

Journalism

Curriculum Design

**Prepared by Gina Alven
June 2007**

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Journalism A

Grades	Credits	Weeks per MP	Course Length
	2.5	8	Half Year
Prerequisites			
Textbooks			
Date Developed	06/22/07		
Date Revised	MM-DD-YYYY		

Program Description:

Journalism is a one semester 2.5 credit elective course open to tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade students. The course is designed to introduce students to the art of developing, interviewing for, and writing of print media, particularly newspapers and magazines. The course will address all aspects of print media, especially the writing styles unique to newspapers and magazines. Units of study covered by the course will include law and ethics and the press, styles of writing for newspapers (inverted triangle format), writing the news, headlining, interviewing, writing editorials, sports, entertainment, and feature stories, planning, and publishing a class and school newspaper.

Program Purpose:

The Journalism course will address the following goals and purposes:

- to examine the use of the newspaper
- to understand what constitutes good news reporting
- to learn the aspects of interviewing
- to recognize the use of persuasive writing
- to develop the technique of writing good headlines
- to recognize the aspects of good news writing
- to learn the varied writing techniques unique in news writing
- to promote accuracy in writing
- to promote accuracy in grammar and punctuation
- to understand the construction of scholastic journalism
- to recognize bias in the media
- to understand how the news media disseminate information
- to recognize the rights and responsibilities of the student journalist

See Outline of Course

See Curriculum Map

See State Standard Grid

Journalism (A): Outline of Course

I. What is Journalism?

A. Purpose of Journalism September

1. What is Journalism?
2. Reading a Newspaper

B. Purpose of Scholastic Journalism September

1. Scholastic Journalism

C. Types of Journalism September

1. Varieties and Styles of Journalistic Writing
2. Journalism Terms and Vocab

D. History of Journalism September

1. Early News Reporting
2. Use of the Newspaper during Wartime

II. News Law and Ethics

A. Freedom of the Press and Its Limitations, and First Amendment Rights September

1. Freedom of the Press

B. Libel, Slander, and Privacy Rights September

C. The Reporter's Objectivity September

D. Restrictions in Student News Publications November

III. Planning Your Publication

A. Understanding the Print Program September

B. Developing a Layout September

C. Typesetting and Formatting September

D. Student Newspaper Content September

E. Advertising September

IV. Fundamentals of Newswriting

A. Making News Interesting October

B. Six News Questions October

C. Writing Strong Story Leads October

V. Writing the News: Story Types and Techniques

A. Inverted Pyramid Format October

B. Using and Attributing Quotations October

C. Using Transitions October

D. Identifying Important Facts October

E. Writing Strong Paragraphs October

VI. Brainstorming Ideas and Writing Stories

A. Brainstorming for Story Ideas October

VII. Developing Feature Stories

A. Using the Best Words to Create a Picture October

B. Adding Details October

C. Great Leads October

D. Summarizing October

VIII. In the Field: The Techniques of Interviewing

A. The 3 Rs of Journalism October

B. Sources for Story Ideas October

C. Researching the Story October

D. Interviewing Techniques October

IX. Writing for Fun

A. Sports Writing November

B. Entertainment Writing: Movies, Music, Theater November

C. Book Reviews November

X. The Editorial

A. Types Of Editorials November

B. Writing Strong Editorials November

C. Variety in Writing Editorials November

XI. Making Headlines

A. Importance of the Headline December

B. Writing Appropriate Headlines December

C. Simple Techniques for Making Headlines December

XII. Editing Stories

A. Editing and Proofreading December

B. Structure and Content of a Story December

C. A Plan for Editing December

XIII. Planning and Developing a Class Paper Project

A. Use of Photojournalism December

B. Editorial Cartoons December

C. A Guideline the News Staff January

D. Assigning Stories December

E. Production Schedules December

F. Organizational Charts January

G. Developing a Class Paper January

Course Map for Journalism A

Month	Major Unit	Instructional Unit
<u>September</u>	What is Journalism? News Law and Ethics Planning Your Publication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose of Journalism • Purpose of Scholastic Journalism • Types of Journalism • History of Journalism • Freedom of the Press and Its Limitations, and First Amendment Rights • Libel, Slander, and Privacy Rights • The Reporter's Objectivity • Understanding the Print Program • Developing a Layout • Typesetting and Formatting • Student Newspaper Content • Advertising
<u>October</u>	Fundamentals of Newswriting Writing the News: Story Types and Techniques Brainstorming Ideas and Writing Stories Developing Feature Stories In the Field: The Techniques of Interviewing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making News Interesting • Six News Questions • Writing Strong Story Leads • Inverted Pyramid Format • Using and Attributing Quotations • Using Transitions • Identifying Important Facts • Writing Strong Paragraphs • Brainstorming for Story Ideas • Using the Best Words to Create a Picture • Adding Details • Great Leads • Summarizing • The 3 Rs of Journalism • Sources for Story Ideas • Researching the Story • Interviewing Techniques
<u>November</u>	Writing for Fun What's Your Opinion? The Editorial The Editorial News Law and Ethics The Editorial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports Writing • Entertainment Writing: Movies, Music, Theater • Book Reviews • Types Of Editorials • Writing Effective Editorials • Variety in Writing Editorials • Types Of Editorials • Writing Effective Editorials • Variety in Writing Editorials • Types Of Editorials • Writing Strong Editorials • Restrictions in Student News Publications • Variety in Writing Editorials
<u>December</u>	Editing Stories Making Headlines Planning and Developing a Class Paper Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Editing and Proofreading • Structure and Content of a Story • A Plan for Editing • Importance of the Headline • Writing Appropriate Headlines • Simple Techniques for Making Headlines

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use of Photojournalism• Editorial Cartoons• Assigning Stories• Production Schedules		
<u>January</u>	Planning and Developing a Class Paper Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organizational Charts• A Guideline the News Staff• Developing a Class Paper
<u>February</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
<u>March</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
<u>April</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
<u>May</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
<u>June</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none">•