



LFS 400

Audio Storytelling

Podcasts in the Hands of Students

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AGRO 490 & LFS 400

- Started in 2006, advent of podcasting
- Originally a partnership with UBC School of Journalism
- Bringing storytelling skills to LFS students
- Taking podcasting tools out of the lecture hall and into the hands of students
- In-class feedback and workshopping



Guess what!?

Podcasts are cool again!

A screenshot of a YouTube video player. The video shows a woman with glasses and headphones speaking into a microphone in a recording studio. The video title is "Christmas Serial (ft. Amy Adams Golden Globe® 2015 Winner) - Saturday Night Live". The channel is "Saturday Night Live" with 777,685 subscribers. The video has 812,224 views. The video player interface includes a progress bar at 0:27 / 5:41, a volume icon, and a play button. The "SERIAL" logo is overlaid on the right side of the video player.

Christmas Serial (ft. Amy Adams Golden Globe® 2015 Winner) - Saturday Night Live

Saturday Night Live 777,685

812,224

What happens in the classroom?

Listening

Pitching ideas

Workshopping & feedback

Technical help

Guest speakers

Seminar to directed study



Assignments



Streeter
Voicer
Outline
Group Project
Draft
Final Podcast
Reflection

Streeter example

Afton Halloran & “Thank a Farmer Day”



Workshops

Audio editing

Copyright & Creative Commons

Story structure

Interviewing

Writing for the ear

Journalism ethics

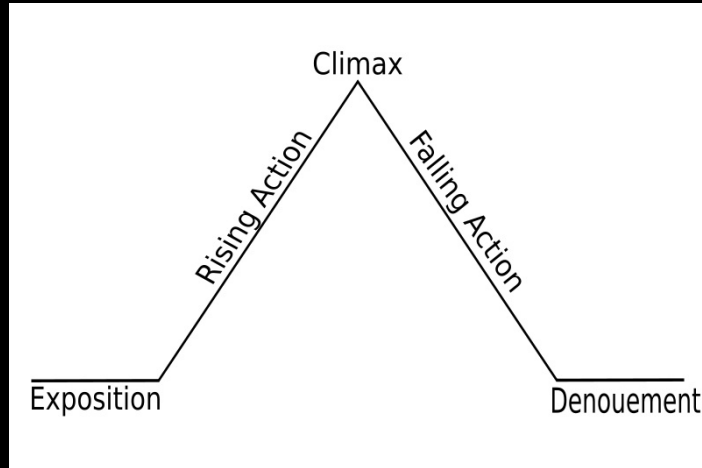
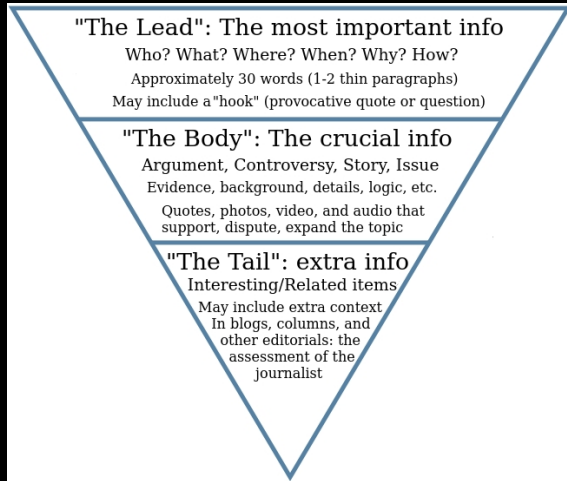
Performing your script

+ guest lectures

What is a story?

Someone doing something for a reason

It has a beginning/hook, a middle & an end



Writing for the ear

- One thought per sentence
- Active verbs
- Say what you mean
- Telling detail
- Logic
- ‘The Mouth Edit’



Interviewing: Sawatsky's Sins



- 1 Asking a non-question
- 2 Asking a double-barreled question
- 3 Overloading your question
- 4 Putting remarks into your question
- 5 Including trigger words
- 6 Including hyperbole in your question
- 7 Asking a close-ended question

The Pillars of Journalism

Accountability

Independence

Balance

Do no harm

Media Literacy

“Fake news”

Changing media consumption

A part of scholarship



Challenges

- Students need to adopt a new way of working
- Balancing the magic of a small class with administrative necessities
- Infrastructure & expertise is now in place

Tools

- Roland Edirol field recorders
- Some specialized mics
- Audacity
- Campus radio studios




Listen

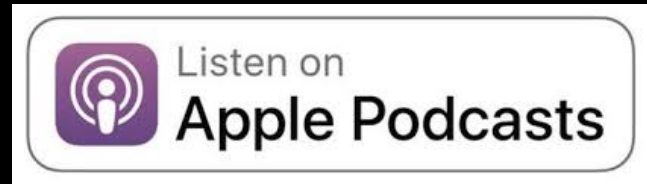
Hear LFS 400 audio stories:
<http://ifs400.landfood.ubc.ca>

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Vancouver Campus

Faculty of Land and Food Systems
LFS 400: Audio Storytelling



The tools of podcasting and digital storytelling have gotten more and more accessible in the last decade. This course makes use of those tools, teaching students to use audio technology and a journalistic framework in order to tell powerful stories and present academic content in engaging new ways. LFS 400 is a seminar course with a lot of personal attention, critical feedback and weekly lab-based work. By the end of the term, students will have the ability to share their knowledge in effective and creative ways and will have created a 8-12 minute podcast to share with the world.



Thanks!

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