

**McPherson High School**  
**Class Expectations**  
**2008 - 2009**



Instructor Todd Brittingham

Class Yearbook-Advanced Journalism

Period 2nd hour

Course Description:

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Yearbook class produces an annual book that is on time and successfully financed. Many skills are taught in the course to reach this goal. Working with others, taking responsibility and individuality are learned. The specific areas included are organization, theme selection, layout, copywriting, photography and finance.

Materials needed for the class:

Daily Class Supplies:

1. Pen or pencil.
2. Notebook paper.

Types of activities taking place in your classroom:

I. Orientation to Print Media

- A. Describe job opportunities
- B. Describe legal restrictions
- C. Look at ethics in journalism, including copyright considerations
- D. Look at the yearbook as a historical volume

II. News Writing and Gathering

- A. Writing formats and styles
  1. sports
  2. special events
  3. clubs
  4. academics
  5. use of sidebars and tie-ins
- B. Knowledge of news gathering techniques
  1. Develop interview questions
  2. Determine good interview candidates
  3. Interview several persons per story
  4. Utilize research skills (library, internet)

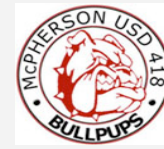
How students will be evaluated:

Grading Policy:

Grades are based on a point system. Grades for each semester will be figured on a cumulative point basis. I will follow the standard grading scale:

A+	100-98	A	97-93	A-	92-90
B+	89-87	B	86-83	B-	82-80
C+	79-77	C	76-73	C-	72-70
D+	69-79	D	66-63	D-	62-60
F	59 and below	IP	In Progress		

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Discipline rules and expectations:

**Deadlines:**

1. We are at the production level and tardiness of any aspect no matter how small or large will be detrimental to our team goal. Therefore, lateness is something we will not accept. Any work that does not make deadline will be severely accounted for in the grade earned. I cannot stress how important it is that we maintain our goals and reach all deadlines! We are all members of a team and we are only as strong as our weakest link.

**Basic Student Responsibilities:**

1. Do what you are asked to do.
2. No talking when I am teaching, or when another student is speaking / presenting.
3. No disrespectful language, inferences, or behavior towards others. Keep it clean.
4. Be in your assigned seat when the bell rings for staff meetings – not in the hallway or standing around the room. If you are not in your seat, you may be counted late.
5. Have all necessary materials with you at the start of class. You may be counted late if you have to go back to your locker during class.
6. Always ask to use the hall pass at appropriate times.
7. No cell phones are allowed to be out in class, following MHS policy.
8. You may use musical devices at times I deem appropriate – for example, during a work day. Obviously, never use them during instruction.
9. Keep it clean: This means the publications lab. Clean up the classroom before you leave. It also means the newsroom atmosphere. Speak respectfully about students and school faculty. If you can't say something respectful, then it probably shouldn't be said. Let's be honest and produce a great school yearbook, and let's do it in a way that everyone is proud to be associated with the Bullpup.

Consequences for inappropriate classroom behavior:

**Consequences for Student Non-Compliance:**

1. First instance = Verbal warning.
2. Second instance = 15 minute detention, before or after school. The time will be arranged at the teacher's convenience, not the student's.
3. Third instance = Office Referral (possibly resulting in ISS or OSS).

Additional Comments

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Instructor's Name

Todd Brittingham

Name of Class:

Yearbook-Advanced Journalism

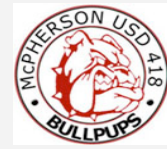
I have read and understand the Classroom Expectation:

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Parent/Guardian signature

Date

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Student signature

Date