

Journalism 1
A.I. duPont High School
Mrs. Kohl

I. Objectives - Through this course in journalism, students will:

- sharpen language, grammar, and analytic skills
- understand the meaning of a student journalist's rights and responsibilities under the law
- learn the basics of journalistic writing
- define and discuss the importance of accuracy in the media
- identify the qualities of a good reporter
- define and apply the principles of objectivity, balance, and fairness in journalistic writing
- learn how to use the four basic types of coverage (news, editorial/opinion, feature, and sports)
- define, identify, and analyze newsworthiness of story ideas
- understand how to incorporate and attribute information from various sources
- learn how to write headlines and captions
- learn how to use quotes (direct, indirect, and partial) in a story
- identify and use different types of leads
- use proofreading and copy-editing skills
- learn how to layout a newspaper

II. Requirements – Students must:

- sell a \$20 ad for the Tiger Pause Newspaper each marking period. If you sell \$80 the first marking period then you are done for the year. This money may also be donated if the student does not wish to sell an ad. This counts as an assignment, so if this requirement is not met the student's grade may be lowered up to one letter grade. There has been controversy over this in the past. However, please understand that reflective of actual newspapers, with no ad money there is no school newspaper and therefore no journalism program. The school board has upheld this policy in the past.
- answer questions based on chapters in Scholastic Journalism and notes given in class.
- write papers in various journalistic styles. Final drafts must be typed and double spaced in times new roman size 12 font. Stories must always include word count and a headline. Rough drafts and peer editing are also required.
- complete analysis of different types of journalistic writing.
- take chapter tests and quizzes based on chapter questions and handouts given in class.
- function as the "Roving reporter" for the Tiger Pause when required.

- turn in a portfolio at the end of the year that includes a sample of each of the following types of articles: news, feature, sports, op/ed, review

III. Responsibilities – It is the responsibility of the student to:

- complete all work on time. Points will be deducted each day work is late. Peer editing must be completed in class on the day specified and cannot be turned in late.
- arrive to class on time and prepared.
- keep a binder of all completed work. Always bring your textbook and binder to class.
- bring in an excuse note within two days of an absence and make up work in a timely manner. After the agreed upon time, missed work will become a zero.

IV. Tiger Pause – If you wish to take Journalism 2 next year, and thus write for the school newspaper, you must maintain a “B” average in both English and Journalism I, in addition to getting teacher approval. Future editors must maintain an “A” average in Journalism I.

V. Grades are determined by points earned divided by possible points. You can keep track of your grade on eschool.

VI. Plagiarism – Any student caught cheating on a test, quiz, or homework/classwork assignment will receive a zero for said assignment. Any student caught plagiarizing another’s work will receive a zero with a chance to rewrite the article for partial credit the first time. However, if this occurs a second time the student will receive a zero on the assignment and will be barred from writing for the school newspaper.

I have read and understand the requirements for Journalism 1.

Sign and date:

Student

Parent/Guardian