CFISD Journalism I
Course Outline and Scope (2026-2027)

Course Overview

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.

First Semester (65 Days)

Unit 1: History of Journalism & Social Impact

Major Skills

The student demonstrates an understanding of media development.

Priority TEKS	Time (days)	DPM Benchmark	Dates
110.62.1A, 1B	13	N/A	Aug. 12 – Aug. 28, 2026

Unit 2: Media Law & Ethics

Major Skills

The student demonstrates an understanding of press law and responsibility.

Priority TEKS	Time (days)	DPM Benchmark	Dates
110.62. 1C, 1D, 1E, 2A, 2B.	11	N/A	Aug. 31-Sept. 15, 2026

Unit 3: News Elements, Interviewing/Reporting & News Writing

Major Skills

The student demonstrates an understanding of the different forms of media and the different types of journalistic writing.The student reports and writes for a variety of audiences and purposes and researches self-selected topics to write journalistic texts.

Priority TEKS	Time (days)	DPM Benchmark	Dates
110.62. 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3F, 3G, 3K, 3L, 3M	41	N/A	Sept. 16-Nov. 20, 2026

Unit 4: AP Style & Copy Editing

Major Skills

The student reports and writes for a variety of audiences and purposes and researches self-selected topics to write journalistic texts.

Priority TEKS	Time (days)	DPM Benchmark	Dates
110.62.3H, 3I, 3J,	15	N/A	Nov. 30-Dec 18, 2026

Second Semester (93 Days)

Unit 5: Feature Writing

Major Skills

The student reports and writes for a variety of audiences and purposes and researches self-selected topics to write journalistic texts.

Priority TEKS	Time (days)	DPM Benchmark	Dates
110.62. 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E, 3F, 3G	19	N/A	Jan. 5-Feb. 1, 2027

Unit 6: Advertising & Economics of Publishing

Major Skills

The student demonstrates an understanding of the economics of publishing

Priority TEKS	Time (days)	DPM Benchmark	Dates
110.62 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D	13	N/A	Feb.2-Feb. 19, 2027

Unit 7: Opinion Writing (Editorials, Reviews, Blogs)

Major Skills

The student reports and writes for a variety of audiences and purposes and researches self-selected topics to write journalistic texts.

Priority TEKS	Time (days)	DPM Benchmark	Dates
110.62. 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E, 3F, 3G	9	N/A	Feb. 22-March 4, 2027

Unit 8: Headline Writing

Major Skills

The student reports and writes for a variety of audiences and purposes and researches self-selected topics to write journalistic texts.

Priority TEKS	Time (days)	DPM Benchmark	Dates
110.62 3L	5	N/A	March 5-March 11, 2027

Unit 9: Photography & Captions

Major Skills

The student reports and writes for a variety of audiences and purposes and researches self-selected topics to write journalistic texts.

Priority TEKS	Time (days)	DPM Benchmark	Dates
110.62 3L	15	N/A	March 22-April 12, 2027

Unit 10:Principles of Design & Page Layout

Major Skills

The student demonstrates understanding of the principles of publishing through design using available technologies.

Priority TEKS	Time (days)	DPM Benchmark	Dates
110.62 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E	32	N/A	April 13-May 27, 2026