



Legacy High School • 2021-22 Syllabus

Photojournalism I

Contact info.

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Course: Photojournalism I

Placement: 9-12

Prerequisite: Student Application

Credits: ½ - 1

This course is a beginning course for students who have an interest in photography. Students who earn an average of 80 or above are invited to apply for staff positions on the high school yearbook or newspaper. No prerequisite is necessary, but because of costs associated with the course, parental approval is needed.

Supplies needed:

- **\$25 lab fee**
- Camera - **digital SLR** with lens
- Memory card
- Card reader
- Camera bag
- Manual for camera (download and save it on your Google Drive/iPad if you don't have the actual book)
- Batteries/charger
- Paper, notebook for notes
- Folder for handouts
- Pens/pencils

Tutoring

B Days 3-3:30 p.m.

Outline of Course

- Basics: the camera, aperture, f-stops, shutter speeds, ISO, holding camera, types of cameras
- Composition and technique
- Lighting
- Types of photography: action, portraits, storytelling, columns, news, features, spot news, illustrations, photo stories
- Captions and reporting
- Ethics, law, copyright
- Photography history
- Photoshop, photo editing

Methods of Instruction

- Lecture, group/individual activities, discussion, writing, self and class critiques

Current Events Quizzes

• Every Friday we meet we will have a current events quiz. The quiz will cover what has happened in the area, state, nation, and sometimes international venues. The material for the quizzes can be found in online news sources such as <https://www.nbcnews.com/nightly-news>, <https://www.cnn.com/>, <https://www.usatoday.com/>, <https://apnews.com/>, <https://www.theskimm.com/> or any other major news source. The information can also be found watching local TV news. We will discuss the news daily. Students should become accustomed to the media and what is happening in the world. We will watch news in class on a regular basis. **If you are absent from class during the week, but are present Friday you are still responsible for the content of this quiz.** A News of the Week list is updated daily in class. This is what you will be quizzed over. A link to this list will be posted in Canvas.

Course Goals

- Students utilize photography skills with overall understanding of components.
- Develop skills necessary to create a good photograph
- Provide students with a working knowledge of publication workflow
- Provide an overview of content and an introduction to basic photojournalism concepts
- Students improve photography skills
- Students write a complete and proper caption

Classroom Rules

- Respect, maintain and be safe with: each other, yourself, materials and equipment.
- Be an active listener.
- Stay on-task and work during time provided. Late work is strongly frowned upon. It makes your life more complicated. Make it a priority to turn work in on time.
- Clean up after yourself in a timely manner.
- **No food or drink!** This is a school rule for computer labs. Bottled water is OK, but please keep it in your bag on the floor.

Assessment & Grading

Assessment methods include quizzes, tests, class activities, projects and evaluation of writing and other assignments. The class is divided into three categories:

Daily work, quizzes 60% Grading scale — 100-90% = A, 89-80% = B, 79-70% = C, 69-60% = D
Projects and tests 40%

Classroom Procedures

- Tardy policy: Students should be in their assigned seat when the bell rings. **Students just entering the room or up and about** will be counted tardy. If you arrive to class tardy, go to the nearest AP's office (1st floor Mr. Contreras' Office) and get a tardy pass.

- Assignments: Students should become accustomed to checking the board each day for an outline of the day's plan and any assignment due dates/tests dates. All assignments are also posted in Canvas.

- Outside of class: Students will be required to attend activities and events and photograph them for a test grade. Several opportunities will be available throughout each semester.

- Turning in work: Students will turn all "paper" assignments in to their assigned class period tray in the labeled cabinet at the front of the room. Students will also turn work in via Canvas.

- Tests: Students can retake any test they fail. A 70 percent is the highest grade a student can earn on a retake according to district policy. Retakes can be completed during advisory or lunch. All retakes must be completed within a week of the test date. Midterm/final exams are not included in the retake policy. Please see Mrs. Dearing to arrange a retake time.

- Late work: Late work is strongly frowned upon. In the field of journalism deadlines are extremely important. If a journalist misses a deadline most likely they will get scooped and ultimately lose pay and or employment. **30 points** will be deducted **from the grade earned for each class period** the assignment is late. It is the student's responsibility to get make up work and complete it in a timely manner. Assignments will not be accepted after **2 class days**.

- If you are absent: Students who are absent should check Canvas and the absent work tray in the cabinet where work is turned in. All missed handouts/ assignments will be available in this tray. Students should check with another classmate to see what they missed and then check with Mrs. Dearing. Interrupting the teacher during class to find out what you missed is not appropriate. Students have as many days as they were absent to complete the work. Turn in all absent work, labeled that you were absent, in to the tray on the proper shelf.

- Grade status: Students are strongly encouraged to view their grade status in Skyward the online grade book. Students will be provided with a progress grade report and student/teacher conference at each three week grading period.

- Extra credit: While reading newspapers, you may notice when words and phrases are used incorrectly. You may also notice style mistakes. Any mistake you find in a PRINTED NEWSPAPER OR MAGAZINE will be worth 5 points toward your daily grade. You may also find photographs that are badly lit or poorly composed. To receive credit you should cut out the article/photo and ID the mistake and write a sentence describing how you would fix it and why.

- Plagiarism: Copying materials, ideas, words or phrases will not be tolerated in any fashion. Students must create their own work. Students must cite any references or resources used in this class.

- Communication

Check Canvas for assignment due dates and announcements. Please subscribe to Remind for info on Photo I class as well. Text @2022photoj to 81010

- Classroom computers: Students should use proper login to gain access to the computers in the lab. Don't forget to log out after each use. Please keep your passwords private. Students will not be allowed to use computers until MISD Acceptable Use Policy is signed and returned.

- Restroom use: Students will be allowed to use the rest room ONLY during work time. Please do not ask to use the rest room when instruction is being given or within the first 10 or last 10 minutes of class. If you need to use the rest room, please obtain bathroom pass from Mrs. Dearing, fill it out and give it back when returning from the rest room. Rest room breaks are a privilege and may be taken away.

- Leaving the room: Students should sign out any time they need to leave the room to take photos or work on assignments. Students should be working and NOT disrupting classes, visiting with friends, **going to the vending machines or PTSA for cookies**. It's not break/snack time. I have a one strike policy on this. If you break the rule the privilege will be taken away. You are expected to have your Photo Press Pass and YOUR CAMERA with you during each photo class. If you do not have both you will not be allowed to leave the room.

- I am not your momma: Please take care of equipment and put it and any supplies you use back where you got them from.

- Cell phones: I should not see them. You should not be using them in class.

- In case of emergency:

*** This is my worst fear as you may be out of this room often. Please get to a safe place and let a teacher/administrator know where you should be if any of these happen while you are out of the room.

*** It is very important to always sign out so I know where you are.



**Remember, it is what you make it.
Take responsibility for your education!**