

Robert Louis Stevenson Middle School

Devil's Digest (1 Year) –7th Graders

Mr. Harrington

Course Description:

Seventh grade students will quickly learn (or re-learn from the Sixth Grade "Modern Media" course) a variety of multimedia skills. They will then utilize these skills to produce a weekly school video magazine called "Devil's Digest." It is broadcast every Wednesday to the school and the St. Helena community over the internet.



Please visit the "Devil's Digest" class site to view a sample of the student's work:

<http://rlsbluedevils.org/Documents/DevilsDigest.html>

Course Content

By the end of the course, students will have a working knowledge of the following multimedia applications.

Applications:

- iMovie (video editing)
- iTunes (music/video archive)
- GarageBand (music composition)
- iPhoto (photo archive & editing)
- iDVD (cvd creation)
- Photo Booth (podcasts/photos)
- Live Type (graphic animations)

By the end of the course, students will have acquired the following skills.

Skills:

- Script writing
- Storyboard creation
- Digital camcorder operation
- Filming techniques
- Lighting
- Editing and developing videos
- Audio integration
- Broadcast the Films
- DVD creation.
- Green Screen

Class Structure

Over the first month, the students will learn a range of multimedia skills by recreating model pieces developed by the teacher. They will then begin the process, every other week, of developing and contracting a topic, storyboarding how they see the production unfolding, scheduling a shoot, filming, editing and finally meeting their contracted deadline. RLS students and the St. Helena community are then able to view their production after the start of school, every Wednesday morning, on the internet. The students then begin the entire process over again.

Partners

Although I may be guiding the classes, a tremendous amount of the learning and support will come from the students themselves. Although students can elect to produce videos for Devil's Digest on their own, I urge students to partner with other students. You will find that if you are unable to make a shoot because of a previously scheduled appointment, the partner will be able to cover for you. Also, you will probably find it more enjoyable.

Course Goal – "Life Skills"

It is my goal over the year to develop the following "Life Skills" in all my students:

- Attention to Detail
- Problem Solving - Find Solutions
- Hit Deadlines
- Achieve Beyond the Basic Requirements.

Class Conduct

- The moment the bell rings be in your seat.
- If a student is being a distraction:
 - First, they will be notified that they are distracting themselves and others from learning and will be given the opportunity to change their behavior.
 - Second, if it persists, they will be asked to step outside for a few minutes to reflect on their actions and hopefully change.
 - Third, if they continue, they will ask to go to the office where the counselor and principal can assist in changing the behavior.

Also:

- Bathroom (Bladder Control) – School Rules state that you must go prior to class. If an emergency occurs during class, then we need the principal’s authorization.
- Water: If you are thirsty, get a drink on the way to class.
- Roaming the Room – The only students who should be out of their seats are those who are helping others. If you want to help someone, just ask.
- Food & Drink – Never. Any item that can be placed in your mouth will be considered food...including gum, mints and cough drops.
- Music – You may not listen to music while instruction is being given. You are expected to listen to songs when deciding what track should be in the videos you are creating.
- Other Class Assignments – Other class assignments are not to be done during class time.

Missed Assignment Guidelines

- You are responsible for all missed work due the day following your return. Acquire the phone number of surrounding students. The burden of determining missed assignments and turning them in on time is your responsibility.
- Late work will not be accepted unless previously authorized by the instructor.

Extra Credit:

None

Required Materials:

- A binder or folder to hold reference materials distributed during class. Must write, “Technology” on the front cover.

Availability:

I am available to assist students at break, lunch and after school.

Grading Policy (Student’s grade is a total of all the points accumulated during the course.)

Students receive 100 pts. for each video submitted on time that matches the contract signed by the student. If a student fails to submit their video on time, then they are allowed to submit the following week; if perfect, the student will receive 89 points instead of 100 pts. Any extensions after this point must be authorized by the instructor. Time sensitive pieces aren’t given extensions.



Grading Scale

94-100=A	80-83=B-
90-93=A-	77-79=C+
87-89=B+	74-76=C
84-86=B	70-73=C-