Course unit title	Code
Podcasts and audio storytelling	

Annotation
This course will introduce students to the growing scene of podcasts and audio journalism and give them tools to enter it as creators. The students will learn the foundations of narrative audio storytelling. During the course, they will work on their individual audio journalism pieces, which will become part of their portfolio. Students will be encouraged to discover their own unique voice and narrative style. They will learn both the practice and theory of audio journalism. With these skills, they will be able to work in both radio and podcast studios, as well as start their own podcast.

Lecturer(s)	Department, Faculty
Karolis Vyšniauskas	Faculty of Communication

Study cycle	Type of the course unit
Bachelor/Master	Elective

Mode of delivery	Semester or periodwhen it is delivered	Language of instruction
	Autumn / Spring	English

Requirements for students	
Laptop to edit audio files; Notebook for note-taking. In-person classes will be phone and laptop-free, unless students are editing scripts or audio files.	

Number of ECTS credits allocated	Student's workload(total)	Contact hours	Self-learning hours
5	130	30	100

Purpose of the course unit: programme competences to be developed
During this course, students will learn to create narrative audio stories in an ethical and socially responsible manner. Students will go through different stages of audio journalism from listening to interviewing; from editing to publishing. They will be introduced to the basics of music usage and sound design. They will become avid listeners and audio creators, helping to shape the future of audio journalism.

Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Students will learn about the	Lectures and seminars,	Participating in class discussion and seminars.

evolution of audio journalism and the role of podcasts in it.	discussion with classmates, analysis of examples, discussion of literature.	
Students will be able to critically evaluate works of audio journalism, understanding the international and local contexts.	Lectures and seminars, work on individual projects, meetings with guests – podcast creators.	Implementation of individual projects according to predetermined requirements
Students will be able to create audio narrative works, with documentary and reportage elements and an individual narrative style.	Implementation of individual projects and their discussion in the group.	Implementation of individual projects according to predetermined requirements.

Course content: breakdown of the topics	Contact hours							Individual work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Consultations	Seminars	Workshops	Laboratory work	Internship/work placement	Contact hours, total	Individual work	Assignments
1. Podcasts and the evolution of radio	2		2				4	4	Literature analysis; audio examples analysis
2. Interviewing for audio. Creating audio scenes	2		2				4	16	Working with microphones and sound editing software; creating first practical task
5. Story structure and Audio story editing	2		2				4	10	Discussion with class guests; work on the final creative task: audio feature
6. Music and sound design			2				2	20	Discussion with class guests; work on the final creative task: audio feature
7. The business of podcasting	2		2				2		Literature analysis, discussion with a class guest
8. Individual sound projects (assignments and discussion of results)		2	10				14	50	Work on the final creative task - audio feature
Total:	8	2	20				30	100	160

Assessment strategy	Weight %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Participation in classes	20 %	During the semester	The evaluation takes into account the on-time attendance to class, the arguments expressed during discussions, initiative, and respect for colleagues. Attendance at all seminars is highly advisable for the course to work. No more than two seminars may be missed without an explained reason. If the students are actively not attending the seminars, they may not be allowed to take the exam.
Practical task: audio postcard	20 %	During the semester	The evaluation takes into account: – Technical quality of the recording: 2 points – Editing of the recording with the sound program "Reaper" (or another program that is convenient for students): 2 points – Recording of at least one source: 2 points – Recording ambient sound: 2 points – Fitting into the time constraints (from 1 to 2 minutes): 2 points
Practical task: narrative audio story (exam)	60 %	During the semester and exam session	The evaluation takes into account: – Development of the narrative with emotional and intellectual arcs: 2 points – Using the variety of of audio documentary elements: 2 points – Fact checking: 2 points – Compliance with journalism ethics: 2 points – Fitting into the time constraints (up to 7 minutes): 2 points Students who do not complete this assignment will not be assessed for the entire course.

No.	Author	Publishingyear	Title	Issue of a periodicalor volume of a publication; pages	Publishing house or internet site
Required reading					
1.	Eric Nuzum	2019	Make Noise: A Creator's Guide to Podcasting and Great Audio Storytelling	Pages 106-193 are mandatory, the whole book is recommended.	http://ericnuzum.com/
2.	Gimlet	2020	Gimlet Academy (podcast)	Episodes 1 and 2 are mandatory; the full five	https://open.spotify.com/show/7hhEbl4DOMheWRunCUAla6

				episode series is recommended.	
	Recommended reading				
3.	Jessica Abel	2015	Out on the Wire: The Storytelling Secrets of the New Masters of Radio	Pages: 1-43	https://jessicaabel.com/out-on-the-wire/
4.	Kristen Meinzer	2019	So You Want to Start a Podcast	Pages: 9-55	https://www.harpercollins.com/products/so-you-want-to-start-a-podcast-kristen-meinzer