



# Canyon Springs High School

## and the Leadership and Law Preparatory Academy

Course Expectations 2008-2009  
*Broadcast Journalism I*

**Instructor: Tom Rizzo**

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**Course Scope:**

This one-year course is designed for the study and practice of the basic elements of broadcasting technology, with major emphasis on script writing, video recording and editing, and publication of news and other information through television and radio. This class may be performance-based, requiring the production of portions of a video yearbook, morning announcements, or student/teacher created educational videos. The prerequisite for this course is a grade of B or better in English. This course will fulfill one of the elective credits required for graduation.

**Course Goals:**

1. To learn the basic elements of script writing for a television news show, a radio show, a video yearbook, and instructional videos.
2. To understand the various duties of television and radio stations.
3. To learn the components of scripts, screenplays, and news stories.
4. To learn and apply interview techniques and skills.
5. To employ the correct use of a video camera, a sound board, and editing and mixing equipment.
6. To understand broadcast media laws and ethics and their ramifications.
7. To produce quality news, features, and sports stories, as well as educational information properly.
8. To practice storyboarding, scripting, and editing skills.
9. To produce news shows, a video yearbook, and educational videos through the use of recording and editing equipment.
10. To apply writing as a process (prewriting, drafting, responding/sharing, revising, editing, and evaluating) to news stories, television show scripts, announcements, radio shows, and a video yearbook.
11. To use technology and software to create a visual presentation.
12. To respond to the ideas of others with respect and honesty.

**Textbooks and Materials**

The following texts will be utilized in this course:

- ★ *Video Communication and Production*

Students are expected to have and maintain the following supplies all year:

- ★ Mini-DV recording tapes

### **Course Outline**

Students will work on individual and group projects throughout the year. Students will also work to produce the morning video news, our weekly TV show, and Pioneers on The Net, our web-based school magazine. Students will have daily mini-lessons on broadcast journalism methods and terminology, as well as individual writing, editing, and filming opportunities.

### **Make-up Work**

Make up work is due no later than 3 days after the student returns to the classroom. Work turned in later than 3 days will receive a lower grade.

### **Late Work**

Students should inform the teacher when they determine that work will be turned in late. As a rule, late work will only be accepted if prior arrangements are made with the teacher. Work turned in late without prior approval will receive a lower grade

### **Attendance**

Because most of the work for this class will be created in class and in our studio, it is imperative that students make every effort to be in class each day.

### **Tardy Policy**

First tardy: The student will sign the tardy form and receive a verbal warning from the teacher. **Second tardy:** The student will sign the tardy form and receive a referral to the dean's office **Third tardy:** The student will receive a referral to dean for a required Parent Conference (RPC). Additionally, any student who receives a third unexcused tardy in any class will receive a "U" for citizenship on his/her progress report / report card.

### **Classroom Behavior**

Students in this class are expected to be on their best behavior at all times. We will be working with expensive video equipment and, because of this, horseplay of any kind will not be tolerated. On the first occurrence of a problem the students involved will conference with the teacher. Any future occurrences will require a conference with the teacher, school counselor, and parents. ([See special note on signature page](#))

### **Grading Policy**

Students will be graded on the quality of their work as well as the effort put into the work. Grades will be broken down as follows:

Class projects and assignments	50%
Weekly reports and reflections	15%
Participation	15%
Tests and quizzes	20%

### **Assignment/Project Highlights**

In addition to the projects highlighted in the course outline section of this document, students will also have the opportunity to have their work entered in the CCSD broadcast journalism festival, which is held at the end of the year.

Dear Parents,

As we all know, the state budget crisis has put tremendous pressure on our schools to save money wherever possible. In order to conserve paper, I have chosen to post my course expectations on our station web site: <http://kcs1tv.net/kcsl/info.html> Please click on the **Course Expectations** link, read the file, and then sign this form and return to school by 9/25/08. If you need a hard copy of the expectations you can print it out from the site, or have your son or daughter request one from the teacher.

Occasionally your child will be asked to view movies that are used to supplement the curriculum. Most of these videos are “G” rated—for general audiences; some films however, are rated “PG”—parental guidance suggested. In order for your son or daughter to view a movie, your permission must be given. *Please indicate your preference, sign and date this form below.*

- I give** my child permission to view “PG” rated films.
- I do not give** my child permission to view “PG” rated films with the understanding that an alternative assignment will be given.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Note:** Canyon Springs High School is fortunate to have a state-of-the-art digital broadcast studio where our students can learn the craft of television production. Students will be using video equipment that is expensive and, in some cases, delicate. All students will be given training in the proper handling and maintenance of this equipment. It must be understood, however, that STUDENTS WILL BE HELD FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE for the repair or replacement of any equipment that is damaged through willful neglect, irresponsible behavior, or intentional misuse. Please discuss with your son or daughter the need to handle our equipment in a responsible manner.

## Acknowledgement of Course Expectations

### *Broadcast Journalism*

We have read and discussed the course description and expectations, *including the information on financial responsibility.*

_____ Student's name [last, first]	_____ Student's Signature
_____ Parent Name	_____ Parent Signature
_____ Home phone	_____ Work/Cell phone