

Journalism

Grade Level: 12 Semester Elective: ½ Credit

Journalism is a one-semester senior elective that is designed to explore this dynamic field and profession. Freedom of the press and its position in today's world provide the context for exploring ethical issues, the use of propaganda, and media biases. Students learn to write news articles, features, and editorials, and they are encouraged to submit articles to Spectrum, the Nyack HS student newspaper, for publication. Students are expected to read a variety of news publications and analyze articles for structure, content, press functions, bias, and news elements.

How is the course structured?

Course Components

- Reading Fiction and Non-Fiction Texts, Questioning Techniques for Productive Discussion, Annotating Texts for Central Idea, Analysis and Evaluation, Research, Language Interpretation and Analysis, Steps of the Writing Process, Writing Analysis, Narrative, and Argument Essays

Course Grade Based On:

- Participation in Discussion, Individual and Small Group Activities, Daily Writing and Note-Taking, Projects, Research, Essay Writing in a Variety of Modes

What can I expect?

Course Workload:

- Active participation in class is necessary for success. Students will learn about the parts of a newspaper, the journalism profession, journalistic laws and ethics, types of writing, the "inverted pyramid," how newsrooms work, newswriting basics, digital journalism. Students will be reading from the digital newspapers (New York Times, Wall St. Journal, Washington Post), among others..

Homework Frequency:

- Homework is only for work that cannot be completed in class.

Type of Homework:

- Finishing written assignments that are not completed in class.

Major Projects:

- Personality Profile, News Article, Feature Article, Opinion Piece, Argument Piece

Text Titles May Include:

- .*Inside Reporting. A Practical Guide to the Craft of Journalism.Third Ed.* Harrower