

| UOSoJo |

Objectives: Students will be introduced to Solutions Journalism and begin their initial inquiry of it; students will learn about the Four Qualities and practice analyzing for them in advance of take-home Finding the Four Qualities assignment.

Introduction to SoJo

35 minutes

Instructor gives big picture overview (including civic journalism, that this is a practice not movement, something that hints at changing audiences and disruption of industry) via direct instruction. Includes comparison of Seeking Safety and Crime in Chicagoland with quick intro to frame theory. Lecture ends with BYU explainer video.

Think/Puzzle/Explore

30 minutes

Following the video, have students answer think/puzzle/explore questions about SoJo in Discussion on Canvas (learning management system). (The questions: Following the video what do you know about SoJo? What questions or puzzles do you have about SoJo? What do you want to explore about SoJo?) Students then discuss their questions in triads using Think/Pair/Share inquiry strategy. This exercise helps “activate prior knowledge, generate ideas and curiosity and sets the stage for deeper inquiry.” (FYI, the explore question – “What do you want to explore about SoJo? – will be expanded upon later in the term in students’ final reflection pieces.)

Introducing the Four Qualities

20 minutes

Instructor shares “It’s solutions journalism if it...” slide with following words highlighted (response and how, evidence and effectiveness, insights, limitations and puff piece). Students read “Hawaii’s Trailblazing Healthcare...” with instructions to seek out the Four Qualities. Instructor then models finding evidence of all of the qualities.

Guided Practice on the Four Qualities

20 minutes

In groups of four, students assess a Seeking Safety story for the Four Qualities (15 minutes). At least one group presents its findings to the other groups with instructor feedback.