

**FOLSOM CORDOVA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Course Outline**  
**Newspaper Production**

**Date: May 2006**

**Subject Area: Technology/Business**

**Proposed Grade Level(s): 9-12**

**Course Length: 1 Year**

**Grading: A-F**

**Number of Credits: 5 per Semester**

**Prerequisites: 2.0 GPA Overall**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will provide students with an opportunity to explore the field of journalism by creating multiple issues of a high school newspaper. The course offers instruction and practice in copy writing and editing, proofreading, writing of feature stories, editorials, and human interest stories. Students will also receive instruction and put in to practice headline writing, page design and layout, business management, advertising, and photography.

**GENERAL GOALS/PURPOSES:**

Students will:

- Gain additional knowledge about newspaper organization and production.
- Develop and strengthen skills in journalistic writing.
- Apply knowledge and skills learned to the publishing of the school paper.
- Use prior experience to implement changes to improve the quality of the paper.
- Follow a personal code of ethics in newspaper work.
- Develop a sense of personal responsibility and dependability.

**STUDENT READING COMPONENT:**

Students will:

- Evaluate final product to identify strengths and weaknesses.
- Critique all aspects of a newspaper.
- Be required to read and understand supplementary material reading as it applies to this class.
- Edit all documents produced.

**STUDENT WRITING COMPONENT:**

Students will:

- Contribute to a regularly scheduled school publication.
- Apply grammar, vocabulary, and punctuation.
- Write, edit, and create layout by deadlines for a regularly scheduled publication.
- Present information that demonstrates research from a variety of sources.

## **STUDENT ORAL COMPONENT:**

Students will:

- Conduct successful interviews of students, staff, administration, district personnel and others, as it applies to the article.
- Work cooperatively in groups to create the final product.

## **DETAILED UNITS OF INSTRUCTION:**

### I - INTRODUCTION TO JOURNALISM

- A. History
- B. Source of news
- C. Ethics
- D. Newspaper Terminology

### II - WRITING

- A. News
- B. Features
- C. Sports
- D. Editorials

### III - ELEMENTS OF A NEWS STORY

### IV - COMPOSING FOR THE PAPER

- A. Generating ideas
- B. Accessing information from a variety of sources
- C. Note taking
- D. Composition
- E. Revising and editing

### V - CRITICAL THINKING AND ANALYSIS

- A. Student publications, professional magazines, and newspapers

### VI - MANAGEMENT SKILLS

- A. Editorial evaluation of articles
- B. Layout and photography evaluation

### VII - TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

- A. Word processing
- B. Desktop publishing and page layout
- C. Graphic design
- D. Digital and manual cameras
- E. Scanners
- F. Printers

## **THIS COURSE WILL PREPARE STUDENTS FOR THE CAHSEE AND/OR FCUSD EXIT EXAM IN:**

Reading, Writing, and Language Arts

## **LAB FEE, IF REQUIRED:**

None

## **SUBJECT AREA CONTENT STANDARDS TO BE ADDRESSED:**

### **1.0 BUSINESS CORE**

**1.1 Business Communications:** Students will understand communications as applied to personal and professional situations. They will demonstrate competency by selecting and using appropriate forms of communications in a variety of situations.

**1.2 Business Environment:** Students will understand the development and structure of business environments. They will demonstrate competency by identifying the dynamic components of business structure and its relationship to the global business environment.

**1.3 Career Preparation, Job Acquisition, and Retention:** Students will understand the career preparation and job acquisition skills required for employment, professional growth, and employment transitions in the field of business occupations. They will demonstrate competency by researching career options, applying job acquisition skills, preparing job search documentation, and modeling appropriate workplace demeanor.

**1.5 Employability Skills:** Students will understand the factors essential to a productive workforce in a culturally diverse global environment. They will demonstrate competency by identifying the skills which positively affect productivity.

**1.6 Information Technologies:** Students will understand technology used in business. They will demonstrate competency by utilizing technology to access, manipulate, and produce information.

## **DISTRICT ESLRs TO BE ADDRESSED:**

### **Students will be:**

- **Responsible Citizens:** Through the course work and units of study, students will develop a better understanding of themselves, the world around them, and the impact they have on their social, political, and natural environment.
- **Collaborative Workers:** Through the study of group dynamics, students will learn how to implement those dynamics learned in a functional group and in group projects.
- **Constructive Thinkers:** Students will be required to select the appropriate resources to gather information. They will then need to analyze and synthesize that information in to a usable format.
- **Quality Producers:** The students will write appropriate articles, take appropriate photos, and layout the paper using the appropriate technology to ensure all work is to the best of their abilities.
- **Effective Communicators:** By speaking to a variety of sources throughout the year and working in small groups, the students will understand what it is to be effective communicators, develop the necessary skills to enhance their ability to communicate effectively, and regularly practice those skills.
- **Self-Directed Learners:** The students will understand and use appropriate sources to find information, research subjects, and complete class assignments.