



DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

Syllabus

Discovery Middle School
1304 Hughes Road
Madison, AL 35758

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Course Description:	Digital Communications is a course where students report on various school happenings, create PSAs, and moderate social media accounts. Students also get a chance to learn how to edit and produce digital media while leaving a positive footprint on the global digital community.
Course Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">* To develop a student's decision - making and problem-solving abilities.* To facilitate collaboration skills among students by implementing small group activities.* To improve student communication skills through reading, listening, and writing activities.
Classroom Expectations:	<p>Classroom Rules and Procedures: Digital Communication students will be using computers or recording equipment most days. The most important rules in class will involve safety and care of the equipment/computers. These will be covered during the first week of classes. Please be aware: Parents are liable for any damages to a computer/Chromebook that occur during class (accidents are exempt).</p> <p>Rules:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Enter with a growth mindset for learning.2. Be in your seat when the tardy bell rings.3. Treat others as you want to be treated.4. Food and drink are not allowed in classrooms. (Water in a closed container is permitted.)5. Behave in a manner conducive to learning for all.6. Show respect for yourself and others at all times.7. Follow all rules listed in the Madison City Schools Code of Conduct and the DMS Student Handbook.

	<p>Possible Consequences:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conference with student 2. Parent Contact – by phone or email 3. Detention (tardies only) 4. Parent Conference 5. Administrative Referral
<p>Textbook:</p>	<p>No textbook</p>
<p>Grading:</p>	<p>Test grades will account for 60% of the 9-weeks grade, with the remaining 40% being determined by quiz/daily grades. The grading scale is as follows: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (65-69), and F (below 65). Grades will be a reflection of mastery of the standards. Make sure all absences are excused as class work can be made up and graded for excused absences only. The office must receive a note within 3 days of the absence for the absence to be eligible to be excused.</p>
<p>Make-up Work:</p>	<p>Under normal circumstances, it is expected that students will submit <u>previously</u> assigned work upon return to school after an excused absence. All work missed on the day(s) of excused absences must be made up within a timeframe determined by the teacher. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure he or she makes up work following excused absences. Students will not receive credit for and will not be allowed to make up any assignments, tests, work, activities, etc., missed during unexcused absences. (DMS 2024-2025 Student Handbook)</p>
<p>Late Work:</p>	<p>For work turned in late, the following policy will apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The assignment will drop one LETTER grade for each school day that passes. For example, if an assignment is turned in one school day late, the highest a student can receive is 89%; two days late, 79%, etc. <p>1 day late = maximum credit 89% 2 days late = maximum credit 79% 3 days late = maximum credit 69% 4 days late = maximum credit 59% 5-10 days late = maximum credit 50%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Half credit is always better than no credit! Until work has been made up, "Missing" (which counts as a zero) will be put in the grade book. This will be updated once work is completed and turned in.

Accommodations:	Requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcomed from students and parents.
Technology	Concerning laptop utilization: 1. Student laptops should not be hard-wired to the network or have print capabilities. 2. Use of discs, flash drives, jump drives, or other USB devices will not be allowed on Madison City computers. 3. Neither the teacher, nor the school is responsible for broken, stolen, or lost laptops. 4. Laptops and other electronic devices will be used at the individual discretion of the teacher.
Materials and Supplies:	Pen/Pencil Wishlist: Tissues, Germ-X, paper towels

Course Outline <i>*Subject to Change</i>	
	Unit
1	Design Thinking
2	Digital Citizenship
3	Analyzing Media Literacy
4	Intro to Film/Recording Equipment
5	Intro to Video Project
6	Design Studio
7	PSA
8	Mobile/Social Media Project
9	Editing/Final Production