**JOUR 374: Investigative Reporting**

**Weekly Schedule**

**Spring 2016**

**Please note: This schedule will almost certainly change based upon reporting developments, opportunities for guest speakers and student needs.**

**Week One:. Introduction**

Introductions

Class Overview and Requirements

Background on the class project

**Week Two. Three Stories, Three Crucial Moments in American Investigative Journalism**

Seminar, Tuesday, April 5

Required Reading/Viewing:

[*“The Jungle,” Upton Sinclair, chapters 1, 3, 9 and 14.*](https://www.gutenberg.org/files/140/140-h/140-h.htm)

*“All the President’s Men,” available on Canvas, (library media.)*

[*“The Washington Post, Edward Snowden and the National Security Agency.”*](http://ccnmtl.columbia.edu/projects/caseconsortium/casestudies/147/casestudy/www/layout/case_id_147.html)

*“*[*NSA Prism Program Taps into User Data...," The Guardian, June 6, 2013.*](http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/jun/06/us-tech-giants-nsa-data)

*“*[*U.S., British Intelligence Mining Data...," Washington Post, June 7, 2013.*](http://www.washingtonpost.com/investigations/us-intelligence-mining-data-from-nine-us-internet-companies-in-broad-secret-program/2013/06/06/3a0c0da8-cebf-11e2-8845-d970ccb04497_story.html)

Optional Reading/Viewing:

*“Citizen Four,” Laura Poitras, dir., 2014.*

Lab, Friday, April 8

Generating, evaluating and pitching investigative projects

--Pitch memos

--Case study: Property tax memo #1

**Week Three. Database Reporting Boot Camp**

Seminar, Tuesday, April 12

Jason Grotto presents

Required Reading/Viewing:

*Will be posted on Canvas.*

Lab, Friday, April 15

Base building: Becoming an expert on the focus of your investigative project

--Guide to discovering agency documents and data

--Nexis clip searches

--Finding and evaluating studies and reports

Assignment: Notify instructors via email by **5 p.m., Tuesday, April 19** of project for final paper.

**Week Four. Ethics of Investigative Reporting: A Pair of Case Studies**

Lab, Tuesday, April 19

NOTE: Lab will be in Evanston

FOIA: Understanding the law, the practical applications of FOIA, and how to negotiate for records

Seminar, Friday, April 22

NOTE: Seminar will be in Evanston

Reading/Viewing:

[*“A Rape on Campus: A Brutal Assault and a Struggle for Justice at UVA,” Rolling Stone, Nov. 2014.*](http://web.archive.org/web/20141119200349/http://www.rollingstone.com/culture/features/a-rape-on-campus-20141119)

[*"A Rape on Campus" Rolling Stone*](http://www.cjr.org/investigation/rolling_stone_investigation.php) *-* [*Columbia University Report*](http://www.rollingstone.com/culture/features/a-rape-on-campus-what-went-wrong-20150405?page=16)*.*

[*The Chicago Sun-Times “Mirage” series*](http://dlib.nyu.edu/undercover/mirage-pamela-zekman-zay-n-smith-chicago-sun-times)*, 1978. Excerpts to be assigned.*

[*“The Mirage: Story of a Newspaper’s Bar and Grill,”*](http://dlib.nyu.edu/undercover/sites/dlib.nyu.edu.undercover/files/documents/uploads/editors/TheQuill_1978Feb_Galloway.pdf) *The Quill, Feb. 1978.*

[*“Pulitzers: Was the Mirage a deception?,”*](http://dlib.nyu.edu/undercover/sites/dlib.nyu.edu.undercover/files/documents/uploads/editors/CJR_1979JulAug_pg16.pdf) *Columbia Journalism Review, July 1979.*

[*“Exposure of Corruption Raises Questions about Reporters’ Masquerading,”*](http://dlib.nyu.edu/undercover/sites/dlib.nyu.edu.undercover/files/documents/uploads/editors/Exposure-of-Corruption-Raises-Questions-About-Reporters-Masquerading_NYTimes_23Feb1978.pdf) *New York Times, Feb. 1978.*

[*Ethics Guide,*](http://cironline.org/ethics-guide) *Center for Investigative Reporting.*

**Week Five. Storytelling and the Investigative Narrative**

Seminar, Tuesday, April 26

Reading/Viewing:

[*“Soldiers Face Neglect, Frustration...”*](http://www.pulitzer.org/works/2008-Public-Service) *(Read Part One), Washington Post, Feb. 2007.* [*“Invisible Lives”*](http://www.pulitzer.org/works/2000-Public-Service) *(Read Part One), Washington Post, March 1999.*

[*“Danger from Above”*](http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chi-danger-1-story-story.html) *(Read Parts One and Two), Chicago Tribune, July 2000.*

Lab, Friday, April 29

Land records: Learning the ins and outs of property records

**Week Six. Investigative Journalism and Public Service**

PLEASE NOTE: LAB AND SEMINAR ARE REVERSED THIS WEEK, WITH LAB ON TUESDAY AND SEMINAR ON FRIDAY. BOTH WILL TAKE PLACE IN EVANSTON.

Lab, Tuesday, May 3

Court records: Learning how to navigate the county court system

--Property tax objection cases

--Brief overview of federal court records

Seminar, Friday, May 6

Attend as a class the Medill panel on Pulitzer-prize winning public service journalism.

Reading/Viewing:

*Will be posted on Canvas once event schedule is finalized.*

**Week Seven. The Human Equation: Interviewing & Working with Sources**

Seminar, Tuesday, May 10

Guest speaker: Duaa Eldeib, Chicago Tribune.

Reading/Viewing:

[*"Harsh Treatment," Day 4*](http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/watchdog/rtc/ct-youth-treatment-prostitution-met-20141203-story.html)*, Chicago Tribune, Dec. 2014.*

*“*[*Harsh Treatment” graphic essay*](http://graphics.chicagotribune.com/news/watchdog/rtc/graphic-essays/in-her-words.html#navtype=outfit)*, Chicago Tribune., Dec. 2014.*

*“*[*Loosening Lips: The Art of the Interview”*](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/expose/2008/12/loosening-lips-the-art-of-the.html)

*Additional reading will be posted on Canvas.*

Assignment: Interview reports **due Thursday, May 12, at midnight**.

Lab, Friday, May 13

Interviewing: Preparing and executing investigative interviews

--Preliminary interviews with the object of investigation

--Source interviews: Building and maintaining sources on long projects

--Close outs, confrontational interviews

**Week Eight. Risks and Pitfalls**

Seminar, Tuesday, May 17

Guest speaker: Cameron McWhirter, Wall Street Journal, Atlanta Bureau Chief (tentative).

Reading/Viewing:

[*“Saved by the Shield,”*](http://www.cjr.org/feature/saved_by_the_shield.php) *Cameron McWhirter, Columbia Journalism Review, May 2008.*

[*Chiquita series and apology*](http://dlib.nyu.edu/undercover/chiquita-banana-expose-cincinnati-enquirer)*, Cincinnati Enquirer, 1998.*

[*“The Chiquita Phone-Hacking Scandal,”*](http://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/the-chiquita-phone-hacking-scandal) *The New Yorker, July 2011.*

[*FAQ about a Federal Shield Law*](http://www.spj.org/shieldlaw-faq.asp)*, Society of Professional Journalists.*

[*“Pressure, Potential for a Federal Shield Law,”*](http://www.cjr.org/behind_the_news/shield_law_risen_etc.php) *Columbia Journalism Review, June 2014.*

[*“Shield Law a Gridlock Casualty,”*](http://www.usatoday.com/story/money/columnist/rieder/2014/09/22/federal-shield-law-for-journalists-doomed-a/16050353/) *USA Today, Sept. 2014.*

Lab, Friday, May 20

Progress memos: Keep yourself organized and your boss up to date

**Week Nine. Impact**

Seminar, Tuesday, May 24

Guest speaker: Jodi Cohen, Chicago Tribune.

Reading/Viewing:

*Reading will be posted on Canvas*

Lab, Friday, May 27

Story planning and drafting: How to organize inform gathered during investigative process

**Week Ten. New Media, New Frontiers, New Issues**

Seminar, Tuesday, May 30

Reading/Viewing:

[*“Serial”*](http://serialpodcast.org/) *podcast, episodes 1 and 12, Fall 2014.*

[*“The Box”*](http://cironline.org/reports/the-box-6137) *animation, Center for Investigative Reporting, March 2014.*

[*The Making of a Narco-Terrorist, ProPublica, Dec. 2015*](https://projects.propublica.org/graphics/narco)

[*“The Digital Dirt: How TMZ gets the videos and photos that celebrities want to hide,”*](http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2016/02/22/inside-harvey-levins-tmz) *The New Yorker, February 2016.*

*Additional reading will be posted on Canvas*

Assignment: Final paper **due Wednesday, June 1 at midnight**.

Lab, Friday, June 3

Fact check: Building a system to ensure fairness and accuracy

Finalize project work.