

Welcome to the DFA Yearbook and Journalism class.

If you are receiving this letter, you have been scheduled into next year's 7th period yearbook class. Next year's class is shaping up to be the largest yearbook class ever. Approximately 33 students are currently enrolled. A class this size offers excellent opportunities to better document the dynamic environment that is Davidson Fine Arts.

Capturing the Moment

Taking quality photographs is one of the most demanding aspects of yearbook responsibilities. If you miss a moment, or an event, it cannot be easily replicated or documented. To get us started down the right path in August, you will find a required summer assignment below.

Smartphone and a Sharp Eye

With a class of 33, finding a camera for everyone to use will be a challenge. With this in mind, I would like for each of you to start practicing better photography techniques using a smartphone **(IF YOU HAVE A DECENT DIGITAL CAMERA, YOU CERTAINLY MAY USE IT)**. I highly recommend that you visit one or more of the many web pages devoted to teaching better phone photography techniques.

Summer Assignment #1

Tell a story in five images. (Example: a child learning to tie shoelaces, a routine, a process, a break up, etc.) The goal of this assignment is to get you think and communicate more as a visual storyteller. This is one of the fundamental qualities of a great yearbook staff member.

Simple Rubric:

Total of 5 images that tell a story **(10 pts per image for a total of 50 pts.)**

You worked with and considered your lighting **(20 pts)**

Overall quality of the images **(20 pts)**

Images are printed and mounted for display in school **(10 pts)***

***This will be done after we return.**

Summer Assignment #2

99+1 Using either a smartphone, or a camera, you are required to take 100 images that you are ready to show during the first week of school. The images should include the following: people, places, events, sports, arts, etc. (Limit the number of selfies to no more than 10).

Simple Rubric:

Total of 100 images were taken by the student **(.5 pt per image for a total of 50 pts.)**

Variety of subject matter (i.e., not same person in same setting 100 times)**(20 pts)**

Overall quality of the images (i.e, you tried a variety of techniques, I can tell that you experimented, and sought out information)**(20 pts)**

10 or fewer selfies **(10 pts)**

All images should be downloaded from phones or camera cards to a flash drive before school starts on August 2.

One of our first assignments when we start the new year will have you loading your images into the yearbook software and completing your first yearbook spread to learn the software interface.

Due Dates: Both assignments are due on **August 2, the first day of school.** You will receive a test grade for each assignment.

I understand that this summer assignment is required and will count as two test grades and the material will be needed for my first project grade when I return to school in August.

Student Signature _____

Date _____

We look forward to seeing your first images in the fall and wish you luck in the coming school year in yearbook and all your courses.

Travis Wiggins
Yearbook Advisor

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Yearbook Editor