

JOUR 3280 Video Journalism

Interview Assignment

You will **shoot a 3-5 minute interview** with a compelling local person.

This person **CANNOT** be any of the following:

- A family member
- Your roommate or suitemate, best friend, sorority sister, fraternity brother, or any other close personal friend
- A person with whom you have a close professional/business relationship (your boss, business partner)
- A classmate (in this or any other UGA class)

So that means there's a whole world of other people you CAN interview. Find someone who is doing something newsworthy or interesting. Please go off campus and find an Athens local, or someone in a nearby community. Get outside your comfort zone. Treat this as a real news interview. You might be able to use this in one of your news PKGs. Be a journalist!

Do some research before the interview. Talk to your subject on the phone or in person and get a sense of who they are and what makes them tick. It will help you ask much better questions in the interview, and you'll get better soundbites.

Here are some other guidelines:

- Follow the NPPA Code of Ethics, which is included in your syllabus
- You're not doing a biography on this person, so you don't need to record their whole life story. Focus on what's most interesting or newsworthy about them.
- You must use an external microphone, not the camera's built-in mic. Follow your audio checklist! and the SWEFF checklist.
- You must use a tripod, or steady camera support. NO shaky video!
- Your shots must be properly white balanced, properly exposed, in focus, and well framed.
- You must record a variety of shots. Don't just stay on a close-up for the entire interview. I want to see wide/medium shots and close-ups, also different camera angles.
- You can even do the interview in multiple locations. Maybe you can shoot several questions in person's kitchen, then interview them on the front porch. Or do part of the interview while person is at work, then shoot more questions at their home.

This assignment is worth **20 possible points**. If you miss the deadline, you will get a grade of **zero** on the assignment.

Grading criteria:

- Sound (proper audio levels, free from distortion)
- White balance
- Exposure
- Focus
- Framing
- Visual variety