

# **MEDIA ARTS/TECH CONCEPTS/CS DISCOVERIES SYLLABUS**

**INSTRUCTORS: Aaron Smith, Monique Jeter**

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## **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

**Students will be introduced to a variety of uses and techniques for creating artworks using digital media.**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Interact with others safely over the internet.
2. Recognize and properly cite reliable sources.
3. Produce images, audio, and media that demonstrate creative, personalized expression.

## **RULES**

1. Be kind.
2. Come to class prepared to learn.
3. Make choices that positively affect the learning of others.
4. Keep messy things (food, drink, lip gloss, paint) away from the technology.
5. Make constructive use of your class time.

## **CONSEQUENCES**

1. Verbal warning or praise, as is appropriate
2. Parent contact (email/phone/text using contact info in SchoolMax)
3. Loss of equipment privileges or additional responsibilities, as is appropriate
4. PS-74

## **COURSE OUTLINE:**

1. Binders
  - a. Every major is expected to bring a 3 ring binder WITH paper (lined & unlined) and writing tools to class EVERY DAY. Coming to class prepared is a classwork grade.
    - i. Pencils are recommended over pens. Writing utensils will not be provided.
    - ii. Binders should include blank lined and unlined paper. Paper will not be provided.
    - iii. Binders MUST NOT include loose leaf (unbound) paper that can slip out and be lost.
  - b. Students will be expected to place storyboards, critiques, homework, and other notes in their binders on a daily basis. These binders will be checked at least once/week.
    - i. Items looked for in the binder will vary based on assignments given over that time, so not all binder grades will be worth the same amount of points each week. Some items, like homework, may earn grades separate from the Journal grades.
  - c. Not having a journal does not excuse the student from the responsibility of the assignment. Work left at home or in a locker will earn a zero.
  - d. Binders are a record of participation, and therefore are not eligible for resubmission. A student cannot re-participate in a class that they previously spent off task.
2. Homework
  - a. Homework assignments are meant to review learning or prepare students for future lessons.
  - b. Homework is expected to be included in the binder, but its completion is a separate grade from the binder checks.
3. Projects

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- a. Each project will be assessed using a rubric.
    - i. Projects are larger assignments that require more than one day to complete.
    - ii. Some rubrics may be created in whole or in part by the students.
    - iii. Some projects will be assessed with the rubric used by judges during the annual PGCPs Film Festival.
  - b. A new project will be assigned roughly once every other week, with variations due to project scope, days off due to holidays/inclement weather, and so on.
  - c. CS Discoveries projects will be assigned/completed on a slightly different timetable.
  - d. Unless otherwise stated (Ex: Midterm & Final) projects are eligible for resubmission.
  - e. Most projects will be Classwork grades. Notable exceptions include the Midterm & Final, which will be Assessment grades.
4. Critiques
- a. In Media Arts and Tech Concepts, each Project will be accompanied by a “Critique Day” where students use the rubric to assess the work of their peers.
    - i. Student critiques are expected to include meaningful and specific criticism.
    - ii. “Critique Day” critiques count as assessment grades.
    - iii. Student critiques are used to help score projects. Because of the turnaround time required for project grading and resubmission, critiques are not eligible for resubmission.
  - b. Other critiques may be assigned as homework, Warm-Ups, or classwork.
5. Warm-Ups
- a. Warm-Ups are expected to be completed at the beginning of class while students are entering and attendance is being taken.
  - b. Most (not all) Warm-Ups will be written in the binders and graded as part of the binder Check.
  - c. As Warm-Ups are meant to prepare students for thinking about the class activities for the day, they are not eligible for resubmission.
  - d. Students arriving in class as an unexcused tardy will not be given additional time to complete the Warm-Ups.
6. Exit Tickets
- a. Exit tickets are assigned at the end of class and must be handed in at a designated location before leaving the classroom.
  - b. The location may vary based on the ticket. Tickets summarizing progress towards a goal might be placed on the board to keep track of said progress. Tickets answering opinion questions might be placed on the desk.
  - c. Tickets not placed in the designated location will not be graded.
  - d. Tickets that have been graded and returned should be kept in the student’s binder.

### **ASSIGNMENTS, RESUBMISSIONS, AND PARTICIPATION:**

1. Re-doing Assignments - Any assignment, unless indicated on the rubric given when the assignment is handed out, is eligible for resubmission as long as the student turns in the first attempt on time and makes a good faith effort to complete the work. The student must return the redo within ten days of receiving the graded assignment back from the teacher.
  - a. Make up work cannot be submitted less than five days before the end of the quarter.
  - b. The Midterm & Final, for example, are ineligible for resubmission due to their deadlines being due at the end of 2nd & 4th Quarter.

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- c. Warm-Ups, Exit Tickets, & Critiques are not eligible for resubmission, and will not earn above a zero if submitted late without an excused absence.
2. Grading Assignments - All assignments should be graded, scored on SchoolMax, and returned to students within 10 days of the student turning in the assignment. If a teacher needs more than the 10 days allotted, then a notice will go home to parents using the contact information provided in SchoolMax.
3. Good Faith Effort - If a student puts in a “good faith effort” to complete an assignment, the minimum score they are eligible to receive is 50%. Good faith efforts are determined by the following series of questions:
  - a. First, the assignment is graded. If the score is 50% or greater, the student earns that score.
  - b. If the score is less than 50% and the student did not complete the assignment, then the grade as scored stands.
  - c. If the score is less than 50%, the assignment is completed, and the work displays thinking somewhat aligned with the project criteria, then the student earns a 50%. If the thinking is not aligned, then the grade as scored stands.
  - d. Zeroes can still be assigned for cheating (including copyright theft/plagiarism), unlawful absence, late work, or if the student did not attempt the basic requirements as listed in the rubric/directions.
  - e. Digital files that cannot be opened (including save files rather than exported files) do not count as submitted work.
  - f. Citations that cannot be verified over the school’s internet (due to the PGCPs internet filter) will not count in regards to proof against copyright infringement.
4. Excused Absences - Absences are categorized as lawful or unlawful by Ms. Holmes in the main office.

## **METHOD OF COMPUTATION:**

Students will be graded on a point system. A letter grade may be given at any time by dividing the total points possible and applying the following scale:

90%-100%=A      80%-89%=B      70%-79%=C      60%-69%=D      59% and Below =E

## **FACTORS IN DETERMINING GRADES:**

### **Media Arts / Tech Concepts**

- Classwork      70%
  - Class participation, coming prepared for class, Warm-Ups, Exit Tickets, and projects.
- Assessments      20%
  - Quizzes, critiques, Midterm, Final
- Homework      10%
  - BCRs and ECRs, storyboards.

### **CS Discoveries**

- Classwork      50%
  - Class participation, coming prepared for class, Warm-Ups, Exit Tickets, worksheets, tutorials, and projects.
- Assessments      40%

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- Quizzes and critiques.
- Homework 10%
  - BCRs and ECRs, vocabulary definitions.

### **CELL PHONES AND OTHER PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Phones can be used in Media Arts and Tech Concepts, provided...

1. Permission is asked and given in advance.
2. The phone is ONLY used for a classroom assignment (Listening to music and/or texting are not classroom assignments, for example).
3. The student has not earned below a B (80%) on their previous project.

Due to the nature of the CS Discoveries curriculum, cell phones are not needed and therefore not allowed to be out during class.

A student using a cell phone without permission who does not immediately (not “I was getting to it”) put it away when warned will have the phone confiscated. If the phone is used again during the same class it will be confiscated without an additional warning. Repeat offenders will have their phone turned over to their grade level administrator to be collected by a parent.

### **ATTENDANCE:**

Most if not all video projects in this course can be completed in or out of class, provided the student has a computer and a working internet connection. Attendance is important as the teacher is there to provide help and guidance during the lessons, but a student in need of extra time or who is home due to illness can still complete and submit the video projects from home.

With that said, students are still expected to make good use of their class time. A student is not permitted, for example, to declare that they are working on their entire project at home and therefore have nothing to do in class. Such a declaration will result in a lower classwork grade due to a lack of participation.

Finally, regardless of where most of the work has been completed, a student who is absent on the day a project is due will earn a zero unless the absence is determined to be lawful within 3 days of the student returning. This requirement has been added to adhere to PGCPs policy.

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(Please tear off and return ONLY this sheet. Keep the rest of the syllabus for your reference.)

I have read and understand the requirements for this course.

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email Address \_\_\_\_\_