

*Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow!*



## Course Syllabus

### Publications: DigiMedia

2023-24

**INSTRUCTOR:** Lisa Dennison

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*Email correspondence for quickest response.*

**Room:** #410W

**Media Center** #413W

**PLAN:** 6<sup>th</sup> hour

### Digital Media Publications:

**During this course, the student will explore the new literacies of digital and media, mastering inference and critical thinking skills as authors and creators. Through the study of visual and oral storytelling, students will build knowledge, analyze ideas, persuade consumers, and develop collaboration and communications skills.**

- Students will read, comprehend, and evaluate types of media, including print, broadcast, online, and social media.
- Students will author communications in the form of photo essays, presentations, infographics, sidebars, social media posts, magazine and website format projects using visual storytelling and the determined classroom standards of style.
- Students will create visual elements of style, color, texture, vectors, shapes, symbols and gaze for use in persuasion and visual communication through both print and online media.
- Students will produce and publish online and contribute original content to an online magazine and the print yearbook.
- Students will explore long form broadcast, podcast, and video filmmaking (second semester).
- Students will reinforce and enhance ELA standards through practical and digital arts.
- Students will highlight the best of student life and act as Gateway Ambassadors.

### Course Content

Visual storytelling:

- Evaluate media messaging; explore image makers' intentions and interpret visual literacy clues
- Essays using stock images and original photography
- Color theory, graphic design, and styling
- Visual communications on any platform: presentations, webpages, SM posts

Create:

- Storyboards, photographs, sidebars, infographics, websites, products, covers, flyers, posters
- Magazine pages, blogs, vlogs, personal and biz sites
- New images through AI
- Contribute to Gateway publications, print and online

Production:

- Collaboration & consensus strategies for effective production teams
- Teambuilding methods & soft skills development
- Second semester focus on video filmmaking, broadcasting & podcasting

## **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 or taking phone calls are **PROHIBITED**.

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 instructional 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 use 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:

<b><u>Grade</u></b>	<b><u>Grading Scale</u></b>
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.