

Journalism Across Media - Ramjee Chandran



Over a series of five lectures with 2nd year Communication Studies Students, Ramjee Chandran not only imparted knowledge about various forms of writing but also shared valuable insights into building a career in this field. He provided students with a skeletal structure for writing across diverse media platforms, including novels and social media. When discussing writing across different media, he employed engaging activities to showcase how writing varies in each form. For instance, he illustrated how the introduction to an academic essay differs from a tweet or even a news report. Through this activity, he provided students with a skeletal structure to approach writing in any context.

Throughout the lectures, Ramjee engaged students in various writing exercises, including crafting a story in just six words or composing essays on topics such as "Why am I not a millennial... or am I?" Through these exercises, he instilled in students the importance of writing with insight and effectively communicating their ideas through their work. He also emphasised key principles such as honesty of expression, which are integral to both creative and journalistic writing.

Ramjee also outlined clear guidelines for effective sub-editing while emphasising the importance of brevity. He used famous first lines from books to highlight the difference between writing as an art and a craft. He helped us practise writing succinctly without unnecessary verbosity through literary examples and exercises. Additionally, he taught us the principles of sub-editing and introduced the language commonly used in journalism circles.

Through his assignments, he elucidated the significance of aligning with a brief by following certain parameters such as consistency, distinctiveness, connecting with the

audience, etc. He also delved into the importance of professionalism, emphasising the values that should be brought into the workspace.

Overall, his lectures left the students with plenty to think about and new habits they could incorporate to ensure a successful career. The combination of theoretical knowledge and practical techniques provided clarity to the students.