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| Southern Connecticut State University’sHigh School Journalism Day |

**Mission Statement**

Recognizing that the future of journalism rests in the hands of not just the students we teach at the college level, but also those students in high school whom we or other programs will be seeing in the near future, SCSU Journalism’s mission is to contribute to the growth and preparation of future journalists from the state of Connecticut. To fulfill this mission, the department has annually opened its campus for High School Journalism Day at Southern where the faculty and journalists throughout the state conduct workshops geared toward providing writing, editing, graphics, interviewing and career planning tips for prospective journalists.

**Keynote Address: 11 a.m.**

NBC Connecticut Meteorologist Darren Sweeney delivers Connecticut's most accurate forecast every weekend morning on NBC Connecticut.  He also reports during severe weather or during our weather specials, focusing on ways to stay safe when severe weather approaches.

Darren joined the First Alert Team in October 2008 and has the recognition from the American Meteorological Society with its seal of approval, as well as the National Weather Association along with their seal of approval.

A Connecticut native, born and raised in West Hartford, Darren is happy to be forecasting for the station he grew up driving by and watching almost every day.

Darren has experience with forecasting New England weather. As a meteorologist for a Springfield TV station, Darren won two Associated Press awards for coverage of historic flooding in October 2005 and for Best Weathercast in 2006. He also reported live during severe weather events, most recently the massive flooding that took place along the Merrimack River in May 2006.  His most recent award came from the CT Society of Professional Journalists for his coverage of the Wethersfield Tornado in 2009.

Before returning to New England, Darren gained experience forecasting severe weather and chasing hurricanes for WFTX-TV in Fort Myers, Fla., where in one instance, he reported live from New Orleans during Tropical Storm Isidore and Hurricane Lilly in 2002.

Darren earned his Bachelor's degree from Central Connecticut State University and went on to earn his Master's degree at Syracuse University's highly regarded Newhouse School of Communication. In 2003, he graduated from Mississippi State University's Broadcast Meteorology program.

During his spare time, you'll find Darren on one of his famous road trips exploring beautiful New England (especially during the summer). He also is an assistant professor at Central Connecticut State University and teaches broadcasting classes at Manchester Community College.

### SCSU Journalism’s 31st Annual

##### High School Journalism Day

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| **Darren Sweeney**  **Meteorologist and Journalist**  **NBC Connecticut**  **Keynote Speaker** Friday, October 24, 20148:30 a.m. WelcomeDean Steven B. BreeseSchool of Arts & Sciences **Southern Connecticut State University** Michael J. Adanti Student Center |

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|  | **JOURNALISM WORKSHOPS I -- 9 a.m.-9:50 a.m.** |
| **Topic** | **Instructor** |
| **Prof. Cindy Simoneau**  SCSU journalism chair and former Connecticut Post assistant managing editor**.** | **What’s the Big Idea?**  Before there is the story, there is the idea. Learn how to come up with big story ideas for your high school newspaper. |
| **Prof. Frank Harris III**  SCSU journalism professor and Hartford Courant columnist | **Life of the Walking Dead: Is there a Future in Journalism?** Talk with a journalist about whether there is a future in journalism and anything else you want to know about the field. |
| **Ms. Helen Bennett**  New Haven Register city editor and SCSU journalism instructor | **Bodies & Words: Heart of the Story**  At the heart of every story are the human sources that breathe life into the story. Learn how to select sources and apply the techniques of interviewing. |
| **Mr. Ken Warren**  2010 Marketing President and SCSU instructor of journalism and communication | **PR: From Kim & Jay Z to Jeter and Miley**  Explore the wide range of career opportunities in public relations and publicity. |
| **Alaine Griffin**  Hartford Courant reporter and SCSU journalism instructor | **140-Character Coverage in the Courtroom**  How journalists cover criminal trials in the age of social media. |
| **Mr. Michael Bingham**  Editor New Haven Magazine an Business New Haven andSCSU journalism instructor | **High School Press Freedom**  Explore what the courts say about what high school students can write and say online and in print. |
| **Prof. Jodie Mozdzer Gil**  SCSU journalism assistant professor and freelance multimedia reporter | **Google Tools for Data Journalists**  Learn how to use free online tools to bolster news stories with numbers and visuals. |
| **Prof. Vern Williams**  SCSU journalism assistant professor and an independent documentary photographer. Former director of photography for the New Haven Register | **Tools of the Trade**  From iPhones and DSLRs to GoPros and drones, the changing nature of the visual side of journalism as it evolves digitally. |

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|  | **JOURNALISM WORKSHOPS II -- 10 a.m.-10:50 a.m.** |
| **Topic** | **Instructor** |
| **The World of Sports**  Sports reporter Amore describes some of the features of covering the Yankees, Giants and sports in general. Learn how to cover sports for your newspaper. | **Mr. Dom Amore**  Hartford Courant sports reporter and SCSU journalism instructor |
| **You’re on the Air**  What is broadcast news? Take a good look at radio and television. | **Prof. Jerry Dunklee**  SCSU Journalism Professor and former radio host |
| **The n-Word Project:** How to interview people on racially sensitive topics using the instructor’s project on interviewing Americans about their experience with the n-word. Learn how to approach and interview people of different races about these issues. N-wordproject.tumblr.com | **Prof. Frank Harris III**  SCSU journalism professor and Hartford Courant columnist |
| **Seeds for the Leads**  Learn how to brainstorm ideas for your school’s paper, then learn how to take those ideas and develop them into leads that will draw readers into your stories. | **Mr. Josh Kovner**  Hartford Courant reporter and SCSU journalism instructor |
| **Accuracy in the Age of Social Media**  Accuracy counts now more than ever in the 24/7 news cycle. Learn how journalists can and should use social media accurately and responsibly -- and what can happen when they don’t. | **Mr. Paul Singley**  Waterbury Republican senior reporter/web advocate and SCSU journalism instructor |
| **Photojournalism – The Great Themes:**  Reach for great themes rather than mere snapshots. Learn how to identify enduring themes of powerful photojournalism and apply practical suggestions for compelling images. | **Prof. Vern Williams & Mr. Jim Brochin**  **Vern Williams** - SCSU journalism assistant professor and an independent documentary photographer. Former director of photography for the New Haven Register. **Mr. Brochin** -Wilbur Cross High School instructor and adviser to the Proclamation |
| **Social Media Tools for Reporters:**  Learn how reporters use social media for reporting and distributing the news. | **Prof. Jodie Mozdzer Gil**  SCSU journalism assistant professor and freelance multimedia reporter |
| **Multimedia Journalism**  Learn skills the new journalist will need to master in a digital world – packaging a story from concept to finish, conducting interviews with handheld video cameras, designing and managing websites. | **Ms. Elizabeth Glagowski**  Interactive 1 to 1 Media managing editor and SCSU journalism instructor |
| **A Flexible Career through Journalism**  From speech writing to media relations to community engagement – hear how a journalism degree can open doors for work as a reporter, press secretary, education communicator and more. | **Catherine Sullivan DeCarlo**  Chapel Haven vice president of admissions, and SCSU journalism instructor |
| **How to get your story noticed**  Planning your story and photos for the most effective layout | **Julie Johnson**  Creative director for Shore Publishing and SCSU journalism instructor |