



## **Journalism**

### **Semester A Summary:**

This is the first of two courses that comprise Journalism. In this course, the student will have the opportunity to experience what it is like to work on an online news publication. In addition, he will learn about issues in journalism from early print editions to today's multi-media formats. In addition, lessons in "Introduction to Journalism" in the first semester and "Issues in Journalism" in the second semester will satisfy the objectives of a traditional high school journalism class.

### **Semester A Outline**

#### **1. The Guidelines of Good Journalism**

1. Using Guidelines and the Writing Process
  - Identify and explain the five steps of the news writing process
  - Write a time management plan for meeting deadlines
  - Identify passive verbs in sentences
  - Recommend revisions of those sentences using active verbs
  - Predict which guidelines will be the most challenging
2. Using Quotations
  - Learn how to paraphrase and summarize
  - Learn to attribute quotations accurately
  - Comprehend the seriousness of plagiarizing
3. Validating Sources and Copyrights
  - Learn the most common reasons for litigation against reporters and publishers
  - Evaluate the credibility of the web sites when reporting
  - Understand the importance of documenting sources

#### **2. Learning the Process**

1. Brainstorming for Ideas and Sources
  - Read four Internet articles providing story ideas and sources
  - Compile a list of 10 story ideas that would be interesting to a teen audience
  - For one of these ideas, brainstorm and create three sources
2. Observations, Interviews, and Surveys
  - Make a list of interesting polls from the past and present
  - Take an interactive quiz on public opinion and comment on the results
  - Read about the design of surveys
  - Set up your own survey using the first three of four required steps
  - Identify observation skills for good journalism
  - Read three Internet advice articles about interviewing and set up interview questions
3. Creating Innovative Beginnings
  - Learn about different types of leads
  - "Discover" leads of your own in online publications
  - Classify those leads by type

### **3. News Writing**

1. Evaluating the Criteria
  - Examine the criteria for news writing
  - Select a news story from an online publication
  - Use the criteria to evaluate the story
2. Brainstorming Topics
  - Brainstorm for story ideas and sources
  - Select two story ideas
  - Identify the story angle and sources for each
3. Gathering/Organizing Notes
  - Research your sources
  - Organize notes and sources
  - Record notes and sources
4. Writing the First Draft(s)
  - Review the strategies and purposes for writing different types of leads
  - Compose a lead for each of your stories
  - Compose first drafts for each story
  - Edit the first drafts for errors
5. Practice in Copyediting
  - Review language and style rules
  - Complete the enrichment activity
6. News Writing: Rewriting the Final Draft
  - Review feedback from instructors and editors
  - Prepare final rewrites of your two stories for publishing
  - Observe rules of copyediting and criteria of the feature story

### **4. Feature Writing**

1. Evaluating the Criteria
  - Examine the criteria for feature writing
  - Select a feature story from an online publication
  - Use the criteria to evaluate the story
2. Brainstorming Topics
  - Brainstorm for story ideas and sources
  - Select two story ideas
  - Identify the story angle and sources for each
3. Gathering/Organizing Notes
  - Research your sources
  - Organize notes and sources
  - Record notes and sources
4. Writing the First Draft(s)
  - Review the strategies and purposes for writing different types of leads
  - Compose a lead for each of your stories
  - Compose first drafts for each story
  - Edit the first drafts for errors
5. Practice in Copyediting
  - Review language and style rules
  - Complete the enrichment activity
6. Feature Writing: Rewriting the Final Draft
  - Review feedback from instructors and editors
  - Prepare final rewrites of your two stories for publishing
  - Observe rules of copyediting and criteria of the feature story

### **5. Sports Writing**

1. Evaluating the Criteria

- Examine the criteria for sports writing
  - Select a sports story from an online publication
  - Use the criteria to evaluate the story for sports news or sports features
2. Brainstorming Topics
    - Brainstorm for story ideas and sources
    - Select two story ideas
    - Identify the story angle and sources for each
  3. Gathering/Organizing Notes
    - Research your sources
    - Organize notes and sources
    - Record notes and sources
  4. Writing the First Draft(s)
    - Review the strategies and purposes for writing different types of leads
    - Compose a lead for each of your stories
    - Compose first drafts for each story using the inverted pyramid style
  5. Practice in Copyediting
    - Review language and style rules
    - Sharpen understanding of pronoun agreement
    - Complete remedial practice drills
  6. Sports Writing: Rewriting the Final Draft
- 6. Journalism A Review and Final Exam**
1. Journalism A Final Review
  2. Journalism A Final Exam

## **Semester B Summary:**

This is the second of two courses that comprise Journalism. In this course, the student will have the opportunity to experience what it is like to work on an online news publication. In addition, he will learn about issues in journalism from early print editions to today's multi-media formats. In addition, lessons in "Introduction to Journalism" in the first semester and "Issues in Journalism" in the second semester will satisfy the objectives of a traditional high school journalism class.

## **Semester B Outline**

### **1. Evolution in Journalism**

1. Yellow Journalism
  - Understand the evolution of competitive journalism
  - Analyze the motives of William Randolph Hearst
  - Explain how yellow journalism shaped the Spanish-American War
2. Pulitzer Prize
  - Compare and contrast the methods of William Randolph Hearst and Joseph Pulitzer
  - Analyze the motives of Joseph Pulitzer
  - Identify the ways Joseph Pulitzer impacted journalism
3. Power of the Media
  - Define media
  - Identify ways media changed in the 20th Century
  - Explain how television affected the habits and opinions of the American family
  - Learn how new forms of media have changed journalism
  - Analyze how the Internet has impacted the power of media

## 2. Journalism in the World Today

### 1. Media and War

- Compare and contrast effects of wartime press coverage
- Evaluate whether particular wartime press coverage was positive or negative

### 2. Media and Politics

- Complete a module organizer
- Compare and contrast effects of political press coverage
- Analyze whether press coverage was positive or negative

### 3. Freedom of the Press

- Examine the right to freedom of the press ensured by the U.S. Constitution
- Compare American press freedom to that of journalists in other countries
- Compare and contrast the lack of human rights with the lack of freedom of the press in certain countries
- Complete a module organizer
- Write a short summary analyzing the absence of a free press on the human rights of citizens

## 3. Review Writing

### 1. Evaluating the Criteria

- Examine the criteria for review writing
- Select a review from an online publication
- Evaluate the review using the criteria

### 2. Brainstorming Topics

- Brainstorm for story ideas and sources
- Narrow choices and select two story ideas
- Identify the story angle, plus three primary and two secondary sources for each
- Research sources
- Organize notes and sources
- Record notes and sources

### 3. Gathering/Organizing Notes

### 4. Writing the First Draft(s)

- Review the strategies and purposes for writing different types of leads
- Compose the lead for each story
- Write the first draft of a story using inverted pyramid technique
- Revise the first draft for errors

### 5. Copyediting

- Review language and style rules
- Consider language and style concerns
- Assess the relevance of rules of grammar and style

### 6. Review Writing: Rewriting the Final Draft

- Analyze feedback from instructors and editors
- Observe rules of copyediting
- Develop final rewrites of two stories for publishing

## 4. Opinion Writing (Op-eds)

### 1. Evaluating the Criteria

- Learn Aristotle's three fundamentals of persuasive speech
- Analyze the criteria for opinion writing
- Select an op-ed from an online publication
- Evaluate the op-ed using the criteria

### 2. Brainstorming Topics

- Assess a story for ideas and sources
- Select two story ideas

- Identify the story angle
3. Gathering/Organizing Notes
    - Recognize three primary and two secondary sources for each
    - Research sources
    - Organize and record notes and sources
  4. Writing First Draft(s)
    - Review the strategies and purposes for writing different types of leads
    - Develop the lead for your op-ed piece
    - Compose the first draft of your op-ed piece using the criteria you have learned
    - Revise the first draft for errors
  5. Copyediting
    - Review language and style rules
    - Consider language and style concerns
    - Assess the relevance of rules of most often confused word choices
    - Remember rules of copyediting and criteria of opinion writing
  6. Opinion Writing: Rewriting the Final Draft
- 5. Copy and Design**
1. The Role of the Editor
    - Consider the role of the editor
    - Complete your own personal list of objectives and responsibilities of an editor
    - Select three publications to evaluate
    - Assess good and bad examples for each of the criteria
  2. Planning the Issue
    - Assess planning an issue
    - Formulate ideas for focus, angles, possible themes, sources, and images
  3. Media Design and Images
    - Consider media design and images
    - Assess a variety of "layers" that add interest and readability to a text
    - Create an organizer for your writers' stories
    - Review a storytelling form
  4. Copyediting
    - Assess standard copy-editing notations
    - Learn more editing tools
  5. Providing Feedback
    - Assess more writing tools
    - Practice editing skills
  6. Setting Up the Paper
    - Learn the criteria for headlines and captions
- 6. Journalism B Final Exam and Review**
1. Journalism B Final Exam Review
  2. Journalism B Final Exam