



McCullough Junior High
2017-2018 Course Application
Yearbook I: Intro to Yearbook
(half year, 7th & 8th combined class)



Course description:

Yearbook I is a one-semester curriculum for yearbook journalism. This basic course provides an introduction on how to produce a student-run publication, such as the Highlander Yearbook. The topics covered will enable the student to be a productive member of a publications staff in the future.

Who should take the class?

Seventh graders who wish to apply for the Highlander Yearbook Staff in eighth grade should consider taking **Yearbook I**. It is NOT a prerequisite to Yearbook II, however, students who take Yearbook I as seventh graders are given priority consideration for a limited number of spots for the eighth grade, full-year class (**Yearbook II**).

Eighth graders who are interested in pursuing journalism courses in high school should also consider taking **Yearbook I**, as it provides a broad foundation of the skills required to produce a student-run publication.

Topics Covered:

Yearbook students will learn that there is far more to planning and producing a publication than selecting pictures to fill a page. Each person in the class will be responsible for writing *quality* stories and captions, conducting interviews independently, maintaining organized photo files, creating layouts on the computer, and proofreading and editing layouts.

Students will also learn to go beyond point-and-shoot photography by combining the technical aspects of the DSLR camera with basic rules of composition. (A camera is not required for the course.)

Grades will be evaluated not only on the student's mastery of these skills, but also on the student's ability to meet deadlines.

Required Skills

Class members should be comfortable using the computer, writing stories, interviewing, and designing layouts. In addition, students should portray the following characteristics:

- Strong work ethic
- Interest in writing
- School pride
- Cooperative team player
- Creative and open-minded
- Self-directed, ability to work independently
- Ability to plan and meet deadlines
- Receptive to feedback
- Trustworthy and responsible*

**Students in the course are entrusted with expensive equipment to carry out daily assignments.*

To Apply

Please staple your *signed* application to your course selection sheet at the same time you turn it in to your counselor or teacher. **Applications must be received during the course selection window to be considered.** Applications should be filled out **by the student** and signed by a parent or guardian. Please email Lori Reichardt with questions at lareichardt@conroeisd.net.

