

TPHS Course Profile

Advanced Journalism



GRADES: 9-12 (10 Credits)

- *Prerequisite: Journalism*
- *Meets high school graduation requirement for Elective*
- *Career Technical Education (CTE) Course*

General Information

Description

Advanced Journalism is the production class for the national award-winning Falconer newspaper. A grade of “A” in Journalism I and application/acceptance to the staff are required for enrollment.

Students in Adv. Journalism will continue their education in journalistic theory and method, broadening their understanding of the necessity of a free press and ways a press can function in a democracy. They become especially familiar with the press freedoms afforded to student journalists in California operating under California Education Code section 48907, which makes clear that students are solely responsible for the content of student publications and advisers and administrators are allowed prior review of those publications but not prior restraint. Students are accepted on staff as either staff writers, staff photographers or webmasters. After his or her first year on staff, a staffer is eligible to apply for editorship of one of the sections of the paper, photography, copy or managerial editorial positions.

Expectations and Goals

Staffer writers, including editors, are expected to report and write stories for every section of the paper: news, opinion, feature, entertainment, and sports. They are also expected to work collaboratively with other staffers in producing the paper as a whole, which may include layout, page, and infographic design, illustration, photography assignment or placement, editing, co-writing, and more. Staffers are also encouraged to embrace the support of the newspaper by selling ads and subscriptions, though these are not course requirements. The paper operates without financial support from the school or district aside from the teacher’s salary.

Outcomes:

Advanced Journalism offers real-world experience and transferable skills. In addition to practice for careers in journalism, Adv. Journalism develops an articulate, incisive writing style valuable in any academic and career path.