



Journalism

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Conference Period: Fourth period

Tutoring Opportunities: Tuesday 3rd Lunch and Tuesday 4:30-5 pm

Class Materials:

- Access to Canvas
- Pencils
- Spiral/Composition Notebook

Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to the history and basics of journalism to include editing, layout and publishing. Areas of study will focus on general news writing, including both newsletters and newspapers.

Course Goals:

Students who complete this course successfully will be able to:

- Write informative and ethical stories using AP style criteria for publication
- Interview effectively
- Understand basic photo and design composition
- Understand media literacy and its impact on society
- Produce quality publishable student media

Student Evaluation:

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Grade averaged 60% Major 40% Minor
- Major grades – tests (including District Common Assessments, projects, final essays, research papers, presentations); minimum three per six weeks
- Minor grades – quizzes, daily assignments, journals; minimum four per six weeks
- Each six weeks will count as 1/3 of the semester grade.
- A letter system (S, N, U) is used to report a student's conduct based on proper/responsive conduct and citizenship
- Per Board Policy EIA (LOCAL), "The District shall permit a student who meets the criteria detailed in the grading guidelines a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a

failing grade. This policy applies only to initial identified major grades and does not apply to daily assignments and quizzes. Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%.

- Official grades will be in Skyward only and can be accessed by student and parent through Family Access.

Assignments, exams, expectations outside of the classroom:

- Students will take part in discussions and classwork on Canvas at various times
- Students are expected to use time management to complete assignments
- Communication and collaboration are expected of all students
- Students will be expected to access Canvas
- Students will be expected to take photos using a cellular device

Attendance/Tardy Policy/Make-Up Work:

- Students shall have time equal to days absent from class **plus one day** to complete all missed assignments.
- Assignments assigned prior to absence are due on day the student returns.
- The student is encouraged to speak with his or her teacher if the student knows of an absence ahead of time so that the teacher and student may plan any makeup work. Please remember the importance of student attendance at school.
- A student involved in an extracurricular activity must notify his or her teachers ahead of time about any absences.
- A student will be permitted to make up tests and turn in projects due in any class missed because of absence according to EMS ISD Handbook. Teachers may assign a late penalty to any long-term project in accordance with timelines approved by the principal and previously communicated to students.

Classroom Expectations:

- Students will come to class prepared with supplies
- Students will participate in class discussions
- Students are expected to turn in assignments on time
- Students are expected to respect the rights and belongings of fellow classmates

Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

- Interviewing skill
- Student Media Rights
- Journalistic Writing Skills
- Media Literacy, ethics and the history of journalism
- Photography
- Design
- Multimedia story telling
- Work for Publication

Parent and Family Engagement

Experience and research tell us that a child succeeds in education with good communication and a strong partnership between home and school. A parent's involvement and engagement in this partnership may include:

- Encouraging your child to put a high priority on education and working with your child every day to make the most of the educational opportunities the school provides.
- Ensuring that your child completes all homework assignments and special projects and comes to school each day prepared, rested, and ready to learn.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity values the work of individuals regardless if it is another student's work, a researcher, or author. The pursuit of learning requires each student to be responsible for his or her academic work. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in our schools. Academic dishonesty, includes cheating, copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee and considers written materials, observation, or information from students. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary and/or academic penalties. The teacher and campus administrator shall jointly determine such action.