



Course Name: Journalism 8

In this 9-week course, students will learn and develop the skills to critically analyze the news and practice the basics of news production.

Contact Information

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How students will be graded on academics

Grade	Percent Range
A	90 - 100
B	80 - 89
C	79 - 70
D	69 - 60
F	50

- If a student has Insufficient Evidence marked for any of the standards at the end of the semester/course a student may receive a failing grade. Students will be given an opportunity to submit evidence for two weeks following a unit of study.
- However, if the student does not provide required evidence, they will be entered into standard recovery during the summer to complete the necessary work to receive a credit for the course.
- **All assessments are required to pass the course.**

Reporting Learning Behaviors

- Grades are based solely on achievement of standards. Non-academic indicators, such as behavior, are essential but communicated separately.

Performance Levels for reporting learning behaviors:

- MET = Meeting
- PRG = Progressing
- BEG = Beginning



Assessment Information

- Students will be assessed for their abilities to identify pieces of information and concepts within news stories.
- Students will write a news story in an area of their choosing. Proper formatting and style will also be assessed

Units of Instruction

Unit 1: Newsworthiness and Bias - What is journalism and news in our lives and bias in the news

Unit 2: Different Types of News - Different types of news for different audiences and purposes

Unit 3: Parts of a News Story - A news story has different parts that help report the topic

Unit 4: Putting it all together - Students will select a newsworthy topic and write a news story

Unit 5: Multimedia in the News - Different types of media help report the news

Course Priority Standards

- **Reading**
 - RI.8.2: Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary of the text.
 - RI.8.6: Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author acknowledges and responds to conflicting evidence or viewpoints.
- **Writing**
 - W.8.10: Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.
 - W.8.4: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- **Speaking and Listening**
 - SL.8.1: Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 8 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
 - a. Come to discussions prepared, having read or researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion.
 - b. Follow rules for collegial discussions and decision-making, track progress toward specific goals and deadlines, and define individual roles as needed