

African American Health Activism from Emancipation to AIDS  
AFRI 0550  
Spring 2019  
Podcasting Addendum

**Podcasting Instructor:** Laura Garbes, PhD Student in Sociology

**Location:** CSSJ 94 Waterman St. Conference Room

**Office Hours:** By Appointment, [laura\\_garbes@brown.edu](mailto:laura_garbes@brown.edu)

***Addendum Description***

This historical survey course examines African American activism and social movements from Emancipation to the contemporary period through the lens of African American access to health resources. The main assignment over the course of the semester is the production of a 30-minute collaborative podcast. It will engage ethically with sensitive topics and articulate insights relevant to African American health activism. In order to produce quality, social-justice oriented digital content, the course will also dedicate time to learning the techniques of podcasting: ethical considerations, story outlines, recording equipment, interviews, and postproduction.

***Required Texts, Materials, or Equipment***

In addition to content on African American health activism, you will be reading and listening to a handful of technical guides for producing audio stories.

The main technical text for radio production is available online at the Brown Library website: Biewen, John, and Alexa Dilworth, eds. *Reality radio: telling true stories in sound*. UNC Press Books, 2017.

Transom is a project of Atlantic Public Media, which seeks to “pass the baton of mission and good practice in public media through tools, philosophy, and technique.” We will be drawing from their biweekly podcast, <https://transom.org/topics/howound/>, which provides a variety of perspectives on how to tell stories for radio. You are encouraged to explore the site as your audio story develops, based on your own questions and interests.

I also recommend you peruse the Bello Collective’s DIY podcast guide, found at this link: <https://bellocollective.com/podcasting101/home>.

We will be using recording equipment from Brown’s Multimedia Lab for all assignments. If you prefer to buy your own, please refer to this guide as a helpful reference:

For a recorder on a budget, try the Samson Go Mic:

<http://www.samsontech.com/samson/products/microphones/usb-microphones/gomic/>

Here are USB mics available for \$60-120: <https://www.podcastinsights.com/podcast-equipment/#Microphones>

For higher cost options (if you are looking to make a larger investment, these are over \$100): <https://www.podcastinsights.com/best-digital-audio-recorders/>

***Major Assignments***

Due Date	Assignment	Description
February 5	Podcast Analysis	You will fill out a worksheet provided to help guide active listening for the Hidden Brain assigned podcast.
February 17	Upload pitch to Canvas	One page, single spaced. You will elaborate upon one of the topics previously chosen, writing one paragraph on the theme you will explore, one paragraph on proposed sources, and one paragraph intended audience and impact.
March 12	Upload Collaborative plan of action to google folder	We will be filling out this guide: <a href="https://training.npr.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/2018-Project-Blueprint-SLW.pdf">https://training.npr.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/2018-Project-Blueprint-SLW.pdf</a> , along with a list of interview questions.
April 30	Upload final transcript to Canvas	Longer Assignment Details to come
May 13	Final Podcast Due to Canvas	Longer Assignment Details to come

***Preliminary Schedule of Podcasting Topics, Readings, and Assignments (subject to change)***

Meeting Date	Topics	Advance Preparation / Follow-up work
Jan 29	Scholarship, Voice, and Power	NA
Feb 5	Hearing a story structure	In preparation, fill out the story structure worksheet provided on January 9, analyzing the Hidden Brain listening assignment.
Feb 9	Crash course in audio storytelling	In preparation, come up with a list of 2-3 topics for a podcast - for each: who would you interview or include, what would you discuss, how does it help us understand health activism in the Black community past, present, or future? 1/2 page, can be bullet points
Feb 14	Pitching your stories	Following up, elaborate upon one of the topics previously chosen, writing one paragraph on the theme you will explore, one paragraph on proposed sources, and one paragraph intended audience and impact.
Mar 12	At MML: Ethical considerations in sourcing stories – discussing sensitive topics, respecting interviewee privacy.	In preparation, note three potential sources for audio, and we will discuss ethical considerations for sourcing them.
Mar 19	MML Interview Editing	In preparation, you will bring in one recording, either from a completed interview or an audio source you plan to use for the podcast.

Apr 9	Fieldwork	Field interviews- upload an interview log and reflection afterwards.
Apr 16	MML Arranging a Story	In preparation, you will bring in several recordings you plan to use for the final podcast, and we will learn how to properly mix the audio.
Apr 18	Guest Lecture: Jennifer Lynn Stoever	Please post 3 questions to Canvas along with your blog post about the ethics of podcasting and the cultural politics of listening (or any other questions you might have for Professor Stoever)
Apr 25	Postproduction process	Please bring in a draft of your podcast for final questions.
May 7	Final listening and peer review	<b>Final Podcast Draft Due!</b>