

Journalism*

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The basics of journalism, including laws and ethics, freedom of the press and the principles of journalistic writing, are powerful tools. In the early 1970s, two Washington Post reporters uncovered a scandal known as Watergate and eventually a president was forced to resign. In this course, you'll learn how to generate story ideas, conduct an interview and then put it all together as you write both news and sports stories. You'll also be introduced to feature writing and editorials.

PREREQUISITES:

Before enrolling in this course, you should be familiar with basic touch-typing fundamentals and have some experience working in a windows environment with a mouse. Obviously, you must have a good word processor like Microsoft Word.

COURSE LENGTH:

One semester

REQUIRED TEXT:

Introduction to Journalism, McDougal Littell. ISBN #9780618003778

COURSE OUTLINE:

Course Introduction and What is Journalism?

- Reading Course Information
- Activities Intro Assignment

Finding Journalism Sites on the Web

- Reading Assignments Area
- Activities Journalism Sites Assignments

The Challenge of Journalism

- Reading Chapter 1, pages 1-13
- Activities Challenge of Journalism Assignment

Laws, Ethics and Policy

- Reading Chapter 2, pages 14-32
- Activities Censorship Writing Assignment
- Study Guide
- Unit Exam

Types of News and Story Ideas

- Reading Chapter 3, pages 33-42
- Activities Defining the News Worksheet
- Press Rating Assignment
- Unit Exam

Sources for News

- Reading Chapter 4, pages 43-62
- Activities Sources Worksheet
- Internet Site Evaluation
- Unit Exam

* = One semester (.5 credit) course