

## JOU 280: Introduction to Magazine Writing

Assignment: Story Idea

Point Total: 100

**Overview:** Students will deliver three **one-page pitches** complete with annotated research, proper summaries, contact lists. These will form the basis of the small group discussion and informal "budget" meeting.

**Components:** The story idea document will consist of the theme, the story background culled from research and pre-interviews, the source list, annotated research and attached research.

1. **Theme:** a one-sentence story idea with the form and audience
2. **Background:** You will write an extended description of your piece, in the Act structure, which also explains how this piece is substantially different than other writing.
  - a. To do this, you will first need to find **10 articles** that are about your topic (and that apply to your topic in a tangible way) which demonstrate a breadth of writing on this topic. Each article will be summarized in a paragraph or so. (This research will be in the Attached Research Section, in order, with the summarization on top.)
  - b. You will also need to conduct pre-interviews with your subjects
3. **Source List:** a specific contact list (see Assignment Policies, Requirements) of people you know will be in the story
  - a. you will add a short description of what information you hope to gain from the source, which will be based specifically on your act structure and your pre-interviews.
  - b. You will explain why this source is the most credible to use
4. **Attached Research:** in the order it is annotated in the Background. As an Appendix with the 10 articles summarized.

	A	B	C	D	F
Theme (10)					
Background (20)					
Source List (10)					
Research (40)					
Evaluation (20)					
<b>Total</b>					