

Media Foundations

Course Syllabus

Prattville High School Media Program
Creating Communicators. Inspiring Creators. Preparing Professionals.
Career & Technical Education
2026–2027

Welcome to the Media Program

Every great creator starts by learning the fundamentals.

Instructor: Mr. Legg
Room: TC-1
Prerequisite class: None
Instructor Email: bryden.legg@acboe.net
Teacher/Class Website: www.gophslions.com
Online Learning Environment: Google Classroom, Schoology

Course Overview

Media Foundations introduces students to video production, audio, graphic design, broadcasting, scriptwriting, editing, lighting, camera operation, and media safety through hands-on, project-based learning. Upon successful completion of this course, students are prepared for a specialized high school course prerequisite for Broadcasting I and Film I.

What You'll Learn

In This Course, You Will

- Learn camera operation and composition
- Explore visual storytelling
- Record and edit video and audio
- Write scripts and tell compelling stories
- Design digital media projects
- Collaborate as part of a production team

Projects You'll Create

- Short films
- News segments
- Public service announcements
- Graphic design projects
- Audio and podcast activities

Your Media Journey

Media Foundations is the first step in the Prattville High School Media Program. Throughout this course, you'll explore a variety of media disciplines, discover your strengths, and develop the technical and creative skills used by today's media professionals. Advanced opportunities include Film I, Broadcast Journalism, Sports Broadcasting, and Podcast Production.

How the Class Works

Professional Expectations

- Respect classmates, staff, and equipment.
- Participate actively every day.
- Work safely and responsibly.
- Meet project deadlines.
- Demonstrate professionalism.
- Represent the Media Program with integrity.

How You'll Be Evaluated

- Media projects
- Tests and quizzes
- Daily participation
- Classwork
- Production activities
- Semester assessments

Technology & Equipment

Students will use professional cameras, computers, editing software, and other media equipment responsibly.

Artificial Intelligence

AI may be used for approved brainstorming and planning. All submitted work should reflect each student's own learning and creativity.

Continue Your Journey

After completing Media Foundations, students may continue into Film I, Broadcast Journalism, Sports Broadcasting, and Podcast Production.

Course Materials:

- We provide SD cards but it is nice to have your own to keep up with. You can get your own SDHC Class 10 Memory Card (type in “SanDisk Ultra” online or in Amazon. 32 GB cards or larger are fine). Make sure it has the Class 10 symbol
- 32gb or larger USB flash drive (Preferably USB 3.0) or external hard drive for transporting and editing personal files if you desire to do so at home.
- Personal headphones are requested for use and should be wired with wire. (bluetooth not available and NOT allowed)
- If you prefer to take your notes by hand you are welcome to use whatever notebook you prefer. All notes are provided after lectures.

Time Requirements: I will give the entire class a time limit to complete your projects to ensure that everyone has equal chances to finish their video projects. When you are working on projects, you must work diligently so as to not hold up the entire class. If I see that you are not using your camera time wisely, I will give someone else a chance to use it, and your grade will be affected. This expectation also applies to group projects.

Grading: If you miss a quiz, project, or test, you have only 3 class days to talk to me about making it up. If your absence is unexcused you will not be allowed to make up any missed assignments. If you are absent the day a project is due, you will not be able to submit the project unless you have an excused absence. Then, the project is due the day you return from your absence. All other make-up work, including tests, must be made up within 3 days of your absence. **It is your responsibility to get your make-up work.**

Late Work: All assignments must be turned in on the due date. Failure to do so will result in a 15 point deduction for the first day, and a 5 point deduction for each day thereafter.. If an assignment isn't turned in after 18 days it will result in a 0 for that assignment.

Tests and Projects 65%

Major Note Tests: Major notes take several days to cover and will be followed up with review for the test.

Projects: To reinforce film techniques and the notes from class, we will put our new found knowledge to the test with projects. Project work is considered a minor grade while Final Projects and Tests are both considered major grades and will be equally weighted in the grade book.

– **Effort:** On some projects I will give you a handout that explains the bare minimum needed to complete the project, which will earn you 80 points if done correctly. The final 20 points will come from peer evaluations.

– **Peer Evaluations:** When Students work in groups, they will complete a peer evaluation for each member of the group, which allows me to see how well each person in the group contributed to the project. **Note:** I reserve the right to override a person's peer evaluation grade if I have observed him or her not helping the group or causing strife that inhibits (slows down) the group's productivity.

Classwork, Quizzes, and Daily Grades 35%

Daily Grades/Quizzes: Students can earn daily grades for several activities. For example, daily work on projects & properly breaking down equipment earns you a good grade. We may also have short quizzes on sections of notes to help you see what you do or do not know. Students are REQUIRED to attend at least two extracurricular events per semester to cover sports, pageants, show choir, theatre, or other events. Some events on campus during the week may be deemed as part of this requirement.

Substitutes and Other Information: When there is a substitute for my class, generally, a movie or video about some aspect of television production will be shown. You are responsible for answering questions (either via Google Classroom or handouts) and leaving them with the sub after class. These questions count as a minor grade. If you do not turn one into the substitute, you will receive a zero. Remember to respect the wishes of the substitute and follow their instructions just as you would mine.

Course Fees

- \$25 Class fee - Due by **October 1, 2026 (required)**
- \$25 SkillsUSA fee-Due **by December 1st, 2026 (20 student goal to keep our chapter)**
(Fee for membership in the state and national SkillsUSA organization. SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers, and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. We provide educational programs, events, and competitions that support career and technical education (CTE) in the nation's classrooms.

Please return the bottom portion of this syllabus with parent and student signatures along with class fee and SkillsUSA fee if joining. Please reach out with any questions. Checks payable to Prattville High School or pay through the QR code next to the check off on givebacks. Thank you!

Production Agreement

Students agree to participate responsibly, respect equipment and classmates, complete assignments to the best of their ability, and demonstrate professionalism throughout the year.

Enclosed:

____Class Fee \$25  ____SkillsUSA Fee \$25  ____Paid on Givebacks

Print Student Name: _____ Student Signature _____ Date: _____

Print Parent/Guardian Name _____ Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Welcome to Media Foundations

Dear Students and Families,

Welcome to Media Foundations and the Prattville High School Media Program!

Every great filmmaker, broadcaster, photographer, sports producer, and content creator begins with a strong foundation. This course is where that journey starts.

Throughout the year, you'll explore the exciting world of media by learning how stories are created, how cameras and audio equipment work, how visual communication shapes our everyday lives, and how media professionals collaborate to bring ideas to life. You'll gain hands-on experience with video production, graphic design, audio, broadcasting, and digital storytelling while developing creativity, communication, and problem-solving skills.

More importantly, you'll discover how to think like a creator. Whether you're producing your first video, designing graphics, recording audio, or working as part of a production team, every project will help you build confidence and prepare you for more advanced media courses.

My goal is simple: I want every student to leave this class with the skills, confidence, and curiosity to continue exploring the many opportunities within the world of media.

Welcome to the Media Program. Your creative journey starts here.

Mr. Bryden Legg