

CFISD Journalism I

Scope and Sequence 2025-2026

Course Description: Students enrolled in journalism write in a variety of forms for a variety of audiences and purposes. Students are expected to plan, draft, and complete written compositions on a regular basis, carefully examining their papers for clarity, engaging language, and the correct use of the conventions and mechanics of written English. Students will become analytical consumers of media and technology to enhance their communication skills. Writing, technology, visual, and electronic media are used as tools for learning as students produce effective communications. Journalism students will learn journalistic traditions, research self-selected topics, write journalistic texts, and learn the principles of publication.

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills: Journalism TEKS

Instructional Units	Days**	
First Semester	81	End Date
1st Grading Period	8/13/2025	10/9/2025
Unit 1: History of Journalism & Social Impact	12	9/13
Unit 2: Media Law & Ethics	11	9/29
Unit 3: News Elements, Interviewing/Reporting, & News Writing	14	10/9
*2nd Grading Period	10/15/2025	12/18/2025
Unit 3 continues	22	11/30
*Unit 4: AP Style & Copy Editing	15	12/18
Second Semester	92	End Date
3rd Grading Period	1/6/2026	3/6/2026
Unit 5: Feature Writing	19	2/2
Unit 6: Advertising & Economics of Publishing	13	2/23
Unit 7: Opinion Writing (Editorials, Reviews, Blogs)	10	3/6
*4th Grading Period	3/16/2026	5/28/2026
Unit 8: Headline Writing	5	3/22
Unit 9: Photography & Captions	14	4/12
*Unit 10: Principles of Design & Page Layout	32	5/28

* Includes time for semester review & final exams.

** The length of each unit is an approximate number of days dependent upon the materials used and complexity of assignments. Units may be combined. The purpose of this flexibility is to allow teachers the opportunity to plan for the needs of their students and to accommodate re-teaching or review when necessary. If pre-assessment indicates student mastery could be achieved in a fewer number of days, the additional time could be used for extension or carried into the next unit.

Instructional Material(s):

Journalism Today, Sixth Edition

Ferguson, Patten, and Wilson

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Additional resources from academic and professional publishing organizations, such as the [Journalism Education Association](#), [Texas Association of Journalism Educators](#), and [University Interscholastic League](#).