



English/Language Arts Department

Elective Course: Journalism I

Developed by: Ms. Karen Greco, Director of Communications, and Mrs. Brooke Benavides, English Language Arts Coordinator, K-12

Last Updated: July 2018

Scope and Sequence

| Month | Writing Workshop: Journalism Units |
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| MP 1 | What is Journalism? |
| MP 2 | Establishing Beats, Roles, and Assignments |
| MP 3 | Exploring Multiple Structures & Voices in Journalism |
| MP 4 | A Study in Ethics |

| Unit 1 | |
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| What is Journalism? | |
| Summary and Rationale | |
| <p>In this introductory unit, students will understand what journalism is and the purpose of it in society, especially today when there is such a focus on news and the media. Students will read pieces of journalism and identify traits of journalist writing and answering the questions of: who, what, when, where and why. Students will understand interviewing; its importance and techniques. Students will begin to uncover beats within the school and start to write articles for publication. At the end of the marking period, students will submit a portfolio including four to five articles for grade.</p> | |
| Recommended Pacing | |
| 8-10 weeks | |
| Standards | |
| Reading: Informational Text | |
| RI.11-12.1. | Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, (e.g., via discussion, written response, etc.), to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferentially, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain. |
| RI.11-12.5. | Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of the structure an author uses in his or her exposition or argument, including whether the structure makes points clear, convincing, and engaging. |
| RI.11-12.7. | Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem. |
| Writing | |
| W.11-12.2. | <p>Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.</p> <p>A. Introduce a topic; organize complex ideas, concepts, and information so that each new element builds on that which precedes it to create a unified whole; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.</p> <p>B. Develop the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.</p> <p>C. Use appropriate and varied transitions and syntax to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts.</p> <p>D. Use precise language, domain-specific vocabulary, and techniques such as metaphor, simile, and</p> |

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| | <p>analogy to manage the complexity of the topic.</p> <p>E. Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g. formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.</p> <p>F. Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic).</p> |
| W.11-12.4. | Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. |
| W.11-12.5. | Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, trying a new approach, or consulting a style manual (such as MLA or APA Style), focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience. |
| W.11-12.6. | Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, share, and update individual or shared writing products in response to ongoing feedback, including new arguments or information. |
| W.11-12.7. | Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation. |
| W.11-12.10. | Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes. |
| Speaking and Listening | |
| SL.11-12.2. | Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, qualitatively, orally) evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source. |
| SL.11-12.4. | Present information, findings and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically. The content, organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. |
| SL.11-12.5. | Make strategic use of digital media (e.g., textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements) in presentations to enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest. |
| Language | |
| L.11-12.1. | <p>Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.</p> <p>A. Apply the understanding that usage is a matter of convention, can change over time, and is sometimes contested.</p> |
| L.11-12.2. | <p>Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.</p> <p>A. Observe hyphenation conventions.</p> |

| | B. Spell correctly. | | | | |
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| L.11-12.6. | Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression. | | | | |
| Interdisciplinary Connections | | | | | |
| Social Studies | | | | | |
| 6.3 | Active Citizenship in the 21st Century: All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world. | | | | |
| Integration of Technology | | | | | |
| 3 | Students critically curate a variety of resources using digital tools to construct knowledge, produce creative artifacts and make meaningful learning experiences for themselves and others. | | | | |
| 6 | Students communicate clearly and express themselves creatively for a variety of purposes using the platforms, tools, styles, formats and digital media appropriate to their goals. | | | | |
| Instructional Focus | | | | | |
| <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Enduring Understandings:</th><th>Essential Questions:</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists write to report on facts to inform audiences on different topics. Interviewing provides a way to uncover facts and insight into a topic or person. Interviewing provides direct quotes for an article. Writing articles enables budding journalists to find their voice and understand the need to answer the key questions: who, what, where, when and why. Journalists find topics within the school community that need to be explored and presented to an audience. </td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the purpose and characteristics of journalism? What is the purpose and structure of interviewing? How do journalists experiment with writing various pieces? How do journalists uncover beats in their school community? </td></tr> </tbody> </table> | | Enduring Understandings: | Essential Questions: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists write to report on facts to inform audiences on different topics. Interviewing provides a way to uncover facts and insight into a topic or person. Interviewing provides direct quotes for an article. Writing articles enables budding journalists to find their voice and understand the need to answer the key questions: who, what, where, when and why. Journalists find topics within the school community that need to be explored and presented to an audience. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the purpose and characteristics of journalism? What is the purpose and structure of interviewing? How do journalists experiment with writing various pieces? How do journalists uncover beats in their school community? |
| Enduring Understandings: | Essential Questions: | | | | |
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| Evidence of Learning (Assessments) | | | | | |
| SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT: Portfolio Submission https://classroom.google.com/c/NzI0NzAwOTk2NVpa/p/OTkzMzk4OTc3Nlpa/details | | | | | |

| INFORMATIVE | | | | | |
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| Description | 5 Exceptional | 4 Skilled | 3 Proficient | 2 Developing | 1 Inadequate |
| Focus: The text focuses on a topic to inform a reader with ideas, concepts, and information that creates a unified whole. | The text clearly focuses on a compelling topic that informs the reader with ideas, concepts, and information that creates a unified whole. | The text focuses on an interesting topic that informs the reader with ideas, concepts, and information that creates a unified whole. | The text has a topic that informs the reader with ideas, concepts, and information that creates a unified whole. | The text has an unclear topic with some ideas, concepts, and information. | The text has an unidentifiable topic with minimal ideas, concepts, and information. |
| Development: The text presents facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, and examples. The text provides a conclusion that supports the topic and examines its implications and significance. | The text provides significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations and/or examples that thoroughly develop and explain the topic. The text provides an engaging conclusion that supports the topic and examines its implications and significance. | The text provides relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, and/or examples that sufficiently develop and explain the topic. The text provides a competent conclusion that supports the topic and examines its implications and significance. | The text provides facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, and/or examples that develop the topic. The text provides a conclusion that supports the topic and examines its implications and significance. | The text provides facts, definitions, details, quotations, and/or examples that attempt to develop and explain the topic. The text may provide a conclusion that supports the topic. | The text contains limited facts and examples related to the topic. The text may or may not provide a conclusion. |
| Audience: The text anticipates the audience's background knowledge of the topic. The text includes formatting, graphics, and/or multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension. | The text consistently addresses the audience's knowledge level and concerns about the topic. The text includes effective formatting, graphics, and/or multimedia that enhance comprehension. | The text anticipates the audience's knowledge level and concerns about the topic. The text includes appropriate formatting, graphics, and/or multimedia that strengthen comprehension. | The text considers the audience's knowledge level about the topic. The text includes formatting, graphics, and/or multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension. | The text illustrates an inconsistent awareness of the audience's knowledge level about the topic. The text may include some formatting, graphics, and/or multimedia that may be distracting or irrelevant. | The text lacks an awareness of the audience's knowledge level about the topic. The text includes limited or inaccurate formatting, graphics, and/or multimedia that impedes comprehension. |
| Cohesion: The text explains the relationship between ideas and concepts. The text includes appropriate and varied transitions and syntax. | The text strategically uses words, phrases, and clauses to link the major sections of text. The text explains the relationships between the topic and the examples and/or facts. | The text skillfully uses words, phrases, and clauses to link the major sections of the text. The text identifies the relationship between the topic and the examples and/or facts. | The text uses words, phrases, and clauses to link the major sections of the text. The text connects the topic and the examples and/or facts. | The text contains limited words, phrases, and clauses to link the major sections of the text. The text attempts to connect the topic and the examples and/or facts. | The text contains few, if any, words, phrases, and clauses to link the major sections of the text. The text does not connect the topic and the examples and/or facts. |
| Language and Style: The text presents a formal style and objective tone and uses language, vocabulary, and techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy to manage the topic. | The text presents an engaging, formal, and objective tone. The text uses sophisticated language, vocabulary, and techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy to manage the complexity of the topic. | The text presents a formal, objective tone. The text uses precise language, vocabulary, and techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy to manage the complexity of the topic. | The text presents a formal, objective tone. The text uses relevant language, vocabulary, and techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy to manage the complexity of the topic. | The text illustrates a limited awareness of formal tone. The text attempts to use language, vocabulary, and some techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy. | The text illustrates a limited or inconsistent tone. The text uses imprecise language, vocabulary, and limited techniques. |
| Conventions: The text demonstrates standard English conventions of usage and mechanics while attending to the norms of the discipline in which they are writing (MLA, APA, etc.). | The text intentionally uses standard English conventions of usage and mechanics while specifically attending to the norms of the discipline in which they are writing (MLA, APA, etc.). | The text demonstrates standard English conventions of usage and mechanics while suitably attending to the norms of the discipline in which they are writing (MLA, APA, etc.). | The text demonstrates standard English conventions of usage and mechanics while attending to the norms of the discipline in which they are writing (MLA, APA, etc.). | The text demonstrates some accuracy in standard English conventions of usage and mechanics. | The text contains multiple inaccuracies in Standard English conventions of usage and mechanics. |

Objectives (SLO)

| Students will know: (Goals) | Students will be able to: (Teaching Points) |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists understand the purpose and specific characteristics of the genre of journalism. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists consider the role of the news in today's world. Journalists read various types of articles and define the characteristics of the genre. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long-form magazine article (cover story) Newspaper article Op-ed piece Profile piece Journalists provide their audience with facts to inform them on a topic. Journalists learn from others experiences. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible visitation from a journalist in the field |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists understand the purpose and structure of interviewing. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists consider who to interview and why, when reporting on a story or learning more about a person. Journalists consider the types of questions to ask. Journalists consider proper etiquette and preparation for interviewing. Journalists pair up in class with a classmate they do not, and write a profile piece on them; interviewing the student as well as those close to them. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists experiment with writing various pieces. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists learn from others' work and experiment with writing different articles. Journalists write articles and then learn and implement editing techniques. Journalists gather feedback through group discussion and editing. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists uncover beats in their school community. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School journalists consider what matters most in their school community and determine what and how to report. School journalists consider various ways to publish their work to inform the school community and town. |

Suggested Resources/Technology Tools

Google Docs

Google Classroom

Digital Newspaper

- <https://maroonandgray.nutleyschools.org/>

PerspecsNews

- <http://www.perspecsnews.com/>

Ebsco: Points of View

- <http://search.ebscohost.com/>

Newsela

- <https://newsela.com/>

Slightly More Than 100 Exceptional Works of Journalism, 2016:

<https://www.theatlantic.com/entertainment/archive/2016/08/slightly-more-than-100-exceptional-works-of-journalism/490622/>

21ST CENTURY LIFE AND CAREER STANDARDS

- ☐ Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
- ☐ Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
- ☐ Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
- ☐ Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
- ☐ Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
- ☐ Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- ☐ Model integrity, ethical leadership, and effective management.
- ☐ Use technology to enhance productivity.

Suggestions on integrating these standards can be found at: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/cccs/2014/career/9.pdf>

| Unit 2 | |
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| Establishing Beats, Roles, and Assignments | |
| Summary and Rationale | |
| <p>The second marking period will establish a newsroom structure within the classroom and students will begin to integrate with Journalism II students. Students will be given roles: within news, entertainment, and sports. Students will begin to organize a published digital product and take ownership over story ideas, assignments, and editing. Students will be able to carry on these roles independently in the third and fourth marking periods.</p> | |
| Recommended Pacing | |
| 8-10 weeks | |
| Standards | |
| Reading: Informational Text | |
| RI.11-12.1. | Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, (e.g., via discussion, written response, etc.), to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferentially, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain. |
| RI.11-12.5. | Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of the structure an author uses in his or her exposition or argument, including whether the structure makes points clear, convincing, and engaging. |
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| Speaking and Listening | |
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| Integration of Technology | |
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| 6 | Students communicate clearly and express themselves creatively for a variety of purposes using the platforms, tools, styles, formats and digital media appropriate to their goals. |
| Instructional Focus | |
| Enduring Understandings: | Essential Questions: |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists understand that various roles and responsibilities are necessary within a “newsroom” setting and experts work in various departments support the entire publication. Journalists understand there are differences between digital and print publications and clear benefits and shortcomings of each. Journalists understand the essential elements of research skills, dissecting facts, integrating direct quotes and compelling storytelling. Journalists learn and implement the editing process into their stories and the stories of their peers. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are newsroom roles and responsibilities and why are they necessary? What are the differences and benefits of print and digital publications? Which work best for our class/school/community? What are the elements of well-researched, compelling and informative pieces of journalism? What are the key principles and techniques of the editing process? |
| Evidence of Learning (Assessments) | |

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT: Completion of Digital or Printed Publication. Assessment of the way students perform in their given role as well as how they complete their writing and editing tasks in their given positions. Students will self-reflect and teacher will utilize the “standard of excellence” created by the class, with support by the teacher, to assess their work. <https://maroonandgray.nutleyschools.org/>

Objectives (SLO)

| Students will know: (Goals) | Students will be able to: (Teaching Points) |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists work to define newsroom roles and responsibilities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists understand and define newsroom roles. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roles may include, but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> News Editor Entertainment Editor Sports Editor Photo Editor News Writers Sports Writers Entertainment Writers Layout & Design Journalists receive appropriate roles. Journalists determine the responsibilities and actions required of a specific role and set a standard of excellence. Journalists work to establish appropriate deadlines to meet these needs. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists work to set the structure of the class’s publications and launch their investigations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists brainstorm beats that are important in their school and community. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> They ask the question: “What do our readers need/want to know about?” Journalists work collaboratively with Journalism II students to create a master calendar of school and community events to cover. Journalists discuss which type of publication, digital or printed, is most appropriate for NHS school and community. Editors assign stories to specific writers and establish deadlines. Writers research, attend events, and interview in order to craft articles. Photographers attend events to capture images. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists produce compelling, informative articles. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists look at varied pieces of their research and make a plan on how to compile the information in an effective manner. Journalists look at other high school newspaper. Journalists create headlines to convey a specific tone and grab the readers’ attention. Journalists establish the who, what, where, when, and why in the lead paragraph. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Journalists are selective with their words and descriptors. • Journalists wrap-up their articles with a concise, meaningful final thought. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Journalists will learn and practice the editing process. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Journalists understand, study, and practice conventional rules to support the editing process. • Editors work in their respective departments to edit writers' work to prepare it for publication. • Writers revise, based upon recommendations from editors, to polish work for publication. • Layout & Design department members take finished work and images and assemble the publication. |

Suggested Resources/Technology Tools

Google Docs

Google Classroom

Digital Newspaper

- <https://maroonandgray.nutleyschools.org/>

PerspecsNews

- <http://www.perspecsnews.com/>

Ebsco: Points of View

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Newsela

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- ☐ Model integrity, ethical leadership, and effective management.
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Suggestions on integrating these standards can be found at: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/cccs/2014/career/9.pdf>

| Unit 3 | |
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| Exploring Multiple Structures & Voices in Journalism | |
| Summary and Rationale | |
| <p>The third marking period will allow students the opportunity to immerse themselves into journalism by studying different types of writing styles, structures and voices. Students will experiment with journalist styles, analyze structures and write in various voices. They will understand the importance of word choice and the concept of how you say something being equally important to what you say. They will continue in their newsroom setting to publish digitally.</p> | |
| Recommended Pacing | |
| 8-10 weeks | |
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| | <p>A. Observe hyphenation conventions.</p> <p>B. Spell correctly.</p> | | | | |
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| L.11-12.6. | Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression. | | | | |
| Interdisciplinary Connections | | | | | |
| Social Studies | | | | | |
| 6.3 | Active Citizenship in the 21st Century: All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world. | | | | |
| Integration of Technology | | | | | |
| 3 | Students critically curate a variety of resources using digital tools to construct knowledge, produce creative artifacts and make meaningful learning experiences for themselves and others. | | | | |
| 6 | Students communicate clearly and express themselves creatively for a variety of purposes using the platforms, tools, styles, formats and digital media appropriate to their goals. | | | | |
| Instructional Focus | | | | | |
| <table border="1"> <tr> <th>Enduring Understandings:</th><th>Essential Questions:</th></tr> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists understand the different types and structures of journalist writing and the purpose each style serves to the reader. Journalists learn how to craft articles with compelling and appropriate word choice and understand the way word choice affects the tonality of a piece. Journalists understand the essential elements of research skills, dissecting facts, integrating direct quotes and compelling storytelling. Journalists learn and implement the editing process into their stories and the stories of their peers. </td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the different types and structures of journalism and what is the purpose of each? Why is word choice in journalism important? What are the elements of well-researched, compelling and informative pieces of journalism? What are the key principles and techniques of the editing process? </td></tr> </table> | | Enduring Understandings: | Essential Questions: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists understand the different types and structures of journalist writing and the purpose each style serves to the reader. Journalists learn how to craft articles with compelling and appropriate word choice and understand the way word choice affects the tonality of a piece. Journalists understand the essential elements of research skills, dissecting facts, integrating direct quotes and compelling storytelling. Journalists learn and implement the editing process into their stories and the stories of their peers. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the different types and structures of journalism and what is the purpose of each? Why is word choice in journalism important? What are the elements of well-researched, compelling and informative pieces of journalism? What are the key principles and techniques of the editing process? |
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| Evidence of Learning (Assessments) | | | | | |

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT: Completion of Digital Publication. Assessment of the way students perform in their given role as well as how they complete their writing and editing tasks in their given positions. Students will self-reflect and teacher will utilize the “standard of excellence” created by the class, with support by the teacher, to assess their works of writing. <https://maroonandgray.nutleyschools.org/>

Objectives (SLO)

| Students will know: (Goals) | Students will be able to: (Teaching Points) |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists analyze different types and structures of writing, consider the purpose of each, and experiment with varied styles, structures, and voices. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists identify the following types of writing in the field: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> News Reporting Sports Reporting Featuring Writing Profile Writing Reviews (food, restaurant, concert, book, movie) Journalists deconstruct them understand the elements of each style Journalists experiment writing in each various journalist voice. Journalists begin to find news articles of interest, reflect upon how and why it was written, and then possibly inspire them to create a new piece and/or experiment with learned techniques in their writing. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists consider the impact that word choice and tone have on the reader. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists recognize that perspective can have an impact on the story that is being told. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists will study various texts, often from different perspectives, and analyze the impact that tone and word choice have on meaning. Journalists understand and explore the ways in which something is said being equally important as what is being said. Journalists experiment with utilizing varied word choice to convey a specific tone and then consider the purpose and impact it might have on the reader. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists produce compelling, informative articles for digital publication. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists continue to find beats and launch their investigations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writers continue to find beats that matter in their school and community. Writers research, attend events, and interview in order to craft articles. Photographers attend events to capture images. |

- Journalists brainstorm advertising opportunities within the Nutley community and contact local businesses to secure revenue.
- Journalists brainstorm ways to get the NHS community and Nutley community informed about the Maroon & Gray.
- Journalists create a timeline, calendar and deadlines for launch date.
- Journalists establish the who, what, where, when, and why in the lead paragraph.
- Journalists are selective with their words and descriptors.
- Journalists wrap-up their articles with a concise, meaningful final thought.
- Journalists write compelling headlines to grab readers' attention.
- Journalists understand, study, and practice conventional rules to support the editing process.
- Editors work in their respective departments to edit writers' work to prepare it for publication.
- Writers revise, based upon recommendations from editors, to polish work for publication.
- All students lay out articles, with appropriate photos, to make their final piece ready for publication.

Suggested Resources/Technology Tools

Google Docs

Google Classroom

Digital Newspaper

- <https://maroonandgray.nutleyschools.org/>

PerspecsNews

- <http://www.perspecsnews.com/>

Ebsco: Points of View

- <http://search.ebscohost.com/>

Newsela

- <https://newsela.com/>

21ST CENTURY LIFE AND CAREER STANDARDS

- ☐ Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
- ☐ Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
- ☐ Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
- ☐ Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
- ☐ Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
- ☐ Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- ☐ Model integrity, ethical leadership, and effective management.

- ☐ Use technology to enhance productivity.

Suggestions on integrating these standards can be found at: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/cccs/2014/career/9.pdf>

| Unit 4 | |
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| A Study in Ethics | |
| Summary and Rationale | |
| <p>The fourth marking period will allow students to explore the concepts of ethics in journalism. Ideas of plagiarism, bias, fabrication and betrayal of a source will be explored. During this exploration, students will explore the Watergate scandal with the 2005 Vanity Fair article revealing “Deep Throat” as part of their learning. In addition to a discussion of ethics, the class will continue to produce articles and layouts. The conclusion of the fourth marking period will include a printed newspaper.</p> | |
| Recommended Pacing | |
| 8-10 weeks | |
| Standards | |
| Reading: Informational Text | |
| RI.11-12.1. | Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, (e.g., via discussion, written response, etc.), to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferentially, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain. |
| RI.11-12.5. | Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of the structure an author uses in his or her exposition or argument, including whether the structure makes points clear, convincing, and engaging. |
| RI.11-12.7. | Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem. |
| Writing | |
| W.11-12.2. | <p>Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.</p> <p>A. Introduce a topic; organize complex ideas, concepts, and information so that each new element builds on that which precedes it to create a unified whole; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.</p> <p>B. Develop the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience’s knowledge of the topic.</p> <p>C. Use appropriate and varied transitions and syntax to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts.</p> <p>D. Use precise language, domain-specific vocabulary, and techniques such as metaphor, simile, and</p> |

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| | <p>analogy to manage the complexity of the topic.</p> <p>E. Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g. formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.</p> <p>F. Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic).</p> |
| W.11-12.4. | Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. |
| W.11-12.5. | Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, trying a new approach, or consulting a style manual (such as MLA or APA Style), focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience. |
| W.11-12.6. | Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, share, and update individual or shared writing products in response to ongoing feedback, including new arguments or information. |
| W.11-12.7. | Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation. |
| W.11-12.10. | Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes. |
| Speaking and Listening | |
| SL.11-12.2. | Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, qualitatively, orally) evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source. |
| SL.11-12.4. | Present information, findings and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically. The content, organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. |
| SL.11-12.5. | Make strategic use of digital media (e.g., textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements) in presentations to enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest. |
| Language | |
| L.11-12.1. | <p>Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.</p> <p>A. Apply the understanding that usage is a matter of convention, can change over time, and is sometimes contested.</p> |
| L.11-12.2. | <p>Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.</p> <p>A. Observe hyphenation conventions.</p> |

| | |
|--|---|
| | B. Spell correctly. |
| L.11-12.6. | Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression. |
| Interdisciplinary Connections | |
| Social Studies | |
| 6.3 | Active Citizenship in the 21st Century: All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world. |
| Integration of Technology | |
| 3 | Students critically curate a variety of resources using digital tools to construct knowledge, produce creative artifacts and make meaningful learning experiences for themselves and others. |
| 6 | Students communicate clearly and express themselves creatively for a variety of purposes using the platforms, tools, styles, formats and digital media appropriate to their goals. |
| Instructional Focus | |
| Enduring Understandings: | Essential Questions: |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will understand that there are common errors which journalists should avoid. Students will understand that confidentiality of sources and writing unbiased articles are key to becoming a good and trusted journalist. They will explore deception, conflict of interest, bias, fabrication, theft, betrayal of a source and plagiarism. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the common errors journalists make when it comes to reporting and interviewing and how can we avoid them? What are the “seven deadly sins of journalists?” |
| Evidence of Learning (Assessments) | |
| <p>SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT: Completion of Printed Publication. Assessment of the way students perform in their given role as well as how they complete their writing and editing tasks in their given positions. Students will self-reflect and teacher will utilize the “standard of excellence” created by the class, with support by the teacher, to assess their work.</p> <p>https://maroonandgray.nutleyschools.org/</p> | |

| Objectives (SLO) | |
|---|---|
| Students will know: (Goals) | Students will be able to: (Teaching Points) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists understand ethics within journalist writing. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists understand the difference between “law” and “ethics” and are able to recognize a true ethical dilemma. Journalists understand journalistic ethical dilemmas and the process of decision-making based on the notion of duty. Journalists identify common ethical guidelines that journalists use, and apply these principles to hypothetical ethical dilemmas. Journalists understand the responsibility and ethical concerns in reporting various new stories. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists produce compelling, informative articles for digital publication. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journalists continue to find beats and launch their investigations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writers continue to find beats that matter in their school and community. Writers research, attend events, and interview in order to craft articles. Photographers attend events to capture images. Journalists brainstorm advertising opportunities within the Nutley community and contact local businesses to secure revenue. Journalists brainstorm ways to get the NHS community and Nutley community informed about the Maroon & Gray. Journalists create a timeline, calendar and deadlines for launch date. Journalists establish the who, what, where, when, and why in the lead paragraph. Journalists are selective with their words and descriptors. Journalists wrap-up their articles with a concise, meaningful final thought. Journalists write compelling headlines to grab readers’ attention. Journalists understand, study, and practice conventional rules to support the editing process. Editors work in their respective departments to edit writers’ work to prepare it for publication. Writers revise, based upon recommendations from editors, to polish work for publication. All students lay out articles, with appropriate photos, to make their final article ready for publication. |
| Suggested Resources/Technology Tools | |

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Google Classroom

Digital Newspaper

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PerspecsNews

- <http://www.perspecsnews.com/>

Ebsco: Points of View

- <http://search.ebscohost.com/>

Newsela

- <https://newsela.com/>

Adobe InDesign

Deep Throat article

<https://www.vanityfair.com/news/politics/2005/07/deepthroat200507>

Websites:

<https://www.schooljournalism.org/journalism-ethics-lessons/>

<https://studentreportinglabs.org/resource/lesson-13-who-makes-news/>

<http://www.newsu.org/courses/ethics-journalism>

<https://teachingjournalismethics.wordpress.com/teaching-resources/unit-plan/>

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