



North Polk Community Schools Pacing & Course Description Guide



Grade Level: 9-12

Content: Introduction to Journalism

Year: 2022-2023

Course Description/Rationale

Introduction to journalism emphasizes the skills of the journalist and includes study of the history of journalism, as well as journalistic ethics, writing, and production of school media. Units include interviewing for a story; writing a lead; writing with objectivity, accuracy, and balance; basic photography; writing captions; and AP style. The course is required for those students wishing to be part of the school newspaper or yearbook staff (Journalism Production).

Name of Unit	Time Frame	Essential Learning Target	Standard(s)
What is News & AP Style	6 weeks	Students will thoughtfully and critically consume information in order to be knowledgeable citizens. Students can read and comprehend complex materials in a variety of forms. Students can verbally share their thinking through meaningful discussion and effective collaboration.	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term or terms over the course of a text. Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed in the text. Integrate information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.
News Writing	4 weeks	Through the writing process, students will clearly and confidently articulate complex ideas for a variety of purposes through different modes and styles of written expression using correct grammar, punctuation and sentence structure Students can verbally share their thinking through meaningful discussion and effective collaboration.	Writing 3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences. Production and Distribution of Writing 4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

			5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach. 6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others. 21st Century Skills: Employability ES.1. Communicate and work productively with others, incorporating different perspectives and cross cultural understanding, to increase innovation and the quality of work. ES.4 Demonstrate initiative and self-direction through high achievement and lifelong learning while exploring the ways individual talents and skills can be used for productive outcomes in personal and professional life. ES.5 Demonstrate productivity and accountability by meeting high expectations.
News Ethics	3 weeks	Students will thoughtfully and critically consume information in order to be knowledgeable citizens. Students can read and comprehend complex materials in a variety of forms. Students can verbally share their thinking through meaningful discussion and effective collaboration. Through the writing process, students will clearly and confidently articulate complex ideas for a variety of purposes through different modes and styles of written expression using correct grammar, punctuation and sentence structure	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term or terms over the course of a text. Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed in the text. Integrate information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.
Photojournalism	2 weeks	Students can take photos using the photography skills taught in class. Students can analyze a photo to identify photo qualities and the effectiveness of the photo.	Integrate information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.

		Students can write captions that add to the story the photo tells.	
Ad Sales	2 weeks Mid March-April	Students can communicate with private business owners to sell advertisements for the journalism department Students can verbally share their thinking through meaningful discussion and effective collaboration.	4. Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. 6. Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and communicative tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate. 21st Century Skills: Employability ES.1. Communicate and work productively with others, incorporating different perspectives and cross cultural understanding, to increase innovation and the quality of work. ES.2. Adapt to various roles and responsibilities and work flexibly in climates of ambiguity and changing priorities. ES.3 Demonstrate leadership skills, integrity, ethical behavior, and social responsibility while collaborating to achieve common goals. ES.4 Demonstrate initiative and self-direction through high achievement and lifelong learning while exploring the ways individual talents and skills can be used for productive outcomes in personal and professional life. ES.5 Demonstrate productivity and accountability by meeting high expectations.

