School of Humanities Creative Industries SocialSci

CMNS3150: Podcasting and Radio
Newcastle City Precinct
Semester 1 - 2024

OVERVIEW

Course Description

In this course, students will develop the skills to work in radio broadcasting and produce podcasts for streamed or online delivery. The course will follow the production cycle of a podcast from receiving an editorial brief from a client and/or conceiving an original podcast idea through production to post-production and distribution. Students will analyse radio and podcasting genres, formats, and industries and create their own audio project suitable for dissemination via online podcasting platforms. They will develop and apply production skills, including writing for podcasting, interviewing talent, recording and mixing audio sources, and operating the podcasting studio.

Academic Progress Requirements

Nil

Contact Hours

Newcastle City Precinct
Lecture
Face to Face On Campus
1 hour(s) per week(s) for 6 week(s) starting Week 1

Tutorial
Face to Face On Campus
2 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 week(s) starting Week 2

Unit Weighting

10

Workload

Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course.

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator	**Newcastle City Precinct** Dr Jeannine Baker Jeannine.Baker@newcastle.edu.au (02) 4055 0910 Consultation: Please email for an appointment
Teaching Staff	Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.
School Office	**School of Humanities Creative Industries and Social Sciences** NU Space, Level 4 409 Hunter Street Newcastle HCISS@newcastle.edu.au +61 4985 4500

SYLLABUS

Course Content

Topics will include:
1. Radio and podcasting
2. Podcasting: Non-fiction, Fiction, and Talk
3. Funding and pre-production planning
4. Production for podcasting
5. Working with Talent
6. Post-Production for Podcasting
7. Understanding audiences
8. Ethics and copyright

Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Analyse the contexts and techniques of podcast production and reception
2. Create an audio story appropriate for specified audiences and suitable for dissemination via online podcasting platforms
3. Employ appropriate audio storytelling skills informed by theory and industry best practice
4. Utilise effective oral and written communication
5. Reflect on the relationship between media practice and theory

Course Materials

See the Canvas course website for further resources.

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Lecture	Tutorial	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	Introduction to podcasting and radio	No tutorial	
2	4 Mar	Genre and audiences	Introductions; Podcasting and radio: storytelling modes	
3	11 Mar	Interviewing for radio and podcasting	Introduction to sound recording equipment	
4	18 Mar	Ethics and copyright	Introduction to interviewing	
5	25 Mar	Industry, funding and distribution	Advanced interviewing and ethical considerations	Assessment 1: Podcast Analysis (30%) 23:59 Sun 31 March
6	1 Apr	Inclusive storytelling in radio & podcasting	Taking us there: actuality & sound effects	
7	8 Apr	No lecture	Writing and structuring audio stories	
		Mid-Semester Recess		
		Mid-Semester Recess		
8	29 Apr	No lecture	Introduction to digital audio editing; podcast story pitches and feedback	
9	6 May	No lecture	Advanced digital audio editing techniques and tools	
10	13 May	No lecture	Writing synopses and introductions; sound mixing	
11	20 May	No lecture	Peer review of podcasts	
12	27 May	No lecture	Funding, marketing and distribution	Assessment 2 Podcast Production (40%) 23:59 Sun 2 June
13	3 Jun	No lecture	Wrap up & final assessment workshop	Assessment 3 Critical Reflection (30%) 23:59 Sun 9 June
		Examination Period		
		Examination Period		

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 3 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Podcast Analysis	23:59 Sunday 31 March (Week 5)	Individual	30%	1, 4
2	Podcast Production	23:59, Sunday 2 June (Week 12)	Individual	40%	2, 3, 4
3	Critical Reflection	23:59, Sunday 9 June	Individual	30%	1, 4, 5

Late Submissions   The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.
Please get in touch with the course coordinator if you are having difficulty completing an assessment task.

Assessment 1 - Podcast Analysis

Assessment Type	Essay
Description	Critical analysis of an existing podcast. More information & instructions via Canvas.
Weighting	30%
Length	1500 words
Due Date	23:59 Sunday 31 March (Week 5)
Submission Method	Online via Turnitin
Assessment Criteria	See Canvas
Return Method	Not Returned
Feedback Provided	Online

Assessment 2 - Podcast Production

Assessment Type	Professional Task
Description	Production of a 3-minute podcast. More information and instructions on Canvas.
Weighting	40%
Length	3 minutes and 200 words
Due Date	23:59, Sunday 2 June
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	See Canvas
Return Method	Not Returned
Feedback Provided	Online

Assessment 3 - Critical Reflection

Assessment Type	Journal
Description	More information on Canvas
Weighting	30%
Length	1200 words
Due Date	23:59, Sunday 9 June
Submission Method	Online via Turnitin
Assessment Criteria	See Canvas
Return Method	Not Returned
Feedback Provided	Online

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme   This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

Communication Methods	Communication methods used in this course include: - Canvas Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the Canvas course site. - Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account. Please ensure you check your student email frequently.
Course Evaluation	Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement. As a result of student feedback, the following changes have been made to this offering of the course: - All assessment tasks have been changed from group work to individual - The length of the podcast production is now shorter. Instead of being allocated a topic and a client, students are now free to choose their own topic. - The course now includes analysis of best industry practice around audio storytelling forms and methods, so that students can better apply this knowledge to their own podcast production. - More class time is devoted to practical experience of digital audio editing software and methods.
Oral Interviews (Vivas)	As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the Oral Examination (viva) Procedure. In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the Student Conduct Rule.
Academic Misconduct	All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35 .
Adverse Circumstances	The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where: 1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or 2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system; 3. you are requesting a change of placement; or 4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement. Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at: https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236
Important Policy Information	The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/respect-at-uni/policies-and-procedures that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.

This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.