

Introduction to Journalism Syllabus

Mr. Silberman

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cecsilberman@gmail.com

<http://classjump.com/themanyclassesofsilberman/>

PURPOSE: The multiple forms of media we utilize today are an evolution of information distribution; we will examine the history of Journalism, the multiple forms it has taken and look into the future of media. Students will not only learn of journalistic forms, but put them into practice by developing a keen eye for news through the practice of reading print media; understanding the effects of technology on the media; developing and writing their own stories for possible print and editing works with a focus upon grammatical and factual accuracy.

ASSESSMENT

Students will be assessed in multiple modes throughout this class, grading percentages are as follows:

- Daily In-Class Activities = 20%
 - Such Activities Are:
 - Daily reading of the newspaper and 3 times per 9 Weeks sharing out a relevant news story with identification of writer's slant, 5 W's and H and an explanation of relevance to the school community.
 - Participation in Peer Editing activities.
 - Active participation in class discussions.
- Assessments and Rough Drafts = 30%
 - Such Activities Are:
 - Journalism Vocabulary Tests
 - Rough Drafts of any and all writing assignments.
 - Journalism knowledge skill checks.
- Major Assignments and Final Drafts = 50%
 - Such Activities Are:
 - Final Drafts of all articles met by deadline.
 - All major projects and layouts.

RESOURCES

Journalism cannot be taught in a bubble; while there is a textbook for this class, *Journalism Matters*; we will be utilizing many outside resources such as The Houston Chronicle and The New York Times and multiple journalistic resources all of which are available on my website.