

A UNC professor spoke about her experience with the greatest job in the world.

Lynn Klyde-Silverstein, assistant professor of journalism and mass communications, spoke about being a reporter to her students this week online.

Klyde-Silverstein has a bachelor's in journalism and history from Indiana University, a master's in journalism from University of North Carolina and a doctorate in journalism from Ohio University. She has worked as a copy editor, sports correspondent and editorial chief of staff. She also teaches classes within the journalism major.

"If you're the kind of reporter I am," Klyde-Silverstein said, "You don't write to live, you live to write."

Klyde-Silverstein shared her views on how writing is important within the life of a reporter.

"Writing is fun, it's therapeutic, it's emotional, it's good for the soul, and it's great for the ego," Klyde-Silverstein said.

She spoke about reporters' egos being a big deal in their work whether it is good or bad.

"We've all written bad stories. In the journalism business it's called 'mailing it in,'" Klyde-Silverstein said.

"Mailing it in" is the term used by the journalism community when the preparation and motivation fall short of what is necessary to write a good article.

Klyde-Silverstein talked much about asking questions and always having the curiosity to find a story. Every question for every story is worth it because "seeing your name above a great story is always a thrill."

In all writing there is inspiration and for journalists some of that has to come from those they interview.

"As a reporter telling these stories you can't help but be touched, by the sorrow, the tragedy, but also the humor, the strength, the person who finds hope when there was none," Klyde-Silverstein said.

Klyde-Silverstein has had a long history in the journalism field. She knows how much effort it takes to write a good story and also knows the rewards of the hard work put into an article. She definitely has a passion for her career and it shines through in her speaking.

"When you see your name above a story in the paper, wow," Klyde-Silverstein said, "seeing that story in print, knowing how hard you worked is its own reward."