

# JOURNALISM ETHICS: INTENSIVE CASE STUDIES (TEAM PROJECT)

**DUE:**           **Topics ranked by Thursday, March 10** (see back of this sheet)  
                  **Written summary** due no later than **Tuesday, April 19**  
                  **In-class “meetings”** on **Tuesday, May 3,** and **Thursday, May 5**

**WORTH:**       **100 points total.** Both members of the team will receive the same grade.

The capstone project for this class will involve working in two-person groups (a “newsroom management partnership team”) to:

- \* Explore a cluster of case studies on a related ethics-related topic. The cases are all online, though you are more than welcome to pull in current examples from the media if you like.
- \* Extract and summarize (in writing, by April 19) the key ethical considerations associated with that issue.
- \* Meet (in May) with another team (your “newsroom staff, with whom I’ll match you up) to develop an appropriate newsroom policy or strategy for dealing with that issue, using at least two of the case studies as a springboard.

More details on each component will be provided as we go along. For now, here’s the deal:

1) Your first task is to **select a topic** from among those available online. The options, listed on the back of this sheet, correspond to the chapters in the Patterson and Wilkins book.

Please check out the indicated Web site – it’s the one accompanying the P&W book -- and **identify your PREFERENCES by next THURSDAY, March 10.**

2) I will create the two-person partnerships over spring break.

You and your partner will need to get together to map out your strategy. You’ll have a bit of in-class work time between now and April 19, but you may well need time outside class, too. I hope keeping the teams to just two members will make it feasible to coordinate schedules.

3) On April 19, each team will give me a **written plan** describing how you will structure your “staff meeting” on May 3 or 5. I will give you details about what this plan should include after break.

4) I will provide feedback on your plans. Then, on May 3 and 5, the last week of class, you will conduct the “meetings.” I will pair each two-person team with another team (or teams, as we are going to have an odd number), switching the pairings between days. Each duo will be the “newsroom managers” on one day and the “newsroom staff” on the other day. You will have the whole class period to work through your selected case studies together.

The “staff” team does not need to prepare in advance of the meeting.

Closer to the date, I will provide details about the meeting “outcomes” you will give me at the end of the class.

**More info and topic sign-up list on the back →**

**GRADING:**

- \* The **meeting plan** (due on **April 19**) will be worth **50 points**.
- \* The **meeting summary** (due on **May 3** or **May 5**) will be worth another **50 points**.

Now, here's where you get to indicate your preferences. I'll collect these in class on **Thursday, March 10**. (Yes, you'll get this information sheet back, along with your team info, right after spring break.)

**INTENSIVE CASE STUDY PREFERENCES**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

First, check out the topics and related case studies (which are all from earlier editions of the textbook), available online at:

[http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/0073511943/student\\_view0/](http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/0073511943/student_view0/)  
Select the chapter (2 through 10), then select 'case studies.'

Please let me know your **TOP FIVE CHOICES (1 through 5)** among the nine available chapters.

**If you do not give me back this sheet on March 10, I will assign you at random to a topic.** All the topics are interesting, but you still may wind up with one you do not like so well as one of the others.

Again, rank your top five preferences, 1 through 5, please. Thanks!

<b>RANKING</b>	<b>CHAPTER/TOPIC</b>
_____	Chapter 2: Information Ethics: A Profession Seeks the Truth
_____	Chapter 3: Strat Comm: Does Client Advocate Mean Consumer Adversary?
_____	Chapter 4: Loyalty: Choosing between Competing Allegiances
_____	Chapter 5: Privacy: Looking for Solitude in the Global Village
_____	Chapter 6: Mass Media in a Democratic Society: Keeping a Promise
_____	Chapter 7: Media Economics: The Deadline Meets the Bottom Line
_____	Chapter 8: Picture This: The Ethics of Photo and Video Journalism
_____	Chapter 9: New Media: Continuing Questions and New Roles
_____	Chapter 10: The Ethical Dimensions of Art and Entertainment