

# Office of the Registrar

## COURSE INVENTORY FORM

**Check One**      **Create New Course**  
 **Temporary Course Offering**

1. **Has this course previously been offered on a temporary basis?**  Yes  No     If yes, indicate the term offered

2. **Subject Area**      **Course Number**      **Course Title** (as it should appear on the transcript; maximum of 30 letters & spaces)

3. **Term for Implementation** (e.g., Spring 2012=201210, Fall 2012=201230)

4. **Official Course Title**

5. **Offering Unit** (See Table of Code Values.)     College      Department

6. **Credit Hours**     Fixed Credit Hours:      Variable Credit Hours

7. **Repeat Limit** (See instructions.)      **Total Maximum Hours** (See instructions.)

8. **Grading** (Check all that apply.)      Standard Letter Grading      Pass/Fail Only      No Grade  
 In Progress – IP (Course is intended to span more than one term.)

9. **Schedule Type** (See Table of Schedule Types.)    

10. **Corequisites** (courses required to be taken **concurrently** with this course)

Subject Area	Course Number	Subject Area	Course Number	Subject Area	Course Number
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

11. **Equivalent Courses** (Include South Campus [C suffix] courses and other equivalent courses.)

Subject Area	Course Number	Subject Area	Course Number	Subject Area	Course Number
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

12. **Prerequisites** (See instructions.)

Subject Area	Course Number	Subject Area	Course Number	Subject Area	Course Number
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

13. **Course Attribute**      Other       Honors Course      Developmental Course

14. **Course Restrictions**      Include/  Exclude     College      College      Major      Major      Classification

15. **Course Description** (Indicate exactly as it should appear in the University Catalog. Include pertinent special information, e.g., course fees, pass/fail grading, field trips, transportation requirements, etc.)

Students will learn to critically analyze and examine large sets of data to identify embedded trends and stories and to display the data visually as a component of journalistic storytelling. (course fee)

16. **Approvals for Temporary Course Only:**

Department Head _____	Date _____
College Dean _____	Date _____
Graduate Dean _____	Date _____
Provost Office _____	Date _____

Office of the Registrar Use			
UCC _____	University Senate _____	CIP _____	Course Desc _____
Graduate Council _____	Provost _____	Banner Data _____	Evaluate _____

**Potter College of Arts & Letters**  
**Department of Journalism & Broadcasting**  
**Proposal to Create a Temporary Course**  
**(Information Item)**

Contact Person: Josh Meltzer, [josh.meltzer@wku.edu](mailto:josh.meltzer@wku.edu), 270-745-2070 (o), 270-799-9839 (c)

**1. Identification of proposed course**

- 1.1 Course prefix (subject area) and number: JOUR 241
- 1.2 Course title: Visualizing Data in Journalism
- 1.3 Abbreviated course title: Data Visualization
- 1.4 Credit hours: 3
- 1.5 Schedule type: C Lecture/Lab
- 1.6 Prerequisites/corequisites: None
- 1.7 Course Description: Students will learn to critically analyze and examine large sets of data to identify embedded trends and stories and to display the data visually as a component of journalistic storytelling. (course fee)

**2. Rationale**

- 2.1 Reason for offering this course on a temporary basis:  
This course will be offered as a pilot or trial course for future course(s) on the topic of information graphics and data visualization. Processing data and synthesizing meaning from raw information has become more and more important not only for journalists, but for anyone who stands to benefit from understanding, analyzing and displaying the massive amount of statistical information available in nearly any discipline.  
For journalists, being able to comprehend and find non-fiction narratives buried within data sets is no longer a specialty of a few members of a newsroom, but is becoming a base requirement for the profession. For students in other fields, learning to display statistical data that explains trends, informs decision makers or helps larger populations understand complex topics is imperative today.  
This course will be offered as a trial to help to understand the kinds of students such a course will attract both from within the School of Journalism & Broadcasting and from the university as a whole.
- 2.2 Relationship of the proposed course to courses offered in other academic units:  
This course will complement content producing courses in other academic areas. For non-journalists, learning to display information and data relevant to business or the sciences, for example, is key. Presentations that nearly all students produce for classes can and should display information in accurate and powerful ways. This course (JOUR 241) will help them learn to analyze and present information to audiences, no matter the discipline.

**3. Description of proposed course**

- 3.1 Course content outline
  - I. Introduction to scope of visualizing data

- II. Where to find data, how to organize it
- III. Being accurate and ethical with data
- IV. Analyzing the data to find the story
- V. Hands on design tools in graphic software
  - A. Video tutorials
  - B. Drawing exercises
- VI. Storytelling with Graphs
  - A. Different types and uses of graphs
- VII. Mapping
  - A. Esthetics and Usability of Mapping
- VIII. Diagrams
  - A. Thinking sequentially and telling stories in steps
  - B. Drawing with the pen tool and using vector graphics
  - C. Copyright and use of imagery
- IX. Interactivity and data visualization

3.2 Tentative text(s)

*The Functional Art: An introduction to information graphics and visualization*, Alberto Cairo. New Riders Publishing, 2012.

**4. Second offering of a temporary course (if applicable)**

- 4.1 Reason for offering this course a second time on a temporary basis: N/A
- 4.2 Term course was first offered: N/A
- 4.3 Enrollment in first offering: N/A

**5. Term of Implementation:** Fall 2013

**6. Dates of review/approvals:**

SJ&B Curriculum Committee	<u>2/27/13</u> _____
School of Journalism & Broadcasting	<u>2/28/13</u> _____
PCAL Curriculum Committee	_____
PCAL Dean	_____
UCC Chair	_____
Provost:	_____

**Attachment: Course Inventory Form**