

Assignment Description

Overview:

Every journalism student will be assigned (twice per semester) an assignment due the Friday before the next class Monday meeting to create a blog entry about the prior class experience/learning goals, accompanied by a journalism lesson goal/execution plan for the coming session. The other journalism students will be responsible for making a constructive comment on the blog post to share his or her own thoughts on the post.

Instructions:

The class period prior to your blog session, you will be the newsroom "scribe," taking notes of the journalism lesson and experience from the day, what challenges arose, how they were addressed, what goals were accomplished and what reporting/editing assignments were coming due (with deadlines).

A Wordpress blog has been created at <http://columbusinternationalservicelearning.wordpress.com/>, and each student will be made a guest editor of the site. Log into the back end of the blog by going to <http://columbusinternationalservicelearning.wordpress.com/wp-admin> and typing in the login I have provided to you.

Go to the dashboard and on the upper left select POST>NEW

Write a journalistic blog post that incorporates the facts from the day and your constructive opinions on how successful was the session and what could be done to move forward in the next session (length 350-600 words).

Based on the last piece of information (how to move forward), you and I will discuss in person or via the blog how those reporting/editing skills can best be taught to our CIS students (a lesson idea).

You will then return to the blog and go from the dashboard to PAGES>LESSON PLAN (DATE OF NEXT CLASS).

There you will post by the Friday before class a structured journalism-focused lesson plan of 250-400 words for our CIS students to work on in the next class session.

Assessment:

The assignment will be graded on the accurate and insightful reflection of the class experience, and the structure, details and potential success of the learning goals.

Understanding of journalism skills accomplished

Focused observation and participation to report comprehensively on previous session's course content

Recognition of journalism skills necessary for next sequence

Ability to clearly articulate what is the skill and how it can be taught to others

Communication with professor/editor of questions/concerns/ideas

Blog writing clarity and journalistic skill/style
