The WFUV Newsroom
From the other side
How WFUV Trains Students
How WFUV Recruits

• Fordham University Club Fair
• Word of Mouth
• Outreach to Professors/Classes
• Application Process
• Interviews and Current Affairs Quiz
Are they all Communications Majors?

NO! And we certainly encourage any and all majors to get involved.

We have 12-20 young journalists in our newsroom at any given time.
Training Starts with a Workshop
The Workshop

Fall 2014, Wednesdays 2:30 to 4:00 pm
Keating B12
George Bodarky

• October 15th – Introduction to the WFUV newsroom – what is news, how is news gathered? Five Tiers of Coverage, Public Radio’s Core Values. Introduction to Associated Press wire service, audio editor and other newsroom equipment

• October 22nd – Newsroom Job Descriptions, Radio News Glossary, Ethics in Journalism

• October 29th – Generating Story Ideas, Pitching, Writing and Attribution

• November 5th – Interviewing

• November 12th – Off for PRNDI

• November 19th – The Newscast

• November 26th – Off for Thanksgiving

• December 3rd – Sound gathering, Actualities and Wraps, oh my!

• December 10th – Feature Reporting

• December 17th – News Delivery/Announcing

You’re required to attend all workshops. If you cannot attend – please call or e-mail George Bodarky at 718-817-5561/gbodarky@wfuv.org. Workshop schedule is subject to change.
What’s Next?

After the workshop students spend one semester working in the WFUV Newsroom as interns. They learn the ropes mostly covering “tier two” stories. They start with cut and copies before moving on to wraps and superspots.
Then What?

After the internship they get $$$$$$$$$$$

Through a partnership with Fordham University’s work study program and the station’s own significant financial commitment, WFUV employs about 70 students station-wide – about 15-20 of them in the newsroom each semester. They are paid for hourly shifts as newscasters, reporters and producers. While many college work study programs offer short shift work for students in administrative and support roles, WFUV’s student employees are encouraged to dedicate at least two full-day shifts a week to the station. They work more in the summer. This allows students to work as true media professional, whether it’s covering an entire drive time newscast shift or traveling with the New York City mayor’s press corp.
By signing on as a paid employee in the WFUV Newsroom, I agree to the following:

1. To provide at least two weeks notice for any time off. I agree to work my normal shift on holidays, university breaks, midterms and finals weeks, unless I request the day off well in advance. I will show up on time for my shifts and stay for the duration. I will call the newsroom if an emergency prevents me from arriving on time. I understand that three unexcused absences are grounds for dismissal. I also understand if I fail to give three weeks notice without a written excuse that I will be grounds for dismissal.

2. To prevent campus activities, internships and other jobs from interfering with shifts in the WFUV Newsroom. I will make WFUV my primary job and schedule any other activities around my Newsroom shifts.

3. To take responsibility for all station equipment. I will not bring food or drink into the Newsroom or any station area. I will report all equipment problems to the News Director or Assistant News Director immediately. I will honor all rules set by the engineering department regarding use of the equipment (e.g., do not download programs or photos on any station computers without permission).

4. To pay for any field recording equipment I damage, lose, or misplace. I will operate the equipment and treat it exactly how I was taught to do so. I will report malfunctions immediately. I will keep all equipment in its assigned kit. I will ask permission from the News Director or Assistant News Director before using or lending any kit. Upon my final day of employment, I will turn in the kit; otherwise, I will assume a fine for each day the equipment is late, and understand that Permanent Security will be alerted. I understand that the same rules apply for WFUV’s press credentials.

5. To stay focused and work diligently to complete news assignments, meet deadlines, and develop original stories. I will refrain from socializing, personal web surfing/Instagram posts, computer games, and other distractions during “slow downs” in the newsroom. I will refrain from posting anything in the newsroom unless approved by the News Director or Assistant News Director.

6. To follow the directives of the News Directors and News Managers. I understand that in addition to the News Directors, the student News Managers have the authority to assign stories, edit copy and assist reporters in all aspects of the newsroom.

7. To avoid writing extra hours on the timesheet or on top of my normal shift hours unless first approved by the News Director or Assistant News Director.

8. To dress responsibly. I understand that business casual or better is a good rule of thumb and will not wear shorts, t-shirts, sneakers or ripped clothes to work. I understand I may be called upon to cover last-minute news conferences or great dignitaries at WFUV.

9. To volunteer 4-hour shifts of active support during WFUV fund drives in the fall and spring. I understand that fund drive weeks are all hands on deck operations that require extra hours of all WFUV employees. I will contribute an unpaid 4-hour shift on the phones or otherwise behind the scenes during each drive to help make it a success.

10. To attend professional development sessions. Because of my responsibility to develop my news skills and the early stages of these events, I understand that my participation is mandatory, unless I give notice of a scheduling conflict in the day the event is announced to the campus via email, or an emergency arises. I understand there are no exceptions for last-minute school work, extra-curricular activities, etc.

11. To craft my class schedule to allow for five blocks of time if I would like to be considered for a News Manager or leadership position in the newsroom. One or two weekdays or five blocks on weekend afternoons is optimal for managing the newsroom, advanced field reporting, and special project assignments.
What do they do?

Everything!
• Newscasting
• Reporting
• Hosting
• Producing
• Social Media
• Podcasting
• Video
The News Schedule

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<th>Date</th>
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<th>Reporters</th>
<th>Interns</th>
<th>PM Casts</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. 4/13</td>
<td>Katie Meyer</td>
<td>Katie Meyer (9am – 2pm)</td>
<td>Desiree Savini (9am – 2pm)</td>
<td>Miyah L</td>
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<td>Jeff C (9pm – 4pm)</td>
<td>Claire Drake (9am – 2pm) Cityscape</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Stephanie C (1pm – 6pm) PM Editor</td>
<td>Frank Chaparro (11:30 – 5:30)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Miyan Levenson (2:30 – 6pm)</td>
<td>Lia Ferrone (12pm – 6pm)</td>
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<td>Tues. 4/14</td>
<td>Rob P</td>
<td>Taylor N (9am – 3pm) Cityscape</td>
<td>Jimena Galindo (9am – 3pm)</td>
<td>Miyah L</td>
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<td>Miyan Levenson (2:30 – 6pm)</td>
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<td>Wed. 4/15</td>
<td>Rebecca L</td>
<td>Kate Garity (9am – 3pm)</td>
<td>All Intern Weekly Meeting (2:30)</td>
<td>Stephanie C</td>
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<td>Robbexa L (9am – 3pm)</td>
<td>Zach Atanasoff (9am – 2:30)</td>
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<td>Gabby M (1pm – 6pm)</td>
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<td>Thur. 4/16</td>
<td>Katie M</td>
<td>Katie Meyer (9am – 2pm)</td>
<td>Jacob Shore (9am – 2pm)</td>
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<td>Amanda Male (1pm – 6pm)</td>
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<td>Fri. 4/17</td>
<td>Robin S</td>
<td>Miyan L (5am – 9am)</td>
<td>Nicholas Ventura (9am – 5pm)</td>
<td>Jeff C</td>
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What Works Well?

• Regular editorial meetings (short and long term).
• Always look for teachable moments. Our editorial meetings incorporate a lot of journalism education (ethics and more).
• Mock phone interviews, etc.
• Match assignments to interests (especially at the beginning).
• Weekly vocal coaching sessions.
• Air check reviews and listening sessions.
• Open door policy.
• Create job descriptions.
• Utilize more seasoned “student” staff to help train newbies.
• Create opportunities for advancement. We have news manager and assistant news manager positions.
• Don’t call them students!
What Works Well?

Special News Series to move beyond “tier two” stories:

Examples:

• The New Normal – 10 Ways Life has Changed in the 10 Years Since 9/11.
• Products or Services that were “Born” in NYC.
• Teen Suicide Prevention as part of our Strike a Chord Project.
What Works Well?

Dive Into the WFUV Issues Tank

By David Cohen on Feb 15, 2011 - 1:05 PM

Fordham University’s WFUV 90.7 FM, a noncommercial radio station in New York, is in the tank — the WFUV Issues Tank, which encourages citizens in communities within its news territory to post about issues that concern them on the WFUV Issues Tank Facebook page.

WFUV Issues Tank student journalists Sara Kugel and Kate McGee — who report on problems including overcrowding in the school system, teen pregnancy in the Bronx, and male victims of domestic abuse for the radio station — will expand upon those topics and subjects mentioned on the Facebook page, with expanded coverage on the WFUV News site.

WFUV news and public affairs director George Bodarky said:

The WFUV Issues Tank is a great way to explore local issues and involve our listeners in the process of uncovering underrepresented matters in the region. It’s also an excellent training tool in enterprise/investigative reporting for our student journalists, which is a big part of our mission at WFUV.

Program director Chuck Singleton added:

We know that our listeners have busy, on-the-go lives, and they want information in a form that works for them. By amping up our on-air and online coverage, WFUV becomes a place where people come not only to discover new music, but to learn about what’s
What’s New?

• The WFUV *Issues Tank* podcast
• Video partnership with Bronxnet television
Demonstrated Success
Where are some of them now?

Kate McGee, KUT in Austin
Maggie Martin-Monsour, Alabama Public Radio
Mary Wilson, WITF in Harrisburg, PA
Ben Allen, WITF in Harrisburg, PA
Annmarie Fertoli, WNYC in New York City
Rachel Lushinsky, NPR
Michael Chaplin, WNYC in New York City
Alice Gainer, CBS 2 in New York City
Jonathan Vigliotti, NBC 4 in New York City
Testimonials

• Jen Pulsone, News Director, 24-7 News (ClearChannel), New York, NY:

I believe my training at WFUV is the sole reason I was able to obtain a job as an on-air reporter and anchor in the top New York City market right out of college. As a 22-year-old I was anchoring for WOR-AM and reporting for WABC-AM in New York City, just two months after graduating. WFUV provided me with the professional experience one needs to be a successful radio anchor and reporter working in a fast paced, breaking news environment. At WFUV, I gained that experience by regularly attending press conferences in the New York City area, conducting phone interviews with politicians and organizational leaders, receiving on-air voice training, and working with radio editing equipment. My training at WFUV was invaluable, and I oftentimes refer back to the techniques I learned there at my current job today.
Another Testimonial

Annmarie Fertoli, WNYC, New York, NY:
The hands on training I received at WFUV not only supplemented what I was learning in the classroom, but fully prepared me for a career in journalism. As a freshman student, I was already conducting interviews with local elected officials, writing my own stories for broadcast, and anchoring newscasts I had written, after only a few months of training by WFUV's professional and student staff. I fully credit the professional training I received at the station for preparing me for my current job as well as giving me the experience necessary to succeed as a media professional.
And One More...

- Glenn Schuck, (now former) News Director, Metro Networks (NYC):

  WFUV graduates have played a major role in the hiring process at Metro Networks News here in New York City. In the last three years, I have hired eight new people and four of them are WFUV alumni. I find that the FUV experience has allowed these hires to "jump into" the New York City market with both feet because of the professional experience that had already been exposed to at WFUV. Clearly FUV staff members are well versed in writing, producing and voicing radio material that is above par and matches that of someone who has done radio professionally at other levels for many years.
Today’s Challenges

• Not “tuned in” to radio.
• Too focused on digital communication.
• “Radio” is not always thought about as a viable career path.
• Competing interests.
• Instant Gratification.
Feel Free to Reach Out

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