**Teacher:** Mrs. Marissa Briseño

**Location:** Room 164  **Contact:** 956-271-1600

**Conference:** 5th block [marisabriseno@sharylandisd.org](mailto:marisabriseno@sharylandisd.org)

**Welcome!** I am very pleased that you have chosen to participate in this elective class. We will be spending the next eighteen weeks together, so let’s work hard to get along with each other in order to make this an enjoyable learning experience. I welcome any suggestions you may have to make this class a productive and challenging experience for all of us.

**Course Description**

This course is designed for students who want to learn the art and craft of reporting, writing, editing, photographing and documenting news, which is relevant to our student body and our surrounding community. Students will learn the elements of news and the different forms of journalistic writing. They are expected to complete written compositions on a regular basis, carefully examining their papers for clarity, engaging language, and the correct use of the conventions and mechanics of written English and the AP Stylebook. Lessons about the history of journalism, press law, and ethics will complement this course. Students will become analytical consumers of media and technology to enhance their communication skills; they will have the opportunity to use computer-aided publishing tools and other hands-on production tools. To ensure student success, students will also learn about design, advertising, time management and teamwork. Some out of class time and after school time may be required.

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| **Expectations** |
| **Be responsible** – Come to class prepared and do your homework.  **Be respectful** – No rude, disruptive, or off-task behavior.  **Be trustworthy** – Meet your deadlines, turn in your work, do your own quality work.  **Be prompt** – with your work and with yourself. School tardy policy applies. School late work policy applies. |

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| **Consequences** |
| **1st infraction** – documented warning  **2nd**- one on one conference with teacher  **3rd** - phone call to parents  **4th -**  discipline referral |

**Objectives (TEKS)**

The student is expected to:

* identify the history and development of American journalism through people and events
* identify the foundations of journalistic ethics
* distinguish between responsible and irresponsible media action
* locate information sources such as persons, databases, reports, and past interviews; gathers background information; and researches to prepare for an interview or investigate a topic
* plan and write relevant questions for an interview or in-depth research
* evaluate and confirm the validity of background information from a variety of sources such as other qualified persons, books, and reports
* incorporate direct and indirect quotes and other research to write in copy
* revise and edit copy using appropriate copyreading and proofreading symbols
* use different forms of journalistic writing such as reviews, ad copy, columns, news, features, and editorials to inform, entertain, and/or persuade
* demonstrate an understanding of the elements of news through writing
* select the most appropriate journalistic format of present content
* use journalistic style
* gather information through interviews (in person or telephone)
* write captions
* demonstrate an understanding of the function of headlines through the writing of headlines
* rewrite copy
* recognize composition principles and their impact on photography
* recognize and apply ethical and legal standards to all aspects of photojournalism
* recognize the impact of electronic technology and future trends in digital imaging on the traditional field of photo journalism
* illustrate events with appropriate photos and captions

**Overview**

**First Nine Weeks**

Week 1-3 JT Ch. 1 Looking Back- The History of American Media

JT Ch. 2 Meeting Ethical and Legal Responsibilities

UIL Journalism Contest Lessons

Week 4- 6 JT Ch. 3 Deciding What is News

JT Ch. 5 Making the Interview Work

UIL Journalism Practice

Week 7-9 JT Ch. 6 Writing News Story Leads

JT Ch. 7 Writing News Stories & Headlines

UIL Journalism Practice

**Second Nine Weeks**

Week 1- 3 JT Ch. 8 Handling Quotes Fairly & Accurately JT Ch. 11 Writing Feature Stories

UIL Journalism Practice

Week 4-6 JT Ch. 12 Writing Sports Stories

JT Ch. 13 Writing for the Editorial Page

UIL Journalism Practice

Week 7-9 JT Ch. 9 Doing In-Depth Reporting

JT Ch. 18 Taking and Using Effective Photographs

**Grading Policy**

40% Daily Grades (Assignments & Quizzes)

60% Major Grades (Stories, Projects and Tests)

**Materials**

Text: *Journalism Today, 6th Edition* Ferguson, Patten, and Wilson

1. Small Spiral Notebook – this will be your reporter’s notebook to take with you when you go get information for a story
2. Class Folder – for class work & notes, keep everything for your reference.
3. Loose leaf paper – for assignments, tests, quizzes
4. Pen (blue or black only) and pencil
5. Digital camera (you can use your phone) – as needed to take photos for your story
6. USB storage device – you will need to have this to store your typed stories, you are not allowed to save work in the computer as it may get deleted
7. Tissue paper/ hand sanitizer.

**Class Assignment Heading Story Heading Student E-mail**

Your name Headline

Login Password

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| --- | --- |
| [AB012345@live. sharylandisd.us](mailto:AB012345@live.sharyland.us) | AB1234@sisd |

Block Byline

Date Deadline Date

Title Word Count

**Story Submissions**

You will be writing one story every two to three weeks. **First draft will be printed** and is due at the end of class on due date. You will get it back to make corrections once it is edited by teacher. **Final draft needs to be e-mailed** to teacher before midnight on due date. You must mail it using your PHS student e-mail.

* Stories must be typed on standard 8.5 x 11, white paper.
* Use one inch margins, double space between paragraphs. Do not indent.
* Use size 12 Times New Roman or Calibri font.
* Word count requirements vary. The minimum word count for most stories is 300.
* Stories should be saved as a Word document file and photos should be saved as a JPEG file. Name both with your name and story number. Example MarissaBriseno1