

Mrs. Lloyd
jlloyd@basd.net
814-355-4833
ext. 8233

Journalism Course Syllabus

Welcome to journalism class! Your job as a member of the *Red and White* staff is significantly more difficult than it would have been ten years ago. Print media is becoming less popular as smart phones and iPads replace newspapers and magazines. As the voice of BAHS students, be proud to be a part of this staff.

“Journalism can never be silent: that is its greatest virtue and its greatest fault. It must speak, and speak immediately, while the echoes of wonder, the claims of triumph and the signs of horror are still in the air.”

-Henry Anatole Grunwald

This year is the paper’s **EIGHTY-SIXTH** year. It is your job to keep the *Red and White* going strong! To better understand what it’s like to be a part of the staff, please check out each category below:

Materials

You will be required to have the following materials in class every day:

- Chromebooks
- 3-ring binder or notebook for notes
- Writing Utensil

Grading

Since this class mostly runs as a newsroom does, please note that **grades are primarily dependent on your ability to meet article deadlines**. Please meet with me or your peer editors if you find yourself in a situation where you might not be able to meet an article deadline and we will help you brainstorm alternative ways to write your article before it’s due. Be **proactive** rather than reactive!

New Production (Print and Online)

Arguably the most important part of this class is our continuous maintenance of our online newspaper, along with our printed copies of the student newspaper, the *Red and White*. As a member of this class, you are given a voice and the opportunity to cover the things you want to cover. You will be treated as a news reporter at times, and your grades will be directly based on how you “deliver” the news: being timely, communicating with your staff, and adapting to conflicts are **ESSENTIAL** parts of succeeding in this class.

Peer Editors

The first thing you might notice about journalism class is the wide range of grade levels. We have juniors who are in their third year of journalism working closely with freshmen in their first; meanwhile, we might have a senior taking it for the first time. Keep in mind that student editors take on positions of leadership and their duties may include:

- Assigning and editing your articles for the student newspaper
- Requesting additional work to be done on articles
- Leading the class in team building activities
- Critiquing your work

Discussion Days

Occasionally we will spend the period meeting as an entire group to take a close look at current stories in the news or bigger concepts of journalism (Ted Talk, discussion, online discussion, speaker, etc.). You will be expected to respond to our discussions in class and in Google Classroom.

Collaborative Projects

A strong journalism staff prepares each member with the ability to carry on the production of the paper, even after the editors leave the staff. For this reason, you will learn the basics of our layout program, InDesign, while designing a publication with your peers. These projects will be adjusted accordingly to meet the requirements of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Attendance and Absences

You will be expected to complete a “Bellringer/Attendance” form in Google Classroom within the first 10 minutes of every class, whether you are in-person or remotely learning. It is your responsibility to gather any handouts or assignments you missed. As per the student handbook, you will have the opportunity to turn in assignments without penalty if your absence was excused. Please make every effort to communicate with me or the student editors if your absence falls on an article due date.

Rules

Due to the nature of this class, you are given privileges that you will not have in other classes. If you abuse these privileges, you will automatically lose them, and I will contact your guardians. Follow these rules in order to maintain a pleasant work atmosphere:

Cell Phones – Don’t use your phones during class, unless it’s an approved usage. **Especially** don’t use your cell phone if you have an article due.

Deadlines – Turn articles in on time. Failure to do so will negatively affect your grade, as well as the overall production of the newspaper. Student editors will be managing stories along with me.

Workmanship – Write your own articles. Take time to check your facts. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. If you pull a piece of information from a website, be sure to cite it.

Respect – You will disagree with the views of many of your classmates during the year. Be tactful when responding to the opinions of others.

**Student Newspaper Staff
Publication of Student Work**

To: Parents and Guardians of Journalism Students
From: Jessica Lloyd
Date: August 30, 2022
Re: Publication of Student Work

Our journalism class focuses on the fundamentals of journalism, including writing, editing and design. These skills are developed while producing the student newspaper, the *Red & White*. Sometimes, our stories and photos also appear in the district newsletter, *Red Raider Magazine*; the local weekly, *The Gazette*; and the State College paper, the *Centre Daily Times*. As always, we might also team up with online publications like statecollege.com. Students will also be contributing their writing on our website, bahsredandwhite.com, which will be updated on a weekly basis.

To that end, I am asking for your permission to post your child's work on our online newspaper website or forward your child's work to any media outlet, including those on the internet. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached at jlloyd@basd.net.

I have read the above statement and acknowledge that my student's work will be published in both print and online mediums.

Student Name

Printed Guardian Name

Parent Signature

Date