**Response Plan**

**Assignment:**

When I hand out the assignment, we read through it together as a class. We discuss planning for the article and what types of stories might be appropriate for the assignment.

Students are required to email me their ideas for their feature stories two weeks before they are due. The reasons for this are twofold: 1) To make sure they are on the right track with their story selection (many are not) by requiring them to have a conversation with me about their choice; 2) To get them started working early, as many will run into issues of not getting calls back from sources that cause them to have to change ideas.

**Peer Editing/Professor Review:**

Students are required to bring a rough draft of the assignment to the class before the final assignment is due. (Students who do not bring a draft or are absent from the editing workshop receive a 10-point deduction on the final paper.) Peer editors are asked to look at their partner’s feature lede, nut graf, the ordering of the information, and AP style and grammar errors. Students then get into pairs to review each other’s work, first reading silently and then discussing potential problems. Students are required to have at least two peers read their work and sign the paper (which they then turn in with their final draft).

While students are editing, I go around the room spot-checking students’ work. Students may not leave until I have approved or offered suggestions on their nut grafs. I also try to read each student’s lede and offer suggestions for improvements.

**Evaluation:**

When grading each paper, I am thorough with my comments and markings. I explain problems throughout the paper, and then I write a short paragraph containing my overall impressions about the article. I offer suggestions for improvement, and I try to highlight aspects of the article that were positive. If the article is appropriate for publication in a newspaper, I also make that suggestion on their paper and offer tips for improving their chances of getting published.