**News Story**

**March 20:** Initial proposal/ideas due (oral presentation in roundtable) *2 points*

**March 29:** Finalized proposal due (oral presentation in roundtable) *2 points*

**April 5:** Draft due and Peer Review (in class on this day only for points) *1 point*

**April 10:** Final story due, uploaded to Blackboard, and presentation *15 points*

**News Story Assignment:** You may either cover a campus meeting, or you can cover a new scientific discovery/creation. You are required to participate in a Peer Review of drafts during class to receive full credit on your draft. The story should be at least 1,000 words, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font (this is about 4 pages.) It should be written in an objective news style (no first-person “I”), make proper use of quotes, and include an appropriate lead, “nut graph” and kicker. You must quote at least three sources from original interviews you have conducted in the final draft of the story.

**Initial Proposal for News Story:** Your proposal should include descriptions of three or four campus meetings or events, or the scientific discoveries, you are considering covering. Identify your audience (IIT students, teachers, staff; IIT alumni; Chicagoans; Neighbors living around IIT, etc.) and convince us why these stories could be important to them (consider our readings where the purpose of journalism is discussed.) The initial proposal is delivered orally during roundtable. Prepare for questions and feedback.

**Final Proposal for News Story:** Your final proposal should include a specific description of the campus meeting or event, or the scientific discovery, you plan to cover. (Names, dates, times, locations, background information.) Also include full and spell-checked names of anyone you plan to interview for this story (Organization leaders, professors with something to say about the discovery, etc. You can and should add to this list as you work through your story.) Include any other details of your reporting plan. Finally, identify your audience (IIT students, teachers, staff; IIT alumni; Chicagoans; Neighbors living around IIT, etc.) and convince us why your story is important to them (consider our readings where the purpose of journalism is discussed.) The final proposal is delivered orally during roundtable. Prepare for questions and feedback.

**Peer Review:** You will trade drafts with a colleague in class and edit each other’s work according to a set of standards and your own personal response as a reader and writer. You must be present on peer review day to receive credit, and you must bring a printed out copy of your draft to work with. Drafts should be at least 750 words (about 3 pages in the style required.) Feedback will be delivered verbally and in writing.

**Informal Presentation:** On the day your story is due, you will deliver an informal, roundtable presentation to the class. You will read your favorite portion of your story and give us honest feedback on your process of writing your story: the ups, the downs, the surprises. Tell us what you learned about people, about yourself as a reporter, about journalism. (This is for participation credit. It’s also a chance to tell me anything you’d like me to know about your process and experience in order to better understand your finished story.)