

Robert Louis Stevenson Middle School
7th Grade_Devil's Digest – A Weekly Video Magazine.
Mr. Harrington

Course Description:

Students will learn 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 each week to the school and the St. Helena community over the internet.



Please visit the “Devil’s Digest” class site to view past productions:
<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.	By the end of the course, students will have acquired the following skills.
Applications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Cut Pro (video editing) • Motion (animation) • Photoshop (graphics) • GarageBand (music composition) 	Skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Script writing & Storyboard creation • Filming (Digital camcorder operation) • Lighting • Editing videos • Audio integration

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 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 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 – “Develop Life Skills”

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

- Problem Solving - Find Solutions!
- Time Management (Hit Deadlines!)
- Attention to Detail
- Collaborate (work with other students.)

Class Conduct

- The moment the bell rings be in your seat.
- Have fun, but please don’t be a distraction to yourself or others.

Also:

- Bathroom – just ask.
- 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 – In order to take care of the computers, food and drink are never allowed in the room. Any item that can be placed in your mouth will be considered food.
- Other Class Assignments – Other class assignments are not to be done during class time.

Missed Assignment Guidelines

- This is a Technology class...“What can go wrong, will go wrong.” As a result, if you miss a Devils Digest production deadline, it is ok. Just turn it in by the next submission date and you will only receive a 10 point deduction – two weeks, subtract 20 points, etc. Remember, you still have to submit the following week’s production on its due day. Thus, try not to fall behind.

Extra Credit:

None

Required Materials:

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

Availability:

I will always make myself available to assist you...just ask.

Grading Policy

The class Grading Policy allows all of my students to move at their own speed and get credit for what they have achieved. As they complete certain projects, they get credit and when they complete the next project, their grade is raised to match their accomplishment. There is no subjectivity to this grading system and it’s very clear to the student what they need to achieve to attain certain grades. The assignments build in complexity, so students must complete the “C” assignment before moving on to the “C+” assignment, etc.

Grading Scale

C-: Mac OS, iTunes, G.B. & G.B.
Comp., Photos, Quality Standards.
C: Photoshop & My Friend Barak.
C+: Junk Movie
B-: Devils Digest #1
B: Devils Digest #2
B+: Devils Digest #3
A-: Motion_Car Race Tutorial
A: Student Created Motion Race.