

ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNALISM (ЭКОЛОГИЧЕСКАЯ ЖУРНАЛИСТИКА)

In this course, students get practical experience in environmental reporting and discuss the outcomes of the representations of the issues that regard the state of natural and technology-generated environments, as well as practicalities of working as environmental journalist in Russia and abroad. During the class students should prepare three articles on environmental topics.

The first assignment is about writing a soft news piece, the students are supposed to pick up a point of particular interest to them (including a country, sector, etc) and write a soft news during the class. The articles then are presented in the class and are followed by a feedback session from other students.

The second assignment is about writing an analytical feature, based on the recent report of global investments and developments in the area of renewable energy. Here once again, the students are writing in the class, and then discuss the articles altogether.

The third article is a feature (with multimedia elements), based on two real environmental/climate conferences/seminars the students got a chance to attend.

After finishing the course, the students will: be able to produce environmental reportage individually and/or in a group; be able to pick up environmental issues to make reports; be aware of current international environmental news agendas; be able to assess the quality of environmental reporting in terms of its balance of sources, representation of an issue, and quality of journalistic work on the whole.

Interim assessment: Pass / not pass