build your abilities in each of these areas. In this class, we will address the following values and competencies listed in the link above.

- understand concepts and apply theories in the use and presentation of images and information;
- think critically, creatively and independently;
- conduct research and evaluate information by methods appropriate to the communications professions in which they work;
- write correctly and clearly in forms and styles appropriate for the communications professions, audiences and purposes they serve;
- critically evaluate their own work and that of others for accuracy and fairness, clarity, appropriate style and grammatical correctness;

Spring Semester Requirements and Important Information

Enroll in JOMC 692H and meet regularly with your honors adviser and with class

You should plan to meet with or email your adviser at least every week/to 2 weeks. Check with your reader to see how often he or she would like to be contacted. The class will act as a writing group and provide feedback and help problem solve as you conduct the research and write.

Unless it specifically indicates otherwise on the schedule, you should always assume we will meet as a class. During the weeks that we do not meet as a group, you will be expected to do the following:

- Meet with me and/or with your adviser to discuss your progress, any questions or concerns you have, and any issues you are having.
- Send a progress 'report' to me by the end of the week that we do not meet as a group.

Typically revisions should be submitted and accepted by your adviser and me before those chapters and/or the thesis are submitted to the third member of your committee. In some cases, however, it will be important to keep your reader well informed throughout because he or she is the subject specialist.

Complete obtaining IRB approval and/or complete IRB ethics training (see fall syllabus for links)

You should be completing your approval process for researching human subjects so you may proceed with gathering data.

Participate in the JOMC Research Participant Pool

Since some members of the class will be using the JOMC Research Pool, we will give back by each student participating for at least **two** hours in the Participant Pool (completed in the academic year 2014/2015). You will be able to sign up online to participate in research studies being conducted by faculty and students in the School. If you'd rather not be in a study you can satisfy this requirement by writing 2 two-page summaries and critiques of academic research articles. Each review counts for one hour of research participation, so you can combine participation in the studies with article reviews to fulfill the requirement. You may summarize any article published in the past two years in the following journals: *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, *Journal of Advertising*, *Mass Communication & Society*, *Journal of Mass Media Ethics*, and *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*.

Complete the research and writing of the thesis

The thesis must be finished and submitted to all committee members at least one week prior to your defense. Ideally that would mean during the week of March 30th – April 3rd, 2015. Check with your adviser about his/her preferences. Students must defend their work by end of day Monday, April 13, 2015. No extensions are possible (if you want your name listed in the May commencement catalog as having graduated with honors or highest honors).

I strongly encourage you to submit an abstract to present your findings at the Celebration of Undergraduate Research

Submit abstract by March 1st. Check the following website for information and forms:

<http://our.unc.edu/symposia/cur/>

The Celebration will be Wednesday, April 15th from 1- 3:15 p.m.

Defend the thesis at a meeting of the committee

You will defend your thesis at a meeting of the three members of your committee the week of April 6th - 9th, 13th. You are responsible for setting up a meeting time for the committee. I suggest getting that on calendars by the end of January. Each committee member will have read the thesis in preparation for the defense. The meeting typically lasts one hour and suggestions are made at that time for final revisions of the thesis.

Bring a copy of the cover sheet with you to the thesis defense. Only your advisor needs to sign it, but it might be nice for you to have all signatures on there.

<http://honorscarolina.unc.edu/files/2011/09/SampleTitlePage.pdf>

You may get copies of your thesis bound for your own and/or parents' libraries at the Ramshead Bookshop in UNC Student Stores.

Upload the final version of your thesis to the Carolina Digital Repository by the final day of classes, Friday, April 24, 2015.

<http://honorscarolina.unc.edu/files/2014/02/Senior-Thesis-Guidelines-2013-2014.pdf>

Check out page 5-6 in this document for instructions on how to upload your thesis and signed title page.

Graduating with honors or highest honors.

All students who write an excellent honors thesis and defend that thesis to the satisfaction of their committee will graduate with honors. Theses that are deemed of the highest quality in terms of research and writing (by me and by the students' advisers and readers) will be evaluated by a committee of faculty from the J-School and considered for highest honors. GPA will not be a consideration for designation of highest honors.

Sign up to graduate with honors on your application for a degree card. Congratulations!

Tentative Course Schedule:

Dates	Topics	Due/To Discuss
Jan. 13	Welcome back	Review progress and look at schedule for defense dates. I'll send out Doodle poll soon.
Jan. 20	Individual meetings re: schedule and progress	Discuss individual timetables
Jan. 27	Individual consultations (with me and/or your adviser)	Data collection & analysis
Feb. 3	Analyzing qualitative data	Bring questions (early data?)
Feb. 10	Individual consultations (with me and/or your adviser)	Data collection & analysis
Feb. 17	Analyzing quantitative data	Bring questions (early data?)
Feb. 24	Writing up analysis	Bring chapters to read <i>--Remember to submit abstract of research to Celebration of Undergraduate Research by March 1st.</i>
Mar. 3	Writing up discussion and conclusions	Bring chapters to read
Mar. 10	UNC Spring Break	
Mar. 17	Discuss results and conclusion chapters Discuss abstract, defenses (aka celebratory conversations)	Submit results and conclusions chapter(s) electronically to me and to adviser by Tuesday, 17 th .
Mar. 24 & 31	Individual meetings and consultations: finishing up thesis Finish and submit whole thesis during this week	
Apr. 7	No class/Defenses will be from April 6 th – 9 th , 13 th	By 4pm on Monday, April 13 th , I must report names of all students graduating with Honors.
Apr. 14	No class (Celebration of Undergraduate Research is Wednesday, April 15 th in the Frank Porter Graham Student Union.)	<i>Present at Celebration of Undergraduate Research on Monday, April 15th, from 1-4.</i>
Apr. 21	Final day of honors class	Students will discuss findings and conclusions with class.
Apr. 24	Last day of classes at UNC = TURN IN DAY!	Upload your final version of your thesis.

Available defense dates. (Schedule for one hour)

Monday, April 6th : between 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Tuesday, April 7th: between 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Wednesday, April 8th: between 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Thursday, April 9th: between 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Monday, April 13th: between 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.