

Lesson Plan

What is Newsworthy?

Project Summary

Which news stories are important in your life? News can be anything, but anything isn't always newsworthy. Before deciding on what you considered a story for your newscast, you may want to take a step back, and remind yourself, what should I really consider? If it's on the national and local news, should it be on our show? These questions, and more, will be discussed as we pay close attention to elements that makes news, news.

- Total Lesson Time - 2 Hours
- Standards: STN B1.1, B1.2, B1.5
- Subject/Pathway/Industry
 - Broadcast Journalism

Performance Objectives

PRE-PRODUCTION GOALS

1. Identify "What news stories are important?"
2. Rank news stories
3. Compare and contrast – the top three stories, to the bottom three stories. Why?

PRODUCTION GOALS

1. What is the difference between News and Information? Return to student's list and identify either an "I" for information or an "N" for news.
2. Review the five values that journalists use to decide if something is newsworthy: timeliness, proximity, conflict and controversy, human interest, relevance

POST-PRODUCTION GOALS

1. Revisit the labeling of either "I" or "N" on the class list, and discuss what needs to be changed? Which of their stories can they eliminate? Which stories can they add?



2. Discuss targeting an audience – explain to students that what’s newsworthy depends on the audience.
3. Practice finding two stories directed at different audiences.

Resources & Equipment

1. Pen/Pencil
2. Paper
3. Computer with internet

Industry Testimony

“When a dog bites a man that is not news, but when a man bites a dog that is news.”

- Charles Anderson Dana, American journalist

Assessment

1. Review student feedback on news meeting
2. Evaluate show content
3. Peer and Self Evaluation

Contact

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