

# Syllabus

## Student Publications

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Instructor: Ms. Scannell

### **I. Class Requirements**

- a. Supplies
  - i. 3-ring binder with four dividers
  - ii. Loose-leaf paper (college or wide ruled)
  - iii. Blue/black ink pens
  - iv. Pencils
- b. Labeling of notebook dividers
  - i. **Overview/Expectations/Syllabus**
  - ii. **Journalism**
  - iii. **Yearbook**
  - iv. **Schedule & General Notes**
- c. ALWAYS BRING YOUR CHROME BOOK TO CLASS!

### **II. Determination of grades**

- a. Daily assignments/compositions/projects: 55%
- b. Unit tests/quizzes: 15%
- c. Daily Oral Language: 30%

### **III. Grading scale**

The grading scale that will be used is the grading scale that has been established by the Virginia School Board and is published in the student handbook.

### **IV. Tentative Schedule**

#### **First & Second Semester**

- a. Daily Oral Language (M-F)
- b. Online publishing
- c. Yearbook
- d. Brainstorming forum
- e. Student portfolio (semester 1 & 2)

#### **Additional Information:**

- 1. Online publishing:
  - a. The school newspaper will have articles published online as frequently as possible. As a class, we will decide how often we will be able to publish articles and then follow through on our decision. Each student will be required to publish a set number of articles that will also be decided at the beginning of the first quarter.
- 2. Yearbook
  - a. Because of the importance of staying to a strict schedule for the production of our yearbook, all students will fulfill a role in the process. Students must meet deadlines in order to receive credit for their participation in the course. Each deadline will be worth at least 25 points.

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## **Topics Covered**

Grammar  
Journalist ethics  
Writing for journalism  
Online publishing  
Photography  
Peer editing

## **Daily Assignments**

Students will receive assignments daily. This may include reading, writing, independent research, attending extra-curricular activities in order to create a story for a deadline, etc. Students must complete all daily assignments on time to receive credit unless otherwise arranged with Ms. Scannell. Students must understand that this course will be time-consuming due to the nature of publishing an online newspaper while creating the yearbook. Deadlines are extremely important and students will not receive full credit if assignments are not completed by assigned deadlines. Students will be expected to write frequently in this course. In addition to publishing articles online and creating the yearbook, students will be asked to practice their reading and writing skills by reading their peers' articles and evaluating them. Daily assignments/compositions/projects will account for 55% of the total quarter grade.

## **Unit Tests/Quizzes**

Students will be given short quizzes that may consist of multiple choice, short answer, or essay questions. At the end of each unit, students may receive unit tests. Unit tests may also be a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. Unit tests/quizzes will account for 15% of the total quarter grade.

## **Daily Oral Language/Vocabulary:**

In order to improve upon grammar skills, students will participate in daily oral language. Daily oral language will account for 30% of the total quarter grade.