

Public Affairs Reporting (PAR)

Courses

PAR 203. State of the State. 3 Hours.

Introduction to the structure, operations, and politics of state government in Illinois, examining the interplay of these factors in determining public policy on key issues facing the state. Course Information: Same as PSC 203. This course fulfills a general education requirement at UIS in the area of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

PAR 404. Media Law And Ethics. 4 Hours.

Examines media law and ethical decisionmaking from the standpoint of media producers, critics, and users. Case studies include obscenity and indecency, libel, privacy, advertising, conflict of interest, and rights of access. Lectures and discussions examine social and cultural contexts in which laws and ethical principles develop. Optional course for PAR majors. PAR majors not allowed to take this course CR/NC. Course Information: Same as COM 404.

PAR 501. Advanced Public Affairs Reporting. 6 Hours.

Advanced newswriting and reporting techniques, with a focus on covering government and public affairs news for audiences on digital, print and broadcast platforms. Strong emphasis placed on the structure and operations of state government in Illinois to prepare students for a news reporting internship during the spring semester. Course Information: Prerequisites: Admission to the PAR program.

PAR 503. Legislative Issues. 2 Hours.

In-depth study of key issues before the Illinois General Assembly. Offered during spring semester. Course Information: Prerequisite: Admission to the PAR Program.

PAR 504. Internship I. 12 Hours.

Practical experience in reporting public affairs. Each student is assigned to full-time work with an experienced journalist at the State Capitol. Students receive monthly stipend. Weekly seminar. Course Information: Prerequisite: Admission to PAR program.

PAR 505. Internship II. 4 Hours.

Continuation of PAR 504, but more intense in conjunction with the conclusion of the legislative session at the Illinois capitol. Work supervised by media bureau chief/editor/news director and PAR director. Course Information: Prerequisites: Admission to PAR program.

PAR 510. Developing Public Policy in Illinois. 4 Hours.

Intensive study of the factors affecting the development of public policy at the state level in Illinois. Major topics include constitutional framework, historical influence, demographics, political culture, role of parties, and interest groups, role of the media, legislative process, role of the executive budgetary process.