COMMON COURSE OUTLINE: Course discipline/number/title: MCOM 2165: Special Topics in Mass Communication

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION
1. Credits: 3
2. Hours/Week: 3
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): College level reading and writing
4. Co-requisites (Course discipline/number): None
5. MnTC Goals (if any): None

This course focuses on a specific topic chosen by the instructor who teaches the class. This course offers in-depth exploration of a special topic, issue or trend in the mass communication field. Topics might include current events (such as a political campaigns class during an election year), a specific film genre, specialized film/television projects, and more in-depth analyses of industry trends. Course may be repeated up to 9 credits if the focuses of the subsequent classes are different.

B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): September, 2012

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
1. Current issues in journalism.
2. Current issues in broadcasting.
3. New techniques in media production.
4. Focused history of a particular mass medium (radio, TV, film, etc.).
5. Specific issue of the semester – will vary from semester to semester.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will be able to:
1. Articulate the main issues, concepts or theories associated with the class topic.
2. Perform the specific skills taught in the class if applicable (such as radio production techniques).
3. Discuss the topic’s relation to the field of mass communication in general.
4. Associate the content of the class with their specific career goals in mass communication or other major.
5. Make informative presentations to classmates about specific class concepts.

E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC): NA.

F. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:
May include any or all of the following:
1. Oral presentations
2. A portfolio of projects/prototypes made during the semester
3. Written assignments
4. Objective exams and/or quizzes
5. Small group discussions and projects
6. Essay exams
7. Or any other activities deemed appropriate by an individual instructor

G. RTC Core Outcome(s) Addressed:
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Global Awareness/Diversity

H. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any): None