

JOURNALISM SYLLABUS *L'Cean yearbook | Panther Press newspaper*

Teacher: Mrs. Chrystal Wallace

Website: www.lcpantherpress.com

Contact: cwallace@lenoircityschools.net

Twitter/Instagram: LenoirCityJournalism

Yearbook Email: media.lchs@lenoircityschools.net

Parents are encouraged to join Canvas through the Canvas Parent App if they would like access to instructional materials. Skyward is still our primary grade book and is considered to be the official grading system for all courses at Lenoir City High School. We encourage all families to use their Skyward Parent Access accounts for current attendance and grading information.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this class you will:

- Gain insight into creative, mechanical, managerial, and business functions of publications
- Learn to function as part of a highly organized team
- Experience the process of journalistic writing
- Observe, understand, and apply the technical skills inherent in production
- Be involved in reading, proofing, interviewing, examining records, scouting stories at sporting and social events, promoting book sales, writing newspaper articles, completing photography assignments, meeting deadlines, and attending workshops

MISSION:

- Produce this year's volume of the L'Cean Yearbook and daily updates to the Panther Press
- Record and compile the story of life here at LCHS
- Participate in the conversation that is journalism
- Represent the spirit of LCHS to our students and community

OBJECTIVES:

- Prepare for a successful life after high school
- Learn the processes that take ideas from concepts to creations
- Practice leadership, teamwork, and personal responsibility within a peer group
- Develop interpersonal communication skills as you participate in staff meetings, conduct interviews, promote Lenoir City High School publications, and negotiate advertising options with local businesses

EXPECTATIONS and STANDARDS:

The L'Cean Yearbook and the LC Panther Press are projects and processes that can only be as creative/fun/productive as the initiative and motivation that the student staffers allow. The program seeks to compete at the state and national level this year and expectations are high. It is essential that you actively engage as a member of the class.

STRUCTURE:

Just like any major publication, the L'Cean Yearbook and LC Panther Press Newspaper is composed of both a production staff and business staff run by an editorial team that is in this setting under supervision of the adviser. Staff members are to report to their respective section editor. Section editors produce and generate assignments based on the needs of the publication in addition to completing their own assignments. They are accountable for the productivity of their respective

Projects/Grading: Each week staffers are assigned a list of tasks to complete. More often than not, these tasks will be assigned by someone on the editorial staff rather than the adviser. Tasks will vary in complexity and quantity. Some weeks may include only one major assignment, while others may be a collection of smaller assignments. In addition, you are expected to cover at least three events during each semester.

An example weekly task list may be:

- 10 interviews from the varsity football team about the game against Brookville (interviews before and after the game)
- Write 3 captions for assigned photographs
- Bring in 5 story ideas or our next deadline meeting
- Current events research and quiz

1st Quarter:

- Coverage Plan Project
- Sales ideas
- Daily assignments and yearbook 101
- newspaper articles
- current events
- coverage

2nd-3rd Quarter:

- Spreads
- Sales
- newspaper articles
- current events
- coverage

4th Quarter:

- Supplement / Spring Magazine
- Distribution
- newspaper articles
- current events
- coverage

Journalism is a “DO” class. Stories are written well, or they’re not. Interviews are complete and shared with editors, or they’re not. Deadlines are met, or they’re not. Books are sold, or they’re not. Because of this process driven nature of publications and the practical application of this class, weekly grades will reflect completion, timeliness, and quality in addition to work ethic, attitude, and initiative.

Communicate with your respective editor regarding any situations that arise with your assignments during the completion time and prior to deadlines. Problems can be fixed or at least addressed well before deadlines arrive if they are talked about promptly. Late work will not be excused unless dealt with prior to the deadline. Every piece of the process matters to another piece of the process. Remember this!

Deadlines are to be met >> quality is key >> communications is expected

RESPONSIBILITY:

As a staff member you will be placed in a position of trust. The theme of the book as well as specifics concerning layouts, photographs, etc. is **confidential information** (unless we choose to release it). You will be expected to keep yearbook business in the publications room. You will be issued a staff badge and allowed a great deal of freedom to move about the campus in order to gather information for your assignments. Abuse of the privilege will result in a referral and revocation of your pass. You must use the sign-out sheet to leave the room during class. If you are not in the room or on the sign-out sheet, you are skipping class.

CONDUCT:

Your attitude is key and anything less than a positive one will be dealt with accordingly. Whether in the halls, on or off campus, or even online, your conversation and conduct must be seen to represent the program well. Concerns should be brought to the attention of your editor or Mrs. Wallace.

Those who speak poorly of the program will be considered for removal from the class. A dysfunctional team is not something that can be allowed to happen. This is on your shoulders. Shine or don't.

Regarding SOCIAL MEDIA:

What you post matters. As journalists, it's important that we be the right kind of people. Be mindful of how you present yourself to the world. Again, negativity towards the program or someone in the program whether directly or indirectly stated is not acceptable.

PRODUCTIVITY:

You must ask permission from the teacher in that morning or the afternoon prior before pulling a student from a class. This is very important. We must continue to maintain a good rapport with the faculty and interrupting a class unexpectedly is not how that happens.

Work during the entire class period. This time is not for socializing, completing other class work or sleeping. Keep track of the time you spend on any task in class on the specified time sheets. If you are finished with your assignment or don't have anything to work on for whatever reason, ask others if you can help them, talk to your team leader or see Mrs. Wallace.

Remember - we are a team.

AGREEMENT:

- - - I have read the course syllabus and am fully aware of the responsibilities of being part of the yearbook staff. I agree to adhere to these guidelines and share in the pride of being part of this staff. I understand that if I ever have a problem in meeting my obligations as set forth in this contract, I should talk with Mrs. Wallace as soon as possible to resolve the problem.

Parents, this class challenges students to take personal ownership and responsibility for their work and parents play a huge role in this developmental process as well. Education is a team effort.

Parent/Guardian and student, please sign below to acknowledge you have read and support the goals and expectations of this course. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. >> cwallace@lenoircityschools.net

STAFF SIGNATURE:

DATE:

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE:

DATE:
