

Introduction to Journalism

Course outline and expectations

Introduction to Journalism is a 2-semester course that provides an overview of the mass media.

First semester

History of the Press, Law and Ethics, News Reporting/interviewing, News/feature Writing, Editing/Headlines/Caption writing, Photography 1 (composition/photojournalism), PhotoShop 1, PageMaker 1, YB overview/ Design

Final: making a yearbook spread (will require at least one day after school)

Second semester

Advertising/PR, Radio/TV/Film, Editorial/column/review writing, PageMaker 2, PhotoShop2, Illustrator, Sportswriting, Infographics, Photography 2 (darkroom and digital), NP Design

Final: creating a newspaper (will require at least one day after school)

To the future journalist and parent:

This course will be as exciting as you want it to be! I guarantee that **you will be a better writer** in the next nine weeks and you will start looking at the world differently.

You will be encouraged to THINK BIG. You'll have the opportunity to step out of your comfort zone on a few assignments—from getting interviews with a famous celebrity to presenting projects in front of the class.

The class is like the old adage that says, "If you don't like Indiana weather, just wait a minute and it will change." If you aren't particularly interested in a unit, the next one is right around the corner.

Attendance isn't optional. Since we change subjects so quickly and new information is given daily that might not be in your book, please schedule an appointment for Academic Lab or after school.

Journaling will be emphasized, as are other continuing assignments to make you a better journalist through observation, quick-thinking and descriptive writing.

Current events will be discussed and journaled about. Watch your local news or read the paper regularly.

Grammar will not be taught specifically, but if the same error consistently appears in your writing, you will find yourself practicing in that area.

No Tests! This class is unlike many you've been in before. What you learn one day will be applied the next. There will be no test over the information. Even the two final exams are final projects that show what you've learned. And WILL BE PUBLISHED!

Deadlines will be strictly enforced. For most of the projects and articles, you will earn two grades: one for simply making deadline and another for the actual assignment. DON'T GET BEHIND and look to improve and you'll do fine in here.

Grading is somewhat subjective, and usually I can tell how much work you put into an assignment. I often grade on improvement and give you chances to rewrite.

I am around most days after school, should you need any help.

My hope for you is that you will attain a self-motivation to be a life-long observer, writer and thinker.

Miss Conti

Things you'll need for this class.

- A binder with pockets with sections KEEP YOURSELF ORGANIZED
- Paper and pen/pencil EVERY DAY
- Markers and art supplies as needed for various projects
- Photo needs

Photography

By October 18, you will need to have a 35mm camera that can be a point and shoot, and at least one 24-exposure color roll of film. (You will get 2 rolls of B/W and photo paper in class.)

Feel free to contact me or leave a message.

Miss Chris Conti, Journalism

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Journalism Curriculum

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By the end of this one year course, students will be able to:

- Write and speak for a variety of purposes.
- Write clear, concise, precise, correct sentences.
- Report and interview effectively.
- Write quality news, feature, and sports stories.
- Research and write editorials.
- Research and formulate information for a debate.
- Know their press rights and ethical considerations.
- Evaluate broadcast and print coverage.
- Write for broadcast media.
- Review films and other media.
- Edit their own work and work from peers.
- Write effective headlines and captions.
- Develop a successful advertising campaign.
- Sell and create advertisements.
- Shoot photos that are graphically pleasing and tell a story.
- Develop photos in the darkroom.
- Take digital photos and download them.
- Use a photo editing software to correct photos.
- Use a drawing software to create informational graphics.
- Use a desktop publishing software to design a newspaper page and a yearbook spread.
- Write, photograph, and design for publication.

TopicDays

First semester

History of the Press	2
Law and Ethics.....	4
News Reporting/interviewing.....	4
News/feature Writing	10
Editing/Headlines/Caption writing.....	3
Photography 1 (composition/photojournalism).....	5
PhotoShop 1.....	1
PageMaker 1	4
YB overview/ Design.....	7
Final: making a YB spread that will be published	

Second semester

Advertising/PR.....	6
Radio/TV/Film	8
Editorial/column/review writing	7
PageMaker 2	2
PhotoShop 2.....	2
Illustrator.....	2
Sports writing.....	3
Infographics.....	2
Photography 2 (darkroom and digital)	10
NP Design.....	5

Final: creating a newspaper that will be published

Topic.....Days

First semester

History of the Press2
Law and Ethics4
News Reporting/interviewing4
News/feature Writing 10
Editing/Headlines/Caption writing3
Photography 1 (composition photoj).....5
PhotoShop 1 1
PageMaker 14
YB overview/ Design7
Final: making a YB spread

Second semester

Advertising/PR6
Radio/TV/Film8
Editorial/column/review writing.....7
PageMaker 22
PhotoShop 2.....2
Illustrator2
Sports writing3
Infographics.....2
Photography 2 (darkroom and digital) 10
NP Design.....5
Final: creating a newspaper