

Journalism 1 Syllabus Outline

Abby White- Lake Dallas High School

Fall 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Journalism 1 at Lake Dallas High School! This syllabus outlines the course plan for your child's class this semester, including key topics, expectations, and how you can support their success. As required by Texas law (Senate Bill 12), this document serves as the instructional plan and is available for your review. I look forward to working with you and your child!

Contact Information

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Course Overview (Instructional Plan)

This semester, your child will study the following topics in Journalism 1, based on Texas state standards (TEKS):

1. Unit 1: What is Journalism?

- Learning objectives: Students will learn what Journalism is, the different types, and the history of Journalism. (TEKS 1.A, 2.A, 2.B, 3.A)
- Activities: Notes,

2. Unit 2: Journalism Ethics

- Learning objectives: Students will understand the ethics of journalism. They will be able to define defamation and how to spot it. (TEKS 1. B, 1.C, 1.D, 1.E)
- Activities: Notes, Scenarios, Test

3. Unit 3: Interviewing, AP Style and News Gathering

- Learning objectives: Students will learn how to pick a proper topic for a news article, gather the necessary information, properly interview their subject with open questions, and what AP grammar rules they will need to use for their article. (TEKS 3.C, 3.D, 3.E, 3.F)
- Activities: Interview with an Associate Principal, AP Style Worksheets, Interview article, Quizzes

4. Unit 4: Feature Writing

- Learning objectives: Students will learn how to properly write a lead, and write a feature article. (TEKS 3.D, 3.E, 3.G, 3.H, 3.I, 3.J, 3.K)
- Activities: Humans of LDHS project, worksheets, notes, quizzes

5. Unit 5: Editorial Writing

- Learning objectives: Students will learn how to write an editorial and how it differs from argumentative writing. (TEKS 3.F, 3.G, 3.H, 3.I, 3.J, 3.K)
- Activities: Notes, Editorial Essay

6. Unit 6: Critical Review

- Learning objectives: Students will learn how to write a critical review and how it differs from a critical analysis. (TEKS 3.F, 3.H, 3.I, 3.J, 3.K)
- Activities: Notes, Critical Review

7. Additional Skills

- Developing critical thinking, note-taking, and time management.
- Example: Students will have to learn how to take notes as a person is talking and create follow-up questions as the interview progresses.

Sincerely,
Abby White