



NKU workshop explores journalism

By Howard McEwen • Enquirer contributor • May 31, 2010

HIGHLAND HEIGHTS - High school students interested in journalism can get a week-long look into the field at Northern Kentucky University's upcoming Journalism in the Digital Age workshop.

The workshop will focus on teaching students how to create credible, multimedia news in the evolving information age. It will be held daily from June 14 to 18 and is limited to 20 students. During the workshop, students will write stories, produce a photo slide show and a video story.

"We only have 20 students because we do a lot of one-on-one instruction with the students," said Michele Day, a lecturer with NKU's Department of Communications. "With the small group size, we can have NKU students or faculty working individually with the students to help them edit their videos, shoot their photos and write their stories."

The high school students will work in teams, led by NKU students, to go on interviews, photo shoots and video shoots

"In the past we've mostly done stories about campus events during the week of our workshop," Day said. "For instance, they've produced stories about the theater camp that week and the ExploreMore camp for gifted and talented children. They've also done stories

turn the students loose with microphones and recorders," she said. "Last year, our students started out interviewing each other and then progressed to university administrators, marketing and PR officials, online news editors and corporate executives. By the end of the week, they were asking the most amazing questions."

NKU professors, mainstream media reports and bloggers will also speak with the students each day.

"Rather than having the media guest speakers lecture, we're going to have the students interview them," said Day. "We want to keep it as active as possible. We want the students to learn a lot, but we also want them to have a lot of fun."

Students will also learn how social media such as Twitter and Facebook can be used for news reporting.

"Last year we had Mandy Jenkins, then the social media editor for The Enquirer, talk to the students about this issue," said Day. "This year, I expect that will be one of the topics the students will cover in their interviews with the media professionals: How do you use Twitter and Facebook or any other social media?"

Cost for the camp is \$100, reduced from \$175

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because of a \$5,000 grant from the Gannett Foundation. Interested students can register at <http://informatics.nku.edu/com>. For more information, call Michele Day at 859-572-1921 or e-mail her at daymi@nku.edu.

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