

Possible class topics:

- Best practices for fact-checking and management of misinformation;
- Digital strategy or digital outreach;
- Exploring vulnerability as a news strategy

I do not have a master's degree, though I am happy to pursue one if possible.

### **Vision/Proposal for Research**

The southeastern United States is the place to explore journalism in the 21st century. Its history of creative story building, complex issues, and engagement make it ideal.

I want to investigate how journalism can be more vulnerable to itself and those it hopes to serve. We need to treat our audience as stakeholders, neighbors, and supporters. This would be a shift from our current approach of the audience as a product offered to advertisers. This would finally allow for a true exploration of new business models.

#### ***Journalist as facilitator***

Journalism can and should be practiced as a vocation more than a profession. especially with the increased adoption of digital tools and social networks.

- How can we put in place best practices from other professions for the good of journalism and society?
- How do we highlight and test existing best practices from within journalism?
- How do we encourage conversations leading to add to rather than extraction from communities?
- How might we prepare journalists with these tools before they enter the workforce?  
How do we present future journalists with space to explore in an academic setting?

#### ***Exploration of collaboration in local markets***

There are many existing models of collaboration out there. This would be an opportunity to collect best practices in an easy-to-access space. It would also provide space to explore new approaches to working together, both locally and regionally. Degree candidates would enter journalism with a more complex toolset than most.

#### ***Looking at other professions for best practices and frameworks***

There's a need for journalism to look outside of itself to help it be more accessible to and useful for its stakeholders (audience). There's also a need to translate and explain these lessons for working journalists.