



ISSUE/CONTROVERSY WRAP REPORT ASSIGNMENT

DUE: MONDAY, APRIL 4

TEAM PODCASTS DUE: FRIDAY, APRIL 15

You are a reporter for the College of Charleston's weekly TV and online news program called "C of C Scene." The program's assignment editor has asked you to do a news "package" for the program that airs Monday, April 4.

The topic must be "hard" news, on an issue, controversy or public affairs matter that would be of interest to the College of Charleston community, especially students.

The total running time (TRT) of the report should be between 1:30 and 2:00. Your report must have at least two soundbites from two different people. At least one of the interviews must be an official, expert, organizer, or someone directly involved with the story. In that regard, this report is different from the "person/man on the street" story completed earlier.

Make sure your story is fair, balanced and accurate. In issue/controversy reports, it is essential that the different sides or positions be presented. The report cannot be slanted to favor one side. The reporter must also keep his/her opinions out of the story. Your job is to objectively present the views and opinions of others.

This assignment will receive individual letter grades based on the following criteria: accuracy, scripting, newsgathering/enterprising, writing, production quality, delivery and overall quality.

On the due date, all scripts and You Tube postings must be completed. Also, bring your report to class on a flashdrive (in the wmv or mpeg format) so that all of your team's various stories can be put on one flashdrive (the podcast producer for each team).

You will meet in your teams to organize production of the podcasts. Someone (or two) will be the producer(s) and one or two others can be the anchors. The producer(s) will collect all of the scripts and recorded reports. He or she will be in charge of editing the reports together into a cohesive newscast. The anchor(s) will read the various anchor leads which can be rewritten to enhance the order, flow, and pace. Extra credit points will be awarded to each team's producer(s) and anchor(s).

We want the podcasts to be posted on You Tube. Therefore, each team must videotape an anchor(s) opening the "C of C Scene" program then reading the various anchor leads that introduce each reporter package. A closing needs to be shot also.

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You can see examples of how these podcasts should look and sound:

*Spring 2010 Vodcast: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4HUS-JD8KTA>

*Spring 2010 Vodcast: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oYyKaYk_Zbo

*Fall 2009 Vodcast: <http://www.youtube.com/user/ksricart#p/u/4/hS2fTSIYcUY>

*Fall 2009 Part 2: <http://www.youtube.com/user/ksricart#p/u/5/Ol9PliCeuGM>

Also: See the Election 2008 Reaction: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pZ9ghF_qteE

Or go to: <http://www.cofc.edu/~harwoodp/PodcastApril2008.html> for Charleston News podcast or to: <http://www.cofc.edu/~harwoodp/PodcastElectionPage.html> for an Election 2008 podcast produced in March.

Also, keep in mind, there is time limit for You Tube videos, so make sure you TRT doesn't exceed that. The producer can shorten or delete soundbites or reporter audio tracks as he/she sees fit.

These individual reports and team podcasts can be produced on Windows Movie Maker, iMovie for Mac users, or in the Comm Media Lab using Adobe Premiere (Movie Maker is also available on the lab computers).

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Special Podcast Info:

- ✓ Team Podcasts (or Vodcasts) are due on YouTube Friday, April 15
- ✓ Students must post individual Issue/Controversy reports on their YouTube channels by April 4. Also turn in your script that day.
- ✓ The following week, for your team's podcast, on a flashdrive, bring in your report in its final mpeg, wmv, etc file form (without supers) and a copy of the script.
- ✓ On that designated date, podcast producers should move all of the finished report and scripts onto a single flashdrive
- ✓ Producers will need scripts in order to add appropriate supers. We want these done in same style throughout each podcast
- ✓ Note: In Movie Maker when importing full stories, be sure to uncheck "Create Clips for Video Files" otherwise it will load in multiple sections
- ✓ Consider doing a podcast opening/closing with full screen titling and music
- ✓ Class time will be given before the due date to shoot anchor opening/closing parts and lead-ins to your team's packages.