

Welcome to Radio Production!

In this quarter long class you will learn the basics of radio production--which are essential skills to have for those of you moving on to the second quarter of broadcast journalism.

Overarching Objectives: Students will be exposed to the basic skill set of radio production, and achieve mastery of the following:

- development of your own radio personality
- discovering your comfort zone (or discomfort zone) and moving beyond that
- working in small and large groups, working alone
- voice development
- rehearsal and delivery
- reading, writing, research
- production
- archiving of final product--how to use drop boxes and navigate the network
- understanding the legal issues: The FCC, copyright and royalties, fair use, citing of sources

We will be **listening** to all sorts of radio samples to get an idea of the development of radio personalities--past and present. While it may appear that radio hosts wing it, they are actually backed up by teams of researchers and writers who help them develop their personalities and content. Radio announcers may very clearly state their political views or might be politically neutral--a lot of this depends upon their choice of content on the air.

How do you listen to radio? Like most people, probably for background--something that you listen to while doing a chore, riding in the car, or doing homework. This type of passive listening is fine for the purposes listed above. We may listen more actively when the radio is announcing something we want to hear (how much traffic is there, who won the ball game last night, what is the weather going to be like). If you want to be doing radio work, you'll have to become a more active listener, and learn how to "read" what you hear on the radio.

Assignments and Projects: An assignment is something that you will do either at home or in class and generally takes one to two class blocks to complete. Projects are longer term and generally require more time and development, for example--a project may be a ten minute broadcast while an assignment generally is no more than sixty seconds in length. Assignments and projects may be individual, with one partner, or in a group of up to four--depending upon the nature of the assignment or project.

### **students are expected to**

- be on time and prepared for class
- treat one another and the teacher with respect
- follow the VISIONS guidelines for having discussion and debate--these guidelines can be found at: <http://www.lsrhs.net/departments/FATA/Guidelines.pdf>
- FOOD and DRINK are not allowed at or near any of the computers, studios, or equipment. You may consume refreshments in the areas of classrooms that are specified and must clean up after yourselves (wrappers, empty bottles, trash, or spills). Failure to do so will result in suspension of this privilege
- You are responsible for the care of equipment and will have to sign a contract accepting this responsibility

GRADING: Your grades will be calculated as follows:

projects and assignments: 33%

attendance: 14%

on time for class? cut class? absent? (note students will have to make up missed work due to absences and will not be allowed to do so if class was cut)

participation: 33%--contribute to discussion? Follow VISIONS guidelines?  
Help or hinder the progress of lessons and classmates? Work well in groups?  
Mitigate or exacerbate differences and conflicts? Work well alone?

Quizzes, papers, or homework: 20%