**21st Century Journalism**

**Syllabus**

**Mulvane High School**

**Instructor:** Mike Abasolo

**E-Mail:** mabasolo@usd263.org

**Course Description:** As a prerequisite to all other Journalism field courses, 21st Century Journalism is designed to introduce the concepts, processes, and practices of journalism.

Successful completion of 21st Century Journalism, provides the primary foundation of knowledge and experience that qualifies a student to enter Broadcast Journalism, Newspaper Journalism, and Yearbook at MHS.

**Text:** Lorrie Lynch (2009), Exploring Journalism and the Media. Mark Briggs (2007) Journalism 2.0.

**Class Objectives:**

**Professional Ethics**

Students will demonstrate ability to follow directions.

Students will demonstrate the ability to cooperatively function as a team member.

Students will demonstrate strong work ethics.

Students will identify and abide by journalistic laws (i.e., first amendment, copyright, etc.).

**Trade Terminology**

Students will identify and utilize terminology in the Journalism classroom and lab.

Students will identify and utilize trade abbreviations and acronyms as appropriate.

**Safety**

Students will state general safety rules for operation of equipment and learning activities.

Students will implement safety practices when working in the field on assignment and in the lab.

Students will transport equipment safely and securely.

**Application**

Students will utilize elements of journalism to collect, edit, and produce information for an audience distributed across multiple communication mediums. (Broadcast, Print, Television, On-Line)

**Course Content:** Through the use of class discussion, hands on fieldwork application, cooperative learning groups, instructional class information, and testing the following topics will be covered:

***History of Journalism***

***Journalism Terminology***

***1st Amendment Rights***

***Law & Ethics of Mass Communication***

***Organizational Team Work***

***Basic Journalistic Equipment and Care***

***News Reporting***

***Interviewing***

***Publication Writing***

***Editing***

***Layout Design***

***Photography***

***Videography***

***Recording and Editing Operations***

**Student Evaluation:**

1. **Attendance / Participation**: ***Attendance*** will be monitored via “This Day In History” notes that students will be required to write down each day before the day’s lesson begins. If a student is absent, it is the responsibility of the student to get the required information from peers. At the end of each two week period, students will be required to complete an open note exam over the daily notes acquired. 2pts/day = 10pts/week - Attendance=25% of the overall grade.
2. **Project – Newspaper Article**After learning the tools necessary to be a newspaper journalists. Students will be given the opportunity to write their own article worth 30% of their overall grade.
3. **Assignment Deadlines:** Assignments will be given in class and online, [www.edmodo.com](http://www.edmodo.com), for each section of each chapter covered. As in the journalism profession, students will be expected to meet assignment deadlines on time. Assignments that are past deadline will drop one letter grade for each day past due for up to 4 days.
4. **Chapter Tests**: Tests will be given after each chapter is introduced and reviewed.
5. **Final Exam:** The final exam will be a comprehensive assessment.

**Points: Grading Scale:** Date:

Attendance = 25% = 2pts. per day 100% - 90% = A

Daily Work/Homework = 20% 89% - 80% = B Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Projects = 30% 79% - 70% = C

Tests = 25% 69% - 60% = D

59% - below = F Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_