

In the Name of God

Reading Journalistic Texts (BA Program, Fall 2023)

Venue: Room 125, Faculty of Persian Literature and Foreign Languages, Semnan University (Iran)

Meeting time: Saturdays: 10:30 – 12:130

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Aims

1. To provide students with essential guidelines and information on journalistic texts in English
2. To introduce general terms and issues related to newspapers
3. To introduce different parts of a news article
4. To examine common newspaper sections (e.g., feature stories, editorials, advertisements)
5. To make students familiar with critically reading news articles

Course requirements

1. Careful reading of the assigned materials and doing exercises BEFORE each session
2. Forming groups for out-of-class study sessions and in-class oral presentations
3. Punctuality: Students who are absent in more than THREE sessions (or, in rare cases, 4 sessions) will be automatically dropped from the course.

Grading policy

Active participation: 5 %

Oral presentation: 15 %

Term project: 10%

Final examination: 70 %

Weekly schedule

Week 1: Introduction to the course

Week 2: Unit 1 (Introduction: Newspapers)

Weeks 3 & 4: Unit 2 (Headlines)

Week 5: Unit 3 (Lead paragraph)

Weeks 6 & 7: Unit 4 (Hard news)

Week 8: Unit 5 (Soft news)

Weeks 9 & 10: Unit 6 (Editorial)

Weeks 11 & 12: Unit 7 (Advertisements)

Weeks 13 & 14: Unit 8 (Reading critically)

Week 15: Wrap-up

Week 16: Final examination

Reference

Shams, M. R. (2022). *Reading English Newspapers for Students of English Language and Literature* (New Edition). Jungle Publications.