DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

COURSE NO. MC 140

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to Radio

I. Catalog Description

Principles of radio broadcasting and regulation applied to the operation of a low-power FM (LPFM) radio station. One credit hour.

II. Prerequisite(s)

None

III. Objectives

A. To delineate the legal responsibilities of the broadcasters using the low-power FM (LPFM) radio service and to differentiate the federal regulations imposed upon this service from the regulations pertaining to the operation of commercial and noncommercial AM, FM, Internet, and Satellite radio stations;

B. To examine the live and computer-assisted modes of radio studio operation;

C. To provide practice in preparing music- and information-oriented radio programs;

D. To choose and employ equipment relevant to the situation and locale; and

E. To acquaint the student with the subsequent course offerings in the radio option.

IV. Expectation of Students

A. To attend all lecture class sessions

B. To study the auxiliary and web-delivered materials

C. To participate in classroom discussion and assignments

D. To perform laboratory assignments on an individual basis

V. Course Content

A. Orientation to the KDMC On-Air, Production, and News Studios 2 weeks
B. Foundations of Broadcast Regulation 2 weeks
   1. The Trusteeship Model
   2. The Marketplace Model

C. Federal Regulation of LPFM Stations 5 weeks
   1. 47CFR73 (Title 47 Code of Federal Regulation)
   2. FCC Low-Power FM Station Self-Inspection Checklist

D. Studio Program Origination 4 weeks
   1. Transducers: microphones, headphones, loudspeakers
   2. Studio Program-Execution Computer Software
   3. Digital-audio storage/retrieval devices

E. Performance Evaluation and Assessment 2 weeks

VI. Textbook and Other Required Materials
B. Auxiliary Materials and Equipment:
   1. Reserve materials in Ervin Resource Center
   2. Materials from Federal Communications Commission (FCC) website
   3. Personal media player for self-evaluation exercises
   4. Broadcast equipment in the KDMC Radio Station Laboratory

VII. Basis for Student Evaluation
A. Mid-term examination
B. Final examination
C. Participation in classroom exercises and individual laboratory exercises