

**Robert Louis Stevenson Middle School**  
**Devil's Digest**  
**Mr. Harrington**

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**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.
<b>Applications:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final Cut Pro (video editing)</li> <li>• Motion (animation)</li> <li>• Photoshop (graphics)</li> <li>• GarageBand (music composition)</li> </ul>	<b>Skills:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Script writing &amp; Storyboard creation</li> <li>• Filming (Digital camcorder operation)</li> <li>• Lighting</li> <li>• Editing videos</li> <li>• Audio integration</li> </ul>

**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 – "Life Skills"**

It is my goal over the trimester to develop the following "Life Skills" in all my students:

- Attention to Detail
- Problem Solving - Find Solutions
- Hit Deadlines
- Achieve Beyond the Basic Requirements.
- 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 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 is never allowed in the room. Any item that can be placed in your mouth will be considered food. If you need water, just ask.
- Music – You may not listen to music while instruction is being given. You may listen to music while working on a project. You are expected to listen to songs when deciding what track should be in the videos you are creating. If you are not sure, just ask.
- 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 am available to assist students at break, lunch and after school.

### 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.  
B-: Junk Movie  
B: Devils Digest #1  
B+: Devils Digest #2  
A-: Devils Digest #3  
A: Motion\_Car Race Tutorial  
A+: Student Created Motion Race.