

# TED GELTNER

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## Summary

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I am currently an associate professor of journalism at Valdosta State University and adviser to the campus newspaper. I teach a number of journalism courses, including reporting, magazine writing and production, feature writing, photojournalism and literary journalism. I conduct research and write about sports journalism, journalism history and literary journalism. Before becoming a professor, I worked for 17 years as a writer and editor at a number of newspapers, including the *Gainesville Sun*, the *Scranton Times-Tribune* and the *Ocala Star-Banner*.

## Education

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Doctor of Philosophy in Mass Communications with specialization in journalism, University of Florida, 2009  
Dissertation: "Last King of the Sports Page: The Life and Career of Jim Murray," Committee Chair: William McKeen, Ph.D.

Master of Arts in Mass Communications with specialization in journalism, University of Florida, 2006  
Thesis: "Literary Journalism at *Sports Illustrated*: Dan Jenkins, Frank Deford and Roy Blount, Jr."  
Thesis Chair: William McKeen, Ph.D.

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Lehigh University, 1990

## Teaching

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**Valdosta State University**, Valdosta, Ga. August 2008 to present  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Department of English

### **Literature and Journalism**, PERS 2310.

This is a university-wide course that is open to all majors. It explores the relationship between the practice of journalism and literature from several regions across the country and various nations over the past 150 years, addresses the relationship between "journalistic" and "literary" truth, journalistic and literary style, and parallels between the social role of the journalist and fiction writer.

### **Journalism Newspaper Seminar**, JOUR 2500.

Students who write and edit the student newspaper *The Spectator* participate in this practicum that covers all aspects of newspaper production. Content, editing, and production (traditional and electronic) are addressed.

### **News Writing**, JOUR 3510.

News Writing is an upper level course that covers the basics of writing for newspapers, television and public relations. Reporting and writing skills are emphasized. Students learn to write on deadline. They cover meetings, press conferences, police stories and other types of general news stories. They also develop and execute story ideas on their own.

### **Contemporary American Magazines**, JOUR 3560.

This course is a survey of today's magazine industry and the role magazines play in American society. It focuses on writing for specific audiences, interpreting policy and influence, resolving ethical questions, and reviewing production processes. As part of the class, students can conceive report, write and produce the VSU general interest magazine *On Tap*.

**Photojournalism, JOUR 3570.**

Photojournalism is a course that covers the principles of news photography and professional photographic techniques. It provides students with the fundamental and practical skills needed to photograph news events for newspapers and magazines. Students complete professional photojournalism assignments and plan and execute a photo essay project.

**Literary Journalism, JOUR 4520.**

This course attempts to cover both the theory and practice of applying fiction techniques to journalistic fact. Students explore the relationship between literature and journalism, especially in terms of style and subject matter.

**Feature Writing, JOUR 4510.**

Students in this course learn how to report and write feature stories for magazines, newspapers and websites. The course also deals with marketing of stories, the finding and developing of story ideas, and the various types of feature stories and markets.

**Reporting, JOUR 4550.**

Reporting is an advanced journalism course in which students work to perfect research and writing techniques. Students develop and execute several types of news articles, including sports, business, opinion and on-line stories.

**The Converged Newsroom, JOUR 4560.**

This course is designed to help students develop the necessary skillset and the technical agility to work in a modern newsroom. It incorporates the theory and ethics of journalism and how they are affected by new technology. Students integrate audio, video, social media and other technologies into their news reporting.

**Sports Journalism, JOUR 4570**

Students in this class study several areas related to sports media, from practical reporting skills to history to industry-related topics. The course is designed to teach the basic skills needed to become a sports journalist as well as offer a broad overview of the sports media landscape today.

**University of Florida**, Gainesville, Fla. Jan. 2004-May 2008.

College of Journalism and Communications

**Sports Journalism, JOU 4313.**

This is an advanced-level course offered once a year by the UF journalism department. The class incorporates sports-writing skills and techniques, as well as providing an overview of today's sports media and an examination of sports journalism history. Activities included a class visit to a Major League Baseball Spring Training site.

**Magazine and Feature Writing, JOU 4308.**

This is an upper-level writing course in the journalism department which covers all aspects feature writing for newspapers and magazines, including writing, reporting and freelance marketing. Responsibilities included planning and delivering all lectures and coordinating class activities, as well as handling all grading and assignments.

**Magazine Production, JOU 4390.**

This is an upper-level seminar that teaches and supervises students during the planning and production of the College's alumni magazine, *the communitator*. Working as associate editor of the magazine included guiding students through story generation, writing, editing and production of the magazine. The class consists of lectures on topics associated with magazine journalism, one-on-one planning and editing sessions with students, and professional-style budget meetings.

**Mass Media & You, MMC 2604**

This is an introductory course that covers the process, effects, criticisms, and social responsibility of the mass media. The interaction of regulation, policy, philosophy, economics, politics, ethics, and control in mass communication are addressed, as well as media history and the role of technology in the future. It also touches on the portrayal of women, minorities, and professions in popular culture.

**University of Scranton**, Scranton, Pa., 2003.  
College of Arts and Sciences

**Newswriting**, COMM 224.

I taught this course as an adjunct professor while working as a full-time editor at the *Scranton Times-Tribune*. It is an introductory course that covers the basics of newspaper journalism, including evaluating news, reporting, and writing stories, newsroom organization, style and usage, and interviewing. I planned all lectures and assignments and graded all work for the course. Students were required to cover government meetings, write breaking news stories and understand basic newspaper operations.

**Other teaching**

**Writing Instructor**, Summer Journalism Institute, University of Florida, summer 2007-2008.

This is an annual journalism camp offered at University of Florida for high school juniors and seniors. Participants receive instruction and guidance from journalism faculty and graduate students and generate ideas and stories during the course of a week on-site at the UF campus. I taught and mentor a group of participants who choose writing as their area of focus.

## Employment

**Gainesville Sun, Gainesville, Fla.**

The *Gainesville Sun* is a daily newspaper that was owned at the time by The New York Times Corporation. The Features Department published one or more sections daily and had a staff of 10 between 2004 and 2008.

Writer/editor, 2006-2008. My duties included contributing feature stories and ideas as well as planning and editing sections, and supervising interns.

Assistant Features Editor, 2004 – 2006. My duties were to:

- Assist in planning and editing all aspects of daily feature section, developing story ideas and working with writers, photographers and graphic artists
- Write and report articles for daily feature, news and entertainment sections
- Assist in management and operation of features department
- Supervise and advise reporting and editing interns
- Layout, design and copy edit feature sections
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**Scranton Times and Tribune, Scranton, Pa.**

During the years I worked there, the Tribune Company published a morning and afternoon paper on weekdays and single sections on weekends. I was part of the management team, specifically overseeing the entire Saturday edition of the Times and Tribune.

Saturday Editor, 2001 – 2003. My duties included:

- Serving as editor and manager on special publishing projects
- Managing reporters, freelance writers, photographers and editors in all aspects of producing newspaper and related publications
- Heading the company's Scholastic Superstars program, which judged high school seniors throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania and honored top achievers at annual awards dinner
- Developing and delivering teaching workshops for Times-Tribune news staff
- Delivering broadcast reports for Scranton-Wilkes Barre CBS affiliate television station, appearing live on evening news regularly

### ***Ocala Star-Banner, Ocala, Fla.***

The *Star-Banner* is a daily newspaper that was owned at the time by The New York Times Corporation. During my years at the newspaper, 1994-2001, I served in a number of capacities, outlined here:

#### Entertainment Editor, 1998-2001

- Managed weekly entertainment and televisions section – writing, editing and designing sections, and working with reporters, photographers and artists in the production of sections
- Managed employees in Features Department and participated in newsroom management
- Wrote and edited for award-winning city magazine
- Contributed weekly radio and television column

#### Assistant Business Editor, 1996-1997

- Designed and edited weekly business and real estate magazines
- Worked with reporters and photographers on business coverage
- Wrote business feature articles
- Planned and designed daily and weekend business sections for daily newspaper

#### News Copy Editor, 1994-1995

- Edited and designed news pages for daily newspaper as part of copy editing team
- Handled copy editing and headline writing duties on deadline for night copy desk
- Edited, cropped and corrected staff and wire photography for publication

#### Radio/Television/Internet/other

- Hosted weekly radio show on AM news station, planning programs and conducting live and taped interviews. Also delivered weekly entertainment updates for news broadcasts
- Appeared as regular guest on WTRS-FM, delivering entertainment reports and assisting DJs. Also appeared for station at public events and concerts.
- Assisted in creation and production of on-line version of newspaper entertainment section
- Planned and hosted live Election night news special for Public Broadcasting
- Assisted in planning, editing and writing of mystery novel “High Stakes,” in which Central Florida writers contributed individual chapters of serial novel published in book form

### ***Citrus County Chronicle, Crystal River, Fla.***

The Chronicle is a daily newspaper on the Gulf Coast north of Tampa/St. Petersburg.

#### News Copy Editor, 1993 – 1994

- Edited and designed news pages for daily newspaper as part of copy-editing team
- Served as wire editor, running national and international news desk for the newspaper
- Edited, cropped and corrected staff and wire photography for publication

### ***Inyo Register, Bishop, Calif.***

The Register is a tri-weekly newspaper that covers the Eastern Sierra region of California.

#### News Editor, 1992 – 1993

- Reported, edited and designed in various capacities for tri-weekly newspaper in the Eastern Sierras
- Covered a variety of beats, including local government, law enforcement, environment, state politics and courts
- Assisted in writing, editing and planning of a number of annual or semi-annual tourism magazines

#### Sports Reporter/Editor, 1991 – 1992

- Covered high school and recreational sports
- Planned sports coverage, and edited and designed sports section

### ***Washington Business Information, Rosslyn, Va.***

WBI is a newsletter publisher that covers the federal government and appeals to corporate readers.

#### Proofreader, 1990-1991

- Edited and proofread stories in publications covering a number of federal regulatory agencies
- Wrote articles for variety of publications covering federal bureaucracy

## Research

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### Books

Geltner, Ted. "Last King of the Sports Page: The Life and Career of Jim Murray," University of Missouri Press, July 2012.

### Peer-Reviewed Articles

Geltner, Ted. "Hype Artists, Con Men, Pimps, and Dopesters: The Personal Journalism of Harry Crews," Journal of Magazine & New Media Research, Fall 2010.

Saliba, K. & Geltner, Ted. "Literary War Journalism: Framing and the Creation of Meaning," Journal of Magazine & New Media Research, Summer 2012.

### Papers Accepted

Geltner, Ted. "Mastering the Web Update," Great Ideas for Teachers, Finalist, Community College Journalism Association and Small Programs Interest Group, Association of Educators in Journalism and Mass Communication, 2011.

Saliba, K. & Geltner, Ted. "Embedded in the Gulf: On the Ground with the Boys of Company C," Association of Educators in Journalism and Mass Communications National Convention, August 2011.

Geltner, Ted. "Hype Artists, Con Men, Pimps, and Dopesters: The Personal Journalism of Harry Crews," Association of Educators in Journalism and Mass Communications National Convention, August 2010.

Geltner, Ted. "Take the Magazine Eliminator Challenge," Great Ideas for Teachers, Finalist, Community College Journalism Association and Small Programs Interest Group, Association of Educators in Journalism and Mass Communication, 2010.

Geltner, Ted & Saliba, K. Poverty and the Media: "How and Why Journalists Cover the Plight of the Poor," Association of Educators in Journalism and Mass Communications, Southeast Colloquium, March 2007. This paper was awarded first place among student papers presented at conference.

Bulla, D. & Geltner, Ted. "Jim Murray at Sports Illustrated: The Development of the King of Sports Columnists," Association of Educators in Journalism and Mass Communications National Convention, August 2007.

Geltner, Ted, "Dan Jenkins and Literary Journalism in Sports," Association of Educators in Journalism and Mass Communications, Southeast Colloquium, Auburn, Ala., March 2008.

Geltner, Jill & Geltner, Ted. (2007). School Counseling in the Media: Promoting School Counseling Programs. Florida School Counseling Association Newsletter, March, 13-16.

Geltner, Jill & Geltner, Ted. "Publicizing School Counseling Beyond Your School," Florida School Counseling Association Annual Conference, Daytona Beach, Fla., Nov. 2007.

## Presentations

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"Choosing Your Subject: Balancing Viability with Passion," Geltner, Ted, Biographers International Organization Conference, New York, May 2013.

"The Access Game: Covering College Athletics," Geltner, T., College Media Advisers national conference, New York City, October, 2012.

"Choosing Your Subject with the Market in Mind," Geltner, Ted, Biographers International Organization Conference, Los Angeles, May 2012.

"Jim Murray and Sports Journalism History," Geltner, T., University of Florida, Sports, Media & Society, March 2011.

“Building a Successful Sports Section, Geltner, T., and Rosdahl, N., College Media Advisers national conference, New York City, March 2011.

“Starting from Scratch . . . Scratching an Itch: How to Start and Maintain an Online Magazine as a Stand-Alone or Newspaper Complement,” College Media Association National Convention, October 2009, Miller, P. & Geltner, T.

“Arts and Entertainment Coverage for Local Media,” Covering the Arts, Instructor: Dr. Johanna Cleary, January 2007, Geltner, T. & Schlenker, D.

“Starting Out in Journalism,” University of Florida Society of Professional Journalists, September 2007, Geltner, T.

“Feature Writing in Newspapers and Magazines,” Florida Student Magazine Association, January, 2007, Geltner, T.

“Getting Started in Newspapers,” University of Florida Society of Professional Journalists, October, 2008, Geltner, T.

## Professional Development

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Teachapalooza: The Poynter Educators Conference, Poynter Institute, St. Petersburg, Fla., July 2011. Teaching and technology conference covering visual journalism, media industry trends, the role of social media in journalism, engaging students in technology and the latest in video technology and interactive graphic design.

Quality Matters Peer Reviewer's Course, Quality Matters On-Line Education, Annapolis, Md., May, 2011. The Peer Reviewer Course includes a review of Quality Matters, practice critiquing and writing helpful recommendations, and a Practice Review in which the participants are asked to review specific standards in an online course using a simulated online rubric tool

Sports Journalism Course. Designed and developed a sports journalism course to be implemented and added to the Valdosta State University English Department, journalism program course catalog Fall, 2012.

## Professional Awards

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Finalist, 49th Annual Georgia Author of the Year Awards, Biography, *Last King of the Sports Page: The Life and Career of Jim Murray*

Honored with various journalism awards from the Sunshine State Society of Professional Journalists, the Florida Press Club Awards, the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association, the New York Times Regional Newspapers and others

Member, Kappa Tau Alpha, National Honor Society, Journalism and Mass Communications

## Grants

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Faculty Research Seed Grant, Valdosta State University, Jim Murray Biography project, Fall 2011.

Faculty Development Grants, Valdosta State University, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013: Awarded for professional presentation.

eTuition Course Development Grant, Valdosta State University, May 2011. Funding to develop and design “Literature and Journalism” as a fully on-line course for the VSU Course Catalog.

eTuition Course Development Grant, Valdosta State University, May 2010. Funding to develop and design “Ethics and the Media” as a fully on-line course for the VSU Course Catalog.

Selected to attend the 2007 Ted Scripps Leadership Institute, Society of Professional Journalists, Indianapolis, Ind. This is a training program consisting of seminars, discussions and networking sessions. The institute examines SPJ's history and its ongoing missions, and prepares attendees for assuming the role of president for SPJ's chapters.

## Service

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**Member, Program Committee**, Biographers International Organization, 2012-present.

**Member, Site Selection Committee**, Biographers International Organization, 2012- present.

**Founding member**, North Central Florida Chapter of Society of Professional Journalists, 2005. The chapter was launched in 2005 and currently has 30 members, an annual journalism contest and awards banquet, and regularly hosts journalism events for area professionals and students.

**President**, North Central Florida Chapter of Society of Professional Journalists, 2007-2008. Responsibilities include planning and coordinating events, recruitment efforts and chapter organization.

**Board member**, North Central Florida Chapter of Society of Professional Journalists, 2005-present. I have served on the board of the organization since its inception and have chaired chapter's Event Committee.

**Conference Director**, Society of Professional Journalist Annual Regional Conference, March 2007. In this capacity, I planned and managed a two-day event for professional and student journalists from Alabama, Florida, South Carolina and Georgia. The conference featured 15 journalism workshops and various social and professional networking events and was attended by more than 100 journalists.

**Judge**, Florida Community College Association, statewide public relations contest for organization, November, 2005.

**Judge**, 28th Annual Best in Indiana Journalism Contest, sponsored by Indiana Professional Chapter of Society of Professional Journalists, February 2007.

**Organizer**, Scholastic Superstar Program, Times-Tribune Company, 2002-2003. I planned and oversaw a region-wide high school awards program that honored outstanding academic performers.

**Instructor**, Leadership Ocala, 1998-2000. Responsibilities included teaching students and professionals journalism skills and ethics as part of community-based leadership program.

**Instructor**, Junior Achievement, 1997. Volunteered in middle school classrooms, teaching career advice teaching lessons on real world skills such as interviewing and home finances.

**Volunteer**, Big Brother/Big Sister, 1993-95. Mentored to elementary-age child, as well as assisted in fund-raising events for organization.

## References

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Furnished upon request