

**Broadcasting I - Semester Syllabus (Standard Version) Grade Level:** 9th-12th | **Course Length:** 1 Semester (18 Weeks) **Class Period Length:** 90 Minutes | **Prerequisites:** None

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## Course Description

This course introduces students to the fundamental principles of broadcasting, including audio and video production, journalism, scriptwriting, and media ethics. Students will engage in hands-on learning as they create original broadcast content and develop technical and communication skills relevant to the media industry.

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## Course Objectives

Students will: - Understand roles and responsibilities in broadcasting - Write, record, and edit audio and video segments - Conduct interviews and develop news packages - Practice ethical journalism - Create a final broadcast production

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## Weekly Breakdown (90-Minute Blocks)

### *Week 1: Introduction to Broadcasting*

- Day 1: Course overview, expectations, syllabus, team-building
- Day 2: History of broadcasting, types of media, major broadcasting milestones

### *Week 2–3: Broadcast Journalism Basics*

- Day 1: News values, types of stories (hard vs. soft)
- Day 2: Fact vs. opinion, avoiding bias
- Day 3: Writing for the ear (leads, transitions)
- Day 4: Practice writing scripts for 30–60 second stories

### *Week 4–5: Scriptwriting & Storyboarding*

- Day 1: Script formats (news, PSA, interviews)
- Day 2: Timing and pacing
- Day 3: Storyboarding visuals for video
- Day 4: Peer review and feedback on sample scripts

### *Week 6–7: Audio Production*

- Day 1: Microphone types and placement
- Day 2: Recording voiceovers and soundscapes
- Day 3: Introduction to editing software (e.g., Audacity)
- Day 4: Produce and edit a short podcast or PSA

***Week 8–9: Video Production Basics***

- Day 1: Camera angles, shot composition, lighting basics
- Day 2: Hands-on filming practice
- Day 3: Introduction to video editing (iMovie, Premiere Rush)
- Day 4: Create a short visual storytelling segment

***Week 10–11: Field Reporting & Interviews***

- Day 1: Interview prep, crafting questions
- Day 2: Recording mock interviews
- Day 3: On-camera presence and performance
- Day 4: Review interview footage, critique

***Week 12–13: Studio Production***

- Day 1: Roles in studio (anchor, camera op, TD, director)
- Day 2: Teleprompter use and lighting setup
- Day 3: Practice mock studio production
- Day 4: Record full studio segment (group project)

***Week 14–15: Broadcast News Package Project***

- Day 1: Planning and pitching stories
- Day 2: Writing scripts and creating shot lists
- Day 3: Filming and interviews
- Day 4: Editing and refining segment

***Week 16: Ethics & Media Law***

- Day 1: Copyright, fair use, Creative Commons
- Day 2: Libel, slander, privacy rights, and ethical reporting

***Week 17: Final Production Week***

- Day 1: Final production planning, group/solo work time
- Day 2: Recording and editing final broadcast segment

***Week 18: Showcase & Reflection***

- Day 1: Present final projects to class
- Day 2: Peer feedback, self-assessments, course reflection

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**Assessment Breakdown**

Course grades will be based on points for each assignment. Certain assignments may have peer contracts that portion out grades to one another on top of their overall score.

Late Policy: Homework is due by the beginning of class. Late work will have a strict policy in place as follows:

1 Day Late: 10% Deduction

2 Days Late: 20% Deduction

3 Days Late: 0% Score

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### Required Materials

- Composition notebook or digital journal
  - Headphones if possible
  - USB flash drive or cloud storage access (provided by teacher)
  - Access to video/audio editing software (provided by WFHS)
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### Classroom Expectations

- Respect peers and equipment
  - Meet deadlines and collaborate effectively
  - Practice academic honesty and ethical media practices
  - Be willing to try, fail, and improve
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### Equipment Responsibility and Usage Agreement

As part of this course, students will have access to professional broadcasting equipment. It is essential that all equipment be treated with the utmost care and respect—just as you would treat your own valuable belongings. Proper handling ensures that everyone can benefit from high-quality tools throughout the semester. To reinforce this responsibility, each student will be required to sign an Equipment Usage Contract. This agreement outlines expectations and procedures in the event of damage, loss, or misuse. Signing the contract is mandatory and signifies your commitment to maintaining the integrity and functionality of our shared resources.

### Closing:

**Students:** Please contact me by email or stop into the classroom at 105C with any questions. I will be available before and after school as well as on Block 3A.

**Parents:** Please contact me via email and I will be happy to schedule a phone call or meeting if further needed. My availability generally is between 7AM to 7PM.

Thank you for choosing broadcasting. This class is truly a blank canvas that will give you the opportunity to create and make an impact! Let's have a great year!

**Instructor:** Garret Klein

**Email:** gklein@west-fargo.k12.nd.us

**Room:** 105C

**Office Availability:** Block 3A 12:30 – 2:00 PM