

Name:
Date:
Mr. Martin—Journalism
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Course Outline

Introduction: Welcome to Journalism. In this semester-long course, we will study the journalistic style of writing to create your own unique products and writing for a school-wide audience. We will also analyze the uses of the style by other writers and the effects journalism has on our culture.

Class Rules: The following are the rules of the classroom. These are indisputable and should be followed all day, every day.

-Come to class on time and ready to learn. This means in your seat with your materials out and your brain prepared.

-Use courtesy and your best common sense.

-Respect the right to learn. Do not disrupt the classroom in any shape or form (walking about, private conversations, sleeping, throwing, etc. are forbidden)

-Stay in your seats unless given permission to rise.

-Do not interrupt *anyone*.

-Whining is forbidden—if you have a legitimate complaint, put it in writing and see me after class.

Consequences for breaking of aforementioned rules:

First offense- verbal warning.

Second offense- teacher detention (to be served that afternoon where you will complete a writing assignment).

Third offense-removal from classroom and office referral.

NOTE: Severity of infractions may force a change in the chain of consequences.

All School Rules will be followed in the classroom.

Unexcused tardies and absences: If you are late to class, make sure you have a pass signed by a staff member at Wethersfield High School. Unexcused absences will follow the school's protocol. Students that are absent or tardy without excuse will receive a score of zero on all assignments that occur on that day with no chance of make-up.

Electronic Device Use: Use of electronic devices is to be allowed only at prescribed times. Otherwise, they are not to be in view. I appreciate the value of information at our fingertips, as well as the desire to remain constantly connected to friends and family. However, a classroom is a unique place, and this is a discussion-based class. This means we rely on interaction among classmates. Unexcused phone use will result in a teacher detention.

Grading Policy:

Quarterly:

10% Class Participation/Cooperation

30% Homework/Classwork Assignments

60% Article/Project Assignments

Course-Wide

45% Quarter Score

45% Quarter Score

10% Final Exam

Classroom Participation/Cooperation: You will be assessed at four intervals during the semester for participation/cooperation. Appropriate peer interactions, active engagement in class, and cooperative behaviors will result in full participation points.

Homework/Classwork Assignments: Assignments will include process checks, critiques, research, classroom activities, and writing conferences. *Late assignments will not be accepted.*

Writing Assignments/Project Assignments: These will be the original works that you will create for your own blogs and student publications. These will be scored based on what skills we have learned in the course using a rubric. Projects will be listed on website and will include research, writing, and presentation skills. **NOTE:** Enrolled Lvl. 2 students will have two articles per quarter excused.

Absence Policy: If you are absent, you are responsible for finding what you have missed and submitting work within two class days. Check the schedule posted on the website for details on what you have missed.

Unexcused Absences/Tardies: If you skip class or are tardy with unexcused, you lose any credit that could have been gained that day.

Re-Writes: Writing is an ongoing process, frequently requiring many drafts before it is considered “finished.” Students are able to re-work any writing assignment for an averaged score as long as all drafts are submitted on time.

Extra Help: Some of the ideas we will work on are a challenge. For students who need clarification, walkthroughs, or any discuss any idea further is able to do that during a study hall or before/after school. To schedule an extra help session, please schedule a time with me along with what you would like to discuss and I will do my best to accommodate.

My goal is to create the best possible experience for all of you by creating an engaging class that is centered around your ideas of journalism and the communicative arts. I am a learner right alongside you, I complete all the same assignments that you do, and I cannot wait to get started.

With excitement and anticipation,

Mr.Martin

_____ CUT _____
I have read, understood, and will adhere to all rules/regulations regarding the Course Outline document distributed by Mr. Martin for the academic year.

Student Name and Date

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Name and Date

Parent/Guardian Signature