Course Overview: Prerequisite: English III or AP English

Journalism I is an introduction to Journalism where students develop their writing skills by writing news, sports, features, entertainment, and viewpoint articles. They develop the ability to determine what format, style, and voice is appropriate for each type of writing.

Month/ Unit Name	CCLS Standards	Content/ Guiding Questions	Skills	Suggested Assessments/ Activities	Key Vocabulary
Introduction to Journalism: the craft and the profession	CCSS – are RI.1, RI.2, and RI.6 (read closely to determine literal and inferential meaning, determine central ideas and supporting details, while attending to and citing specific textual evidence). W.7, (Conduct research projects based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation); W.8 (Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the	What is Journalism? Why is effective journalism important? What is effective news reporting and writing? What skills and techniques must an effective journalist employ?	Close reading and analysis of various news articles Writing Write short news stories using appropriate style and conventions (New York Times/Associated Press styles) Write critiques of published news stories Speaking and Listening Participate as attentive, active, and constructively critical editor/editorial board member	Reading Various published news articles Writing Create a 'lead' based article with web-based research (350 words) Speaking and listening Oral presentation to class members on first article Self-evaluation to enhance speaking/writing/research skills Peer evaluation and editing	Note: Vocabulary will be re-inserted into the lessons throughout the school year Reporter Editor Inverted pyramid Front Page Angle Lead Five W's and H" Hard news Soft News Feature Story Beat reporting Editorial Fairness Truth Accuracy Libel Slander Opinion

	credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism). Students revise and edit work throughout, thus W.5 (Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting or trying a new approach).				Bias Freedom of the press Deadline Primary source Secondary Source Associated Press Style Attribution
October Obituaries/Life stories	Students focus on crafting effective evidence based writing, working from titles and paraphrases to summary sentences and explanatory paragraphs. Thus, W.2 (write explanatory texts to convey ideas and information clearly and accurately) and W.9 (draw evidence from texts to support	How do media content developers engage audiences and shape belief systems?	Close reading and analysis of research scholarship on media and communications Writing Write developed news stories using appropriate style and conventions based on research (New York Times/Associated Press styles) Write critiques of published news stories Speaking and Listening Participate as attentive, active, and constructively critical editor/editorial board member and revise for publication	Reading Cite scholarly journals on media and communications Writing Create an 'lead' base article with web-based research (750 words) Speaking and Listening Oral presentation to class members on first article. Self-evaluation to	News portals

	analysis) are also introduced and practiced in the unit, as is W.4 (produce clear and coherent writing). W.5			enhance speaking/writing/ research skills. Peer evaluation and editing (text editing & layout editing)	
November Writing from Speeches, News Conferences, Press Releases	(engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively). W.5	Why must a journalist posit a counter argument while remaining generous to another journalist? How do journalists effectively determine newsworthiness of secondary sources?	Reading Close reading and analysis of News articles (feature, Opinion-Editorial, Editorial, Reportage, News Blogs) Writing Write developed news stories using appropriate style and conventions based on research for a specific sub-genre (New York Times/Associated Press styles) Write critiques of published news stories Speaking and Listening Listening to live or recorded speeches to determine possible newsworthiness and angles for written stories Participate as attentive, active, and constructively critical editor/editorial	Reading Cite multiple sources Writing Create a news article in a specific sub-genre (750 words) incorporating material from press releases, published or recorded speeches, and/or news conferences Speaking and Listening Oral presentation to class members on the aesthetic of the genre (sports, feature, etc.)	News release Newsworthiness
			board member and revise for publication	Self-evaluation to enhance speaking/writing/research skills Peer evaluation and editing (text editing &	

				layout editing)	
December Political Reporting	RI.10 (read and comprehend complex texts independently and proficiently. W.5	What are the fundamental philosophical differences among the political parties in the United States Government?	Reading Close reading and analysis of News articles (feature, Opinion-Editorial, Editorial, Reportage, News Blogs) Writing Write developed news stories using appropriate style and conventions based on political polemics for a specific subgenre (New York Times/Associated Press styles)	Reading Cite multiple sources from progressive and conservative news portals on political discourse Writing Create a news article in a specific sub-genre (750 words)	Democratic Republican Independent Libertarian Liberal Conservative
			Write critiques of published news stories Speaking and Listening Participate as attentive, active, and constructively critical editor/editorial board member and revise for publication	Speaking and Listening Oral presentation to class members on the prevailing political polemic, both nationally and internationally	
				Self-evaluation to enhance speaking/writing/research skills	
				Peer evaluation and editing (text editing & layout editing)	
January Editorial/Opinion Writing	(read closely to determine literal and inferential meaning,	What is the fundamental difference between bias and libel?	Reading Close reading and analysis of News articles (feature, Opinion-Editorial,	Reading Cite multiple Op/Ed stories from various	Editorial Fairness Truth

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	determine		Editorial, Reportage, News Blogs)	publications, both print	Accuracy
	central ideas and	How can a journalist	NAV SEC.	and digital	Libel
	supporting details,	create editorial fairness	Writing		Slander
	and assess	through truth?	Write developed news stories using	Writing	Opinion
	author's point of		appropriate style and conventions based	Create a news article in	Bias
	view – while	When and why is it	on research for a specific sub-genre (New	a specific sub-genre	
	attending to and	useful to be biased?	York Times/Associated Press styles)	(750 words)	
	citing specific textual	When and why is it	Write critiques of published news stories		
	evidence). RI.1, RI.2,	useful to be fair and			
	and RI.6, W.5	accurate in journalism?	Speaking and Listening		
			Participate as attentive, active, and	Speaking and Listening	
		How have the courts	constructively critical editor/editorial	Oral presentation to	
		responded to free	board member and revise for publication	class members on the	
		speech in		aesthetics on the	
		contemporary		opinion editorials with	
		situations?		varying foci (sports,	
				feature, etc.)	
				Self-evaluation to	
				enhance	
				speaking/writing/	
				research skills	
				Peer evaluation and	
				editing (text editing &	
				layout editing)	
February	crafting effective	In order to maintain	Reading	Reading	Freedom of the
<u>Investigative</u>	evidence based	the fidelity in a society,	Close reading and analysis of News	Cite multiple	press
Reporting	writing, working from	why is it important to	articles (feature, Opinion-Editorial,	investigative stories	Truth
	titles and	have a free press?	Editorial, Reportage, News Blogs)	from various	Accuracy
	paraphrases to			publications, both print	
	summary sentences	Why is it important to	Writing	and digital	
	and	have a free press to	Write developed news stories using		

	explanatory paragraphs. Thus, W.2 (write explanatory texts to convey ideas and information clearly and accurately) and W.9 (draw evidence from texts to support analysis) are also introduced and practiced in the unit, as is W.4 (produce clear and coherent writing). W.5	maintain economic, religious, educational, and social freedoms?	appropriate style and conventions based on research for a specific sub-genre (New York Times/Associated Press styles) Write critiques of published news stories Speaking and Listening Participate as attentive, active, and constructively critical editor/editorial board member and revise for publication	Writing Create a news article in a specific sub-genre (750 words) Speaking and Listening Oral presentation to class members on the importance of a free press Self-evaluation to enhance speaking/writing/ research skills	
				Peer evaluation and editing (text editing & layout editing)	
March Beat Reporting I: Education Government Crime Religion	SL.1 (engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively). W.5	Where do most people locate information in their local communities? Is the role of news organizations, both digital and print, to provide important information to the community? Are they doing a good	Reading Close reading and analysis of News articles (education, government, crime, religion) Writing Write developed news stories using appropriate style and conventions based on research for a specific sub-genre (New York Times/Associated Press styles) Write critiques of published news stories Speaking and Listening	Reading Cite multiple stories on education, government, crime, religion Writing Create a news article in a specific sub-genre (750 words) Speaking and Listening Oral presentation to	Reporter Editor Inverted pyramid Front Page Angle Lead Five W's and H" Hard news Soft News Feature Story Beat reporting

		job? What are the particular opportunities, responsibilities and challenges of the Beat reporter?	Participate as attentive, active, and constructively critical editor/editorial board member and revise for publication	class members on the pertinent information found from journalistic sources for both you and your peers Self-evaluation to enhance speaking/writing/research skills Peer evaluation and editing (text editing & layout editing)	
April Beat reporting II Sports Entertainment Lifestyle Business/ Consumer	w.7, (Conduct research projects based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation); w.8 (Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism).	Where do most people locate information in their local communities? Is the role of news organizations, both digital and print, to provide important information to the community? Has reporting on celebrities changed the way news is prioritized? What is gained by skewing news to celebrity analysis?	Reading Close reading and analysis of News articles (sports, entertainment, lifestyle, business/consumer) Writing Write developed news stories using appropriate style and conventions based on research for a specific sub-genre (New York Times/Associated Press styles) Write critiques of published news stories Speaking and Listening Participate as attentive, active, and constructively critical editor/editorial board member and revise for publication	Reading Cite multiple stories on sports, entertainment, lifestyle, business/consumer Writing Create a news article in a specific sub-genre (750 words) Speaking and Listening Oral presentation to class members on how celebrities are represented in so-called serious news organizations and/or coverage of sports, lifestyle, and	Reporter Editor Inverted pyramid Front Page Angle Lead Five W's and H" Hard news Soft News Feature Story Beat reporting

	W.5			business/consumer issues.	
				Self-evaluation to enhance speaking/writing/research skills	
				Peer evaluation and editing (text editing & layout editing)	
May Journalism and the New Media	w.7, (Conduct research projects based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation); w.8 (Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism). w.5	How have changes in the media landscape changed the profession of journalism? How have these changes impacted the quality and reliability of news and information dissemination? What are the societal implications of changes in how people receive and interact with news and information?	Close reading and analysis of Peer Reviewed scholarly articles on mass media and communications Writing Write developed news stories using appropriate style and conventions based on research for a specific sub-genre (New York Times/Associated Press styles) Write critiques of published news stories Speaking and Listening Participate as attentive, active, and constructively critical editor/editorial board member and revise for publication	Reading Cite and annotate multiple sources from academic data bases Writing Create a news article in a specific sub-genre including a secondary peer-reviewed source (750 words) Speaking and Listening Oral presentation that annotates two scholarly articles on mass media or communications Self-evaluation to enhance speaking/writing/ research skills	Print media Digitized media Convergence Multi-media Cinematic Aesthetics Primary source Secondary source

				Peer evaluation and editing (text editing & layout editing)	
June Feature Writing	CCSS – are RI.1, RI.2, and RI.6 (read closely to determine literal and inferential meaning, determine central ideas and supporting details, while attending to and citing specific textual evidence). W.5	How are feature stories distinguished from hard news stories? What are the characteristics and requirements of an effective feature story?	Close reading and analysis of Feature articles from The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, and a local news outlet Writing Write developed news stories using appropriate style and conventions based on research for a specific sub-genre (New York Times/Associated Press styles) Write critiques of published news stories Speaking and Listening Participate as attentive, active, and constructively critical editor/editorial board member and revise for publication	Reading Cite and annotate multiple feature articles from major newspapers and a regional Writing Create a news article in a specific sub-genre including a secondary peer-reviewed source (750 words) Speaking and Listening Oral presentation that comments on how effective the author employed the rhetorical devices from those invoked in a successful feature article Self-evaluation to enhance	Personality profile Human interest Trend In-depth Informational Feature Backgrounder Relevance Anecdote

speaking/writing/ research skills

Peer evaluation and
editing (text editing &
layout editing)