

NEWPORT-MESA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT Course Description

JOURNALISM IIAB

(Course Meets Requirements for Graduation)

Content covered in this course is described in the Course of Study. Based upon student needs, teachers select appropriate materials from the Instructional Materials List. Classroom presentations of course content are determined by the instructor and described under Teacher Activities. A more detailed outline of this course can be obtained from the instructor.

Overview:

This course offers the student the opportunity to produce a student-directed publication. The course emphasizes the research, writing, and publishing of a variety of high interest material for a student audience. The student will observe the rights and responsibilities of a free press and reflect the qualities of good writing and standards of journalism and English. The student will produce material for publication by researching, interviewing, writing, and editing stories designed to inform, persuade, or entertain. He/She will improve the ability to select, edit, and evaluate various types of journalistic copy: news, editorials, opinion, features, sports, narratives, columns, reviews, advertising copy, captions/cutlines, and headlines. The student will assume leadership positions on the publication and fulfill those roles and responsibilities. The student will engage in production work in the areas of design, advertising, photography, and electronic publishing. By using available word processing and electronic publishing programs, the student will generate drafts and camera-ready pages for publications. The student will develop an ability to assess all levels of communication and evaluate the effectiveness of published materials in terms of reader appeal and visual aesthetics.

Course of Study Objectives:

- 1. The student will participate in establishing goals for publication, formulating a publication policy, developing a staff management plan under the guidance of a publication adviser and work as a staff member of a team and accept responsibility for assignments by observing deadlines and seeking to achieve professional standards of journalism and English.**

- 1.1 STUDENT ACTIVITIES:**

The student will discuss the role of the publication, its readership, and purpose. The student will assist in writing publication goals and policy statements. He/She will participate in determining staff roles and responsibilities. As a member of a staff, he/she will understand the various duties and roles staff members must perform and seek to work in cooperation with others in fulfilling responsibilities and meeting deadlines.

- 1.2 INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS USED:**

- Historical and current staff manuals, policies, job descriptions, and procedures

- Related instructional materials
- 1.3 **TEACHER ACTIVITIES:**
 - Provide written materials and facilitate their use
 - Facilitate and provide significant time for adviser/staff discussion
- 2. **The student will review and apply the California Education Code relating to student press freedom and other legal restrictions on the press and will recognize and avoid the use of legally prohibited materials and those materials that violate community standards of good taste.**
 - 2.1 **STUDENT ACTIVITIES:**

The student will read articles relating to law, ethics, and journalism standards. The student will recognize and avoid the use of legally prohibited material and follow professional standards of ethics in judging suitability for publication. The student will discuss student press rights and responsibilities and apply his/her understanding of those rights to all publications.
 - 2.2 **INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS USED:**
 - Textbooks
 - Professional and student publications
 - Historical and legal documents
 - Visual aids
 - 2.3 **TEACHER ACTIVITIES:**
 - Demonstrate/Lecture
 - Facilitate student discussion
 - Promote ethical considerations and understanding of community standards
- 3. **The student will determine which events and issues are newsworthy and generate ideas for articles for publication and select the most appropriate journalistic format for both written and visual content.**
 - 3.1 **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

The student will seek, actively gather, and evaluate potential publication content. The student will select the proper writing style to employ after considering audience, purpose, and publication goals. The student will identify visual material most suitable to the needs of the publication.
 - 3.2 **INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS USED:**
 - Textbooks
 - Writing models and styles
 - Visual aids
 - 3.3 **TEACHER ACTIVITIES:**
 - Assist students in determining appropriate publication content
 - Provide models of writing styles
 - Facilitate student discussion
 - Encourage originality of ideas
- 4. **The student will write, in appropriate journalistic styles, on a wide range of topics of interest to the student body, edit stories for content, grammar, spelling and style, apply all conventions of the English language, follow accepted journalistic style rules, and use proper copy editing symbols.**
 - 4.1 **STUDENT ACTIVITIES:**

The student will write copy appropriate for school publications using correct journalistic style for various story modes such as news, editorials, opinion, features, sports, narratives, columns, reviews, advertising copy, captions/cutlines, and headlines. The student will engage in prewriting activities, precomposing activities, and the writing, revising, and editing stages of the writing process. The student will use all the correct conventions of the language in publication copy. The student will edit, proofread, and submit for peer review, all writing prepared for publication. The student will use Associated Press style or other accepted journalistic style

- rules and use proper copy editing symbols to indicate corrections in the copy.
- 4.2 **INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS USED:**
- Student and professional writing
 - *Associated Press Stylebook*
 - Reference books on English usage and grammar
 - Copy editing symbols
- 4.3 **TEACHER ACTIVITIES:**
- Instruct in language conventions when the need arises
 - Facilitate collaborative sessions for peer review
 - Review student writing and return to student for personal editing
 - Encourage originality and diversity of copy
5. **The student will refine those listening and interviewing skills required of a publication staff member and continue to improve his/her formal and informal oral communication skills.**
- 5.1 **STUDENT ACTIVITIES:**
- The student will interview other students and news sources, utilizing note-taking techniques and interview strategies. The student will participate in news conferences, one-on-one interviews, and symposiums as well as engage in discussions with other students and the adviser.
- 5.2 **INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS USED:**
- Textbook
 - Recorded interviews
- 5.3 **TEACHER ACTIVITIES:**
- Model oral communication techniques
 - Provide instruction and assistance in listening, interviewing, and note-taking techniques
 - Facilitate discussions and critiques
6. **The student will use higher-order thinking skills while engaged in the production of school publications to further improve his/her ability to read for meaning, critically analyze the content of both written and visual presentations, and read and consider core literature selections and journalism models to increase his/her awareness of writing styles.**
- 6.1 **STUDENT ACTIVITIES:**
- The student will read and discuss copy written by staff members and other writers. The concepts of analysis and evaluation will be discussed and applied by the student in assessing the quality of communication and visual presentation. The student will evaluate the work through writing and speaking assignments.
- 6.2 **INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS USED:**
- Textbooks
 - Professional and student newspapers and magazines
- 6.3 **TEACHER ACTIVITIES:**
- Assign reading
 - Conduct/facilitate discussions and analysis
7. **The student will develop greater awareness of precision in language and expand and refine his/her vocabulary through listening, writing, and speaking; distinguishing between opinion and fact and developing a sensitivity for shades of meaning in language in order to create concise, cogent written communication.**
- 7.1 **STUDENT ACTIVITIES:**
- The student will identify words and phrases that convey opinion. The student will distinguish between shades of meaning for a variety of words and phrases and add words to his/her vocabulary and use these words in appropriate context. Students will write clearly and concisely avoiding trite, overused expressions. In headline writing students will find short, powerful

words to convey meaning is a minimal amount of space.

7.2 INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS USED:

- Professional and student writing
- Word lists
- Thesaurus
- Dictionaries

7.3 TEACHER ACTIVITIES:

- Give directed practice in the use of correct vocabulary and word choice
- Indicate overuse of words and encourage rewriting or use of synonyms
- Review and evaluate student writing

8. The student will improve and apply his/her skill in locating and making appropriate use of information from various resources.

8.1 STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

The student will use libraries, electronic information systems, and primary sources to research and verify information gathered in the preliminary development of copy. The student will prepare, in advance through the use of resources, questions to be used in an oral interview. The student will use outlining techniques to assist him/her in the development of copy and preparations for oral interviews.

8.2 INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS USED:

- Textbook
- Library
- Electronic information services
- Various resources

8.3 TEACHER ACTIVITIES:

- Facilitate use of library, electronic access of data, and other resources
- Supervise student activities
- Evaluate accuracy in reporting and documentation of facts

9. The student will devise and implement a plan to finance publications, recognizing the important role of advertising while adhering to both the publication's and District's policies regarding advertisements in school publications, and striving for positive community contacts that follow accepted business practices.

9.1 STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

The student will recognize the need for editorial and business staffs to work together to produce a publication that meets the needs of their readers and strives to meet the standards of professional journalism and sound business practices. As a member of the staff, he/she will plan issues and activities that fall within the publication budget and solicit, prepare, and bill for advertising in the student publication.

9.2 INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS USED:

- Textbook
- Advertising contracts, bills, and miscellaneous forms and letters
- Computer hardware and software
- Community resources

9.3 TEACHER ACTIVITIES:

- Provide instruction and advertising resources
- Supervise student activities and oversee financial record keeping

10. The student will recognize the relationship between page design and effective communication and increase his/her skills in designing pages, infographics, headlines, and other elements to effectively communicate the contents of a publication.

10.1 STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

The student will recognize the visual impact of such elements as typography, photography,

infographics, illustrations, charts, maps, and screens to the aesthetic and communicative functions of the publication. The student will design pages using aesthetic principles such as balance, focal point, center of visual interest, horizontal emphasis, and packaging. The student will incorporate into his/her work the effective use of photographs, artwork, and graphics.

10.2 INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS USED:

- Textbook
- Professional publications
- Art, graphic, and design resources
- Visual aids

10.3 TEACHER ACTIVITIES:

- Instruct in design principles
- Provide instruction on available computer software program in electronic graphic and page design
- Supervise and facilitate innovative and aesthetically designed pages and graphics

11. The student will use available technology to produce a school publication.

11.1 STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

The student will use available computers and accessories in the planning, preparation, and production of the publication. The student will be familiar with and use, if applicable, software programs in word processing, page layout, and graphics design and demonstrate knowledge of the proper techniques for accessing programs, storing and retrieving data, and electronically editing copy. The student will show proper care and handling of computer hardware, software, disks, and support materials.

11.2 INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS USED:

- Computers and available software programs in electronic publishing
- Visual aids
- Supplementary materials

11.3 TEACHER ACTIVITIES:

- Demonstrate and model proper care and use of computer hardware and software programs.
- Conduct workshops on the use of various computer programs
- Teach, when the need arises, advanced levels of electronic publishing

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

TEXTBOOK

Associated Press. *Associated Press Handbook*

California State Department of Education. *Keeping it Legal: a Handbook of California Student Press Law*

English and Hatch. *Scholastic Journalism*

Strunk and White. *Elements of Style*

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Roget's International Thesaurus

Webster's Collegiate Dictionary

CORE WORKS/EXTENDED READINGS

CORE WORKS/EXTENDED READINGS represent teacher selected titles and resources that will best serve the journalism student.

AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS

- Films, filmstrips, and videocassettes from the District library
- School-based materials that have been approved as outlined by the District's evaluation process