

Language Arts Electives

Journalism I

10TH, 11TH, 12TH GRADE
PREREQUISITES:

1 YEAR, 1 CREDIT
"A" OR "B" IN PREVIOUS
ENGLISH COURSES
TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

This introductory course educates students as media consumers as well as preparing them for possible careers in journalism. Students study the history of the American media, ethics, interviewing, advertising, photography (composition, no darkroom), page design, news judgment, copy editing and news, feature, editorial, and sports writing. Developed writing skills, reflected in an A or B in previous English courses, are strongly recommended before enrolling in this course. Some articles written, especially during the second semester, may appear in the Patriot Expressions newspaper.

Journalism II (Newspaper Staff)

11TH, 12TH GRADE
PREREQUISITES:

1 YEAR, 1 CREDIT
APPLICATION AND
TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

Newspaper staff members, selected through an application process during the previous spring, produce the Patriot Expressions newspaper under the direction and assistance of the teacher/advisor. The class is a practical lab experience using a computer desktop publishing program to write and edit stories and to design and produce pages. Preference is given to students who have completed journalism I and keyboarding/desktop publishing courses and to those who have special skills in writing, photography or computer technology. Some off-campus and after-school work is required to gather information and sell advertising. Assessment is performance based.

Journalism III (Newspaper Staff)

12TH GRADE
PREREQUISITES:

1 YEAR, 1 CREDIT
APPLICATION AND
TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

This course is a practical hands-on lab which allows second year newspaper staff members to hone the basic fundamental skills they acquired serving on staff the previous year. They are assigned more complicated, in-depth news and feature stories and editorials. They also serve in editorial leadership roles in which they mentor first-year staff members. They offer peer instruction in developing interview questions, writing and editing various kinds of stories, taking, storing and adjusting digital photographs, and completing computer-assisted page and ad design. The content and direction of each issue is steered by these seniors who must exhibit self-discipline and time management skills. They are also largely responsible for the financial support of the paper through advertising sales and design.

Journalism II (Yearbook Staff)

11TH AND 12TH GRADE
PREREQUISITES:

1 YEAR, 1 CREDIT
C OR BETTER IN ENGLISH 10
APPLICATION AND TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

Selection of staff is by faculty committee. Pagemaker / Page-master programs are the bases for yearbook page creations, and students become proficient in layout and design using these programs. Other skills necessary for yearbook production are photography, ad sales, computer knowledge, writing, and organization. Journalism is not a prerequisite, but good writing skills are.

Journalism III (Yearbook Staff)

11TH AND 12TH GRADE
PREREQUISITES:

1 YEAR, 1 CREDIT
C OR BETTER IN ENGLISH 10
APPLICATION AND
TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

Journalism III, yearbook, is an elective course for students in their senior year. Selection for the class is from student-submitted applications. Students enrolled in this course expand on the foundation they received in Journalism II as juniors, but in Level III they take an active role in the decision-making and planning of the yearbook. Level III concentrates on overseeing the work of the less experienced staffers. They expand on the foundation they received in Level II in the use of such computer design programs as PageMaker, PageMaster, and PhotoShop. Level III students also form the editorial board for the yearbook and are responsible for designing, editing, and photographing the yearbook for Marion High School. Students enrolled in Level III are expected to become more analytical consumers of media and technology to enhance communication skills. They will also learn journalistic ethics and standards.

Oral Communication I (Speech I)

10TH, 11TH, 12TH GRADE

1 SEMESTER, ½ CREDIT

Speech is designed to provide students with the opportunity to develop listening and speaking skills needed to meet the challenges of life beyond home and school. Students study the basic elements of communication, different types of communication, and public speaking. Through group discussions, presentations, and informal and formal individual speaking opportunities, students learn to think clearly and express themselves before an audience.

Oral Communication II (Speech II)

10TH, 11TH, 12TH GRADE

1 SEMESTER, ½ CREDIT

PREREQUISITES: "C" IN ORAL COMMUNICATIONS I
Oral Communications II is designed for students who want to continue developing their communication skills beyond that addressed in Oral Communications I. The class focuses on increasing students' knowledge of the communication process by addressing such issues as speech and language development in humans as well as effective listening. Students will continue to learn to communicate with others more effectively through such activities as group discussions, problem-solving and conflict resolution, persuasive speaking, and various other formal and informal speaking opportunities.

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*Marion High School ACT School
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