

Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow!



COURSE SYLLABUS

Journalism I

2023-24

INSTRUCTOR: Lisa Dennison

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Email correspondence for quickest response.

Classroom: #410W

Media Center LAB #413W

PLAN:

JOURNALISM I COURSE FRAMEWORK:

During this course, the beginning student will be offered access to a wide range of quality journalism. Through the study of a variety of media, students will build knowledge, analyze ideas, delineate arguments and opinions, and develop writing collaboration and communications skills. Prerequisite for Advanced classes/Publications: Yearbook

- Students will read, comprehend, and evaluate types of journalism through various media outlets, including print, Internet, and social media.
- Students will compose a variety of news and feature writings using the standard conventions of American English and the determined school publication style.
- Students will practice composition skills for beginning photojournalism
- Students will choose design elements of style, graphics, and photos for print and online media.
- Students will highlight the best of student life and act as Gateway Ambassadors.

COURSE OUTLINE:

Beginning journalism: format for writing news, features, and sports:

- What is news? Media? Journalism?
- History of Journalism
- Media Literacy & How to spot fake news!
- Inverted pyramid: writing format for news and feature stories
- Journalistic standards, integrity and personal responsibility
- Beginning photography and graphic design for print and online media

Photojournalism: Better use of cell phone cameras.

How to turn a snapshot into a prize photograph

How to tell visual stories/visual communications

Other storytelling choices: Newsmagazine features/online & print production

Design basics: Form, style, typography, layout & composition

Cartooning /Infographics/Posters/Presentations

CELL PHONE USAGE POLICY

Technology is a powerful tool for learning. Laptops have been distributed and students should bring them fully charged for daily use. Cell phones may be used in lieu of a camera for photography projects only in this class. Students will receive instructions for photography and uploads to platforms on laptops.

HOWEVER, other uses of a cell phone are a distraction for all participants. Scrolling social media, watching youtube or movies, playing games, texting friends & taking phone calls are **PROHIBITED**. Graphic design, particularly, must be done on the laptop and not the phone!

Therefore, the **TEACHER** will determine any and all instructional applications where a phone may be used (such as photography, laptop failure, Quizlet vocabulary games).

Any use of a cell phone outside of these types of specific circumstance with teacher permission, will be addressed as a disciplinary issue. The first two weeks of school are considered the warning period. After, violations will be discussed with a parent/guardian. Lastly, lack of compliance will result in administrative referral.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Plagiarism, or taking credit for someone else's work, is a serious academic offense. In some cases, it may even be a violation of copyright laws and, thus, a crime. Students must work to avoid unintentional plagiarism by citing sources and writing using their own words and phrasing. Only in this way can they truly learn by completing their own assignments. Intentional plagiarism is turning in a paper or project largely or entirely written or created by someone else and claiming it as your own work and is the most serious form of plagiarism.

PLAGIARIZED WORK, WHETHER UNINTENTIONAL OR INTENTIONAL, WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Semester Grade Policy:

Grading Policy: Students will follow the grading scale issued by the district which is as follows:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Grading Scale</u>
A	100 – 90
B	89 – 80
C	79 – 70
D	69 – 60
F	59 and below

Students participating in the Journalism program are considered representative of the best of Gateway. At all times, they are expected to act as ambassadors to students, staff, and visitors. Integrity and communication are key to our success. Our classes can come with a number of privileges and the expectation of students is to rise to the occasion in their work to document student life at Gateway.