

#180 JOURNALISM

GRADES: 11 AND 12

LEVEL: LEVEL 1 AND LEVEL 2

CREDITS: 5

PREREQUISITES: NONE

BASIC TEXT: JOURNALISM TODAY

SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS:

MAKING NEWS, WRITER'S INC., WRITER'S SOLUTION, RADICAL WRITER, HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM, GETTING STARTED IN JOURNALISM, UNDERSTANDING AND CREATING EDITORIAL CARTOONS, PROPAGANDA GAME, 50 JOURNALISM SKILL BUILDERS

REQUIRED MATERIALS: Reporter's notebook, blue or black pen, red pen, class notebook

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed for students to experience all aspects of the journalistic process from the birth and cultivation of an idea to a full-fledged news article in publishable form. Students will learn reporting and interviewing techniques, how to write feature, news and sports articles, as well as editorials and reviews. The history and ethics behind journalism will also be studied. Writing and revision are the main focus of this course. The Tewksbury Times will be published every two to three weeks during the semester. Anyone interested in a career in communications, journalism or publishing should consider taking this course.

MISSION RELATED GOALS:

- Academic Excellence
- Intellectual Curiosity
- Respect for Others
- Self-confidence
- Communication Skills
- Problem Solving Skills

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS FOR LEARNING:

- 1 – Communicates effectively
- 2 – Solve complex problems
- 3 – Work with others toward a common goal
- 4 – Contribute to the community and the global society
- 5 – Respect the rights of others

GENERAL PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES:

1. Students will understand the history of Journalism
2. Students will understand the fundamental concepts of Journalism
3. Students will develop an understanding of the qualities of a reporter
4. Students will become reporters and exercise interviewing techniques
5. Students will write articles for the *Tewksbury Times*
6. Students will utilize editing skills to peer edit articles
7. Students will run the class as a newspaper staff and be able to perform all staff jobs
8. Students will publish the *Tewksbury Times* each month

MASSACHUSETTS FRAMEWORK STRANDS: Language, Reading and Literature, Composition, Media

CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK STANDARDS:

Language Strand:

Standard 1 – Discussion

Standard 2 – Questioning, Listening, and Contributing

Standard 6 – Formal and Informal English

Reading and Literature Strand:

Standard 9 – Making Connections

Standard 10 – Genre

Composition Strand:

Standard 20 – Consideration of Audience and Purpose

Standard 21 – Revising

Standard 22 – Standard English Conventions

Standard 23 – Organizing Ideas in Writing

Standard 24 – Research

Standard 25 – Evaluating Writing and Presentations

Media Strand:

Standard 26 – Analysis of Media

Standard 27 – Media Production

Standard 28 – Media Design and Evaluation

UNITS AND THEMES:

- I. Journalism of Democracy (1 week) Standards: 2,6,19-27,28
- II. Gathering the News (1 week) Standards 2, 19-16, 28
- III. Writing the News (1 week) Standards 9, 19-16, 28
- IV. Writing features, sports and editorials (1 week) Standards 9, 19-26, 28
- V. Producing the School Newspaper (1 week) Standards: 9, 19-26, 28
- VI. Beyond the Newspaper (1 week) Standards 9, 19-26, 28
- VII. Understanding the Technology (1 week) Standards 9, 19-25, 28

COURSE OUTLINE:

I. Journalism of Democracy

- A. The History of American Media
- B. The Responsibilities of the Media

II. Gathering the News

- A. What is News?
- B. News Organizations and Sources
- C. Making the Interview Work

III. Writing the News

- A. Writing news story leads
- B. Writing news stories
- C. Handling quotes fairly and accurately

IV. Writing features, sports and editorials

- A. In-depth reporting
- B. Writing Feature Stories
- C. Writing Sports Stories
- D. Writing Editorial Page

V. Producing the School Newspaper

- A. Editing and Layout
- B. Using Photographs Effectively
- C. Business and Advertising

VI. Beyond the Newspaper

- A. The Yearbook
- B. Broadcasting
- C. Student School Bureau

VII. Understanding the Technology

- A. Taking, Developing and Printing Photographs
- B. The New technology of Publishing

SUGGESTED INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES:

Group work
Peer-Editing
Lecture
Hands-on creation of newsletter

SUGGESTED INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES:

Students will work with the media class when completing the interview project.
Students will collaborate with the art department when creating visuals for the newsletter.
Students sell the *Tewksbury Times* at the high school and some of the profits will be donated to a charity.

USE OF TOOLS / TECHNOLOGY:

Microsoft Word
Microsoft Publish

ASSESSMENT TECHNIQUES:

Weekly chapter quizzes
Monthly writing assignments
Editing prowess