

Ms. Teeple's 2017-2018 Eighth Grade Yearbook Syllabus

Teacher Contact Information

Name: Ms. Theresa Teeple

Room number: G-107

Planning times: 8:30-9:20 and 10:30-11:20

Available conference times: 8:30-9:20 and 10:30-11:20; other times available upon request

Phone number: 864.355.7933

Extra help times: 7:45-8:15 and 3:15-3:45 daily by appointment

Email: tmteeple@greenville.k12.sc.us

Website: <http://sites.greenvilleschools.us/tmteeple>

Textbook: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION (Focus and Purpose):

In this course students will gain skills in one or more of the following areas: page design, advanced publishing techniques, copy writing, editing and photography while producing a creative, innovative yearbook which records school memories and events. There is an emphasis on journalism skills in this class! Participants gain useful, real world skills in time management, marketing, teamwork, and design principles.

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENTAL GOALS:

Students will be given challenging real world projects and assignments typical of the graphic design and publishing industries. High quality work is expected and students will be given opportunities to redo work until it meets standards specified during instruction. Classroom activities will include reading, research, projects, and problem solving. Students will often work in teams, but will be expected to complete individual assignments in relation to the team's work. It is my goal to nurture and encourage students to explore and inquire as I prepare them to be college and career ready.

At the completion of the semester, students will have:

- Learned publishing industry terminology.
- Become familiar with the Yearbook Avenue website.
- Worked with various types of technology to produce our yearbook, such as digital cameras, computers, and scanners.
- Applied computer skills and design principles to the production of yearbook pages.
- Learned copy writing techniques.
- Met deadlines.
- Designed spreads for the yearbook.
- Learned marketing terminology.
- Implemented a marketing campaign.

COURSE OUTLINE for the Year

All students will be required to develop an understanding of and hone their skills in these areas:

- Research
- Photography
- Design
- Marketing
- Journalism

We will begin the semester by introducing the following topics: graphic design, publication, photography, marketing, equipment use, journalism, editing, and leadership. Once students are comfortable with these topics, they will begin gathering photographs, interviews, and stories. They will use what they have collected to create and design their assigned spreads on the Yearbook Avenue website. Students will need to use their knowledge of design to choose layouts, fonts, colors, and headlines.

****Because our primary goal is to maximize student achievement, material may be added, deleted, and/or substituted at the teacher's discretion based upon the individual needs, levels, and learning styles of each class. Creative projects, written assignments, and supplemental materials may be included also throughout the year as opportunities arise.**

WEEKLY AND ONGOING ASSIGNMENTS:

-Spreads: Students will be responsible for creating and designing their assigned spreads for the yearbook. They will need to have them completed by the deadlines.

OUT OF CLASS PARTICIPATION:

Students are expected to participate in outside of class time activities. To produce a complete yearbook, students will be required to attend school activities to take photographs and gather information to be used in the yearbook. Due to the nature of publishing deadlines, students will periodically be expected to work outside of school hours to meet publishing deadlines.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

Students will need:

~Folder

~Pens and Pencils

~Loose Leaf Paper

ASSESSMENTS and GRADING:

Student grades are determined using the district grading scale, which is posted in the room. Grading is based on the school district weighting system of 50% minor (including but not limited to quizzes, small writing assignments, other class work, and homework), and 50% major (including but not limited to tests and projects).

All of my grades are in my grade book, and students may know their averages upon request. Tests are usually returned within a few days after they are taken and immediately gone over so students know why they missed what they did and how to correct it.

93-100	A
85-92	B
77-84	C
70-76	D
0-69	F

Students receive interim progress reports and quarterly report cards.

LATE WORK AND MAKEUP WORK:

Incomplete or not-handed-in (NHI) assignments will have a point deduction.

Make-up work resulting from an excused absence must be completed and turned in within five days of the absence. If the assignment was issued before the absence, the original due date still applies.

No work will be accepted for credit after the end of the academic quarter. (RMS Student Handbook)

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS AND PROCEDURES:

For all RMS discipline policies, please refer to the student handbook.

To ensure a productive learning environment, these classroom rules apply:

1. Be respectful and considerate.
2. Be on task.
3. Be prepared and on time each day.
4. Be mindful of class procedures.
5. Be positive: participate and show effort.
6. Follow all school rules and district policies.

PROCEDURES for NON-INSTRUCTIONAL ROUTINES:

Students are expected to be on time and to have all assignments and materials needed for the class. Attendance is taken at the beginning of the class period. As students enter the room, they should get their materials needed for the day, sharpen their pencils, and be seated and ready to begin class. Roll is taken at the beginning of the day and tardies are noted. Students are asked *not to go to the restroom unless it is an emergency*. Instructional time is very important.

PLAGIARISM:

Ideas or work taken from others—including written work (quoted or paraphrased); theories, statistics, or formulas; pictures, graphics, and other illustrative material—must be fully and properly acknowledged in students' written, visual, and oral presentations. For eighth grade at Riverside Middle School, students who plagiarize the work of others will face serious consequences, which are outlined in the student agenda.

PARENT COMMUNICATION:

Ms. Teeple's website provides the class syllabus as well as a "Weekly Planner" showing the current content and assignments at a glance. PowerTeacher publishes student grades for parent oversight.

In addition, Ms. Teeple provides progress reports and report cards, attends parent/student conferences, and responds to parent email or phone messages within 24 hours of the request.