

# **Zoom in a student-run newsroom**

**Research by: LaPorsche Thomas**

# RESEARCH QUESTION:

How does Zoom integration currently impact the learning/ teaching experience in student run newsrooms?

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# Methodology

- **Participant:** Yvonee
- **Participant's race/ age/ gender:** White/ women/ 65
- **Participant's profession:** Journalism professor for 8 years/ former network practicing journalist & executive for 30 years
- **Relationship:** She is one of my former professors.
- **Interview/ data collected:** Zoom recording
- **Data Analysis:** I used my journalism skills to really analyze what she said during my first relisten. During my second listen, I thought about it through my version of the lens of an educator to better understand her responses.

# FINDINGS | Difficulties

Will it ever go back to the way it was/ does it need to?

- Students moving away from the Zoom culture back into a traditional newsrooms
  - Students making people who are more comfortable with Zoom interviews transfer back to in-person interviews
  - Will people continue to be okay with Zoom style scenery
  - What will encourage students to meet in person
  - Not to over create to keep the authenticity of a story
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# FINDINGS | Successes

It allowed the newsroom to explore creativity.

- Much of the process was still the same. The students still had to do research, find the interviewee, fact check
  - It allowed for creative digital product come out of it
  - The change was already occurring so the pandemic and having to use technology like Zoom helped it for the more “traditional aged” viewer
  - Learn what software is out there to design better graphic when you can't get b-roll video
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# FINDINGS | Advice

Yvonne's advice to other journalism teachers

- Stay engaged with all sectors of the industry
  - Stay engaged with audience research and how they respond to these new “disruptors” and how they consume and interact with the content
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# CONNECTIONS TO CLASS VS PERSONAL TAKEAWAYS

- TRENDS AND ISSUES IN TECH | There is a sense that students already know how to use the pieces of technology through informal training. Students are not receiving formal Zoom etiquette training, because it hasn't been established. Reiser, R. A (2007)
- THE DIGITAL AGE | The rapid pace of technological development that T. Bates mentioned is seen in the student/teachers daily lives through the Zoom technology updates
- She believes it is too soon to know the impact Zoom student-run newsroom will have on students in the profession
- The pandemic showed educators that they must stay engaged and up-to-date with technological advances such as Zoom so students can be led in the space
- Her question: Will the audience want Zoom to be the primary way interviewees are ran to hold on or gain some agency and take up space in the technological world
- Through the lens of technological determinism, zoom has shifted the access to media makers. Will it last?
- She has seen a slew of change in the industry during her 40 years. Her life in journalism has been nothing but change.

# CONCLUSION

- Zoom has impacted student-run newsrooms for teachers, students, viewers and participants.
  - Change is coming anyway.
- “Technology is water on a rock. If you want to be the rock, you’re just going to get dwindled away. so you have to lean into it.”
  - “Be a little uncomfortable.”
    - -Yvonne