サイエンスコミュニケーション特講 ||

[Writing about Science]

授業概要

科学ジャーナリズムの扱う仕事の一端を解説し、そこで求められていること、 社会との関係、問題点に関して考察する。これらを通して、科学と社会をつな ぐサイエンスコミュニケーションに関する理解を深める。

日程

日時: 平成19年3月19日(月)~20日(火)(2日間)

午前10時からを予定しています

場所: 2B411

講師: Richard Stone氏 (米国科学誌Scienceアジア地区ニュース

編集責任者)

対象者

生物学類生 1~4年生(4年生は、卒業単位に認定されません)

Writing about Science Richard Stone, 19-20 March 2007 Tsukuba University

Course description

Rapid advances in science and technology have created a niche in the journalism profession for communicators who can interpret scientific findings for the general public. The majority of today's successful science journalists received scientific training before pursuing a writing career; a smaller proportion are graduates of the humanities with journalistic training and an enthusiasm for science. This course would appeal to both categories of aspiring science journalists.

The course would be conducted in a workshop format, an approach used by highly successful science communication programs such as those at Columbia University and at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Lectures would focus on journalistic practice and ethics, including examinations of the sources of science news, the embargo system, and how to interview scientists and science policymakers. The main aims of the course are twofold: cultivating an appreciation of the craft of science journalism through analyses of premier examples of science writing, and developing the students' own skills through writing assignments and critiques.

Topics to be discussed in class include (not in this order):

- 1. Introduction to science writing
- 2. Story qualities
- 3. Breaking news
- 4. Second-day stories
- 5. The art of writing: headlines and decks
- 6. The art of writing: leads
- 7. The art of writing: billboard paragraphs
- 8. The art of writing: structuring the body of a story
- 9. The art of writing: kickers
- 10. Press conferences
- 11. Reporting skills: sources of news
- 12. Reporting skills: embargoes
- 13. Reporting skills: on and off the record
- 14. Journalism ethics

Readings

A course packet of copied materials will be provided by the instructor.

Grading criteria

Attendance and participation in the class 40% Writing assignments 40% Final exam 20%