

**West Linn–Wilsonville School District**  
**The Arts (Communications/Technology) – Course Statement**

<b><u>Course Title: Journalism</u></b>	
<b>Length of Course:</b> Semester <b>Number of Credits:</b> 1 <b>Grade Level:</b> 9, 10, 11, 12 <b>Prerequisites:</b> Instructor consent <b>CIM Work Samples Offered in Course:</b> Writing work sample	<b>Date of Description/Revision:</b> 2002
<b>Course Overview</b>	
<p>This elective course offers students a chance to produce the school newspaper. Students will learn while developing their skills in planning an issue, designing layouts, conducting interviews, writing various types of articles, taking photographs, and selling advertisements. Students will follow the phases of the production process to final product, which include: writing, meeting deadlines, constructing layout, paste-up of the paper, etc.</p>	
<b>Essential Questions</b>	<b>Concepts providing focus for student learning</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do I honestly and fairly convey information about the events at Wilsonville High School?</li> <li>• How can I create a newspaper worthy of all students, as well as other school and community readers?</li> <li>• How can I best contribute to and benefit from a team or group setting?</li> <li>• How can I develop and use leadership skills?</li> <li>• How do I evaluate and make ethical decisions?</li> </ul>	
<b>Proficiency Statements</b>	
<p>Upon completion of course, students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn team skills and to be a dependable member of a staff of workers.</li> <li>• Learn the importance of meeting deadlines.</li> <li>• Learn to write clearly and with purpose.</li> <li>• Learn accounting and basic economics and marketing through selling of advertisements.</li> <li>• Learn the importance of public relations.</li> </ul>	

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<b>General Course Topics/Units &amp; Timeframes</b>	
<p>Lessons covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. News writing</li><li>B. Feature writing</li><li>C. Sports writing</li><li>D. Editorial writing</li><li>E. Censorship</li><li>F. Laws and ethics of journalism</li><li>G. Interviewing</li><li>H. Advertising</li><li>I. Computer and technology skills</li><li>J. Graphic design</li><li>K. Production process of a newspaper (created and developed in each of the 7 or 8 yearly issues)</li></ul> <p><b>Lessons are taught throughout the year and even repeated, if staff changes drastically.</b></p>	
<b>Resources</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Text: <i>Journalism Today!</i> (used sparingly)</li><li>• Text: <i>AP Style Guide</i> (used sparingly)</li><li>• Other: Nationwide newspapers (critiqued regularly), also local newspapers (especially local high school newspapers and <i>The Oregonian</i>)</li></ul>	