



Muscatine School District

Newspaper / Rauenbuehler: MCSD Course Syllabus	
Teacher(s) Name(s)	Mrs. Alex Rauenbuehler
Course Name	Newspaper → Journalism Two
Email	alex.rauenbuehler@mcsdonline.org
Phone Number	(563) 263-6141 → extension 3150
Office Hours	By appointment via email. Expect an email response within 48 hours.
Course Description	A yearlong class that is responsible for publishing the MHS Auroran Today, the schools newspaper website. Student journalists use the publication for a collection of feature stories that are of interest to the MHS student body. Throughout the duration of the course, students refine their writing skills by engaging in an authentic writing process that emphasizes the importance of workshopping. The purpose of this class is to promote professional journalism, enhance students' journalistic skills and encourage the production of a student-run publication. Over the course of the year, students focus on writing articles, conducting interviews, designing newspaper pages, taking photographs, designing advertisements, reading and viewing current events, and understanding media law. Most production work is done outside regular classroom time, but in-class brainstorming, writing, peer reviews, and publishing, and other collaborative efforts take place. The organization is meant to serve the student body by helping create a sense of community through shared experiences that are written about as well as produce student-journalists that possess 21st century skills in terms of effective communication, collaboration, and conducting oneself ethically.
Objectives	By the end of this course, students should be able to understand, apply and demonstrate proficiency with: - To produce a high quality newspaper as an end result of instruction and expansion of student skills. - To learn organization, planning, successful group dynamics and leadership. - To study newspaper coverage and audience needs. - To learn time management skills. - To examine legal issues related to newspaper coverage and production. - To learn principles of photojournalism. - To learn writing and reporting techniques.

	- To learn copy editing and proofreading skills. - To learn layout and design concepts. - To learn desktop publishing skills. - To learn social media posting literacy.
Instructional Materials	Newspaper Daily Schedule - Iowa City West West Side Story - Recent News Articles (NPR, CNN, CBS Sunday Morning, Discover Muscatine, ABC, Reuters) - Past MHS Auroran Today articles - Kelly Gallagher Article of the Week
Communication Protocols	- In-Class every Monday students are updated in-person about daily & weekly tasks and must complete a Weekly To-Do List - Students must regularly be in-class to collaborate and receive support from teacher and peers - Students should regularly check email for individualized communications
Grading Information	<u>All compliant with MHS Grading Policy</u> - Assessment: 50% - Learning Activity: 20% - Participation: 10% - Final: 20%
Assignment List	Newspaper Daily Schedule - MHS Auroran Today Staff Member Spotlight/Personality Profile Feature Story - Production Cycle Submissions - 3 per month (starting in September, ending in April) - Reading and Reflecting on Publications - Weekly Employability (tied to 21sts Century Employability Skill)
Academic Policies and Procedures	<u>All compliant with MHS Grading Policy</u> Submission: - Draft work submitted Google Classroom - Final draft published on MHS Auroran Today website Late Work: - All assessments accepted and graded for full credit via rubric until Deadline - Re-assessment allowed by request - Late work accepted until the last week of the semester at 50% - Participation may be made up for an excused absence within two days of the absence Plagiarism / Academic Honesty:

	All work submitted for this course must be your own. The use of AI is considered unoriginal. All references to sources must be properly cited. In cases where plagiarism has been clearly established, no credit will be given for the assignment and a formal entry will be made on Powerschool. Google Doc History must show history and progress of proof for the completed work.
Course Calendar	<u>Newspaper Daily Schedules</u> - updated Mondays (and most mornings) of each week during the semester - all individual production assignments, assessments, and materials linked