

Course Description

Journalism 1

Mrs. Weiss

In Journalism 1, students learn skills relevant to all aspects of producing a news publication such as gathering and writing news, writing features and editorials, designing and laying out pages, writing headlines and photo captions, and interviewing. In addition, students come to understand acceptable and unacceptable journalism practices and code of ethics. The objective of this course is to prepare students who wish to continue further in the study of journalism on the school's newspaper and/or yearbook staff. This course also teaches critical thinking skills and writing techniques that will enable students to navigate our media-saturated society.

Mandatory supplies: 3-ring binder (may be shared with another class), 3 section dividers, loose-leaf paper, pen. **Optional supplies:** flashdrive, computer paper.

Resources: *Journalism Today* textbook used in class, online publications, assorted print news publications. Students will also be asked to bring in a popular magazine occasionally.

Projects and group work: Posters, group press conference, interviews, mock news/magazine/yearbook page(s), advertisements.

Grading policy: All assignments will be weighted according to length and difficulty. Students will be told in advance how much an assignment is worth. Whenever a written assignment is given, the grading criteria will be listed on the board for students to copy into their notes. Any assignment not turned in will receive a zero. Assignments may be accepted one day late for a one-letter-grade deduction. Make-up work will only be accepted for an excused absence and must be handed in according to the school policy deadlines.

The best way to contact Mrs. Weiss is to email: Rhonda.weiss@browardschools.com

Please sign and return this bottom section to Mrs. Weiss in room 428.

I have read and understand the course description and grading system for Journalism 1.

Print student name: _____

Student signature: _____

Parent/guardian signature: _____

Parent email address: _____

Date: _____