

# CY Curriculum 2014-2015 • Mr. Eric J. Schiff

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<http://blogs.4j.lane.edu/schiff> • <http://4j.lane.edu/is/synergy>

Expect some homework, but much of the work needs to be done in the Technology Applications Lab. While Cal Young is a Macintosh computer and iPad based school, many of the software programs and applications are cross platform compatible, or run cloud applications. Software is listed in the course descriptions. Students with access at home to the same graphics and other software being used at school, may choose to do work on their projects at home.

Students are expected to save their work on their 4J District Files1 account, and they can use their Flash drive for back up and/or porting work. Students upload finished work to their WordPress ePortfolio blogs for grading. Their graded assignments and updated grades will be posted in the new SIS (Student Information System), Synergy – URL above. Students can also access their 4J files1 account using the District's VPN client that can be downloaded from the district website here: <http://ns.lane.edu/?q=node/29>

Again, all students who have me for classes will have an ePortfolio blog using WordPress – many of the core and elective teachers will also be using WordPress Instructional blogs, and expecting students to use their ePortfolios to varying degrees for their classes as well. These will be used for archiving and reflecting on work samples, and for posting weekly updates on their progress. Students are encouraged to use their blog for archiving work from other classes even if those teacher's are not using the ePortfolio blogs for their curriculum.

**Note:** All of my courses along with specific assignments and examples are on my instructional blog <http://blogs.4j.lane.edu/schiff> - also listed at the top of this page.

## **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Technology Literacy – 12 Weeks**

Information Technology Literacy (Tech Literacy) is designed to introduce students to computer and network use, application software, and library resources at Cal Young. We will explore and define word processing standards for CY work, understand how to use databases and spreadsheets, photo imaging and graphic design basics, and work with multimedia and presentation software. Students will use these applications along with principles of information architecture in researching and completing daily assignments and mini-projects. A complete course scope and sequence can be downloaded from my blog.

## **Broadcast Media – 12 Weeks**

Students will learn how to write, produce, direct and film PSAs (Public Service Announcements) that will air over our school wide network. Students will learn to operate all of the broadcast studio equipment for producing morning announcements and special events. Students will also have the opportunity to anchor and help produce the live daily morning announcement broadcasts. Students use Vimeo.com for warehousing their videos.

## **Information Design – 12 Weeks**

This class covers branding and logo design, principles of typography, collateral design ad campaigns, brochures, poster design, and online presentations. Software used: Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe InDesign, Microsoft PowerPoint, and web-based presentation apps. Students will create a set of Graphics Standards for a business and/or organization as a final term project.

### **3D Design to Build - 12 Weeks**

Students will explore designing 3D objects and spaces using Adobe Illustrator, Google SketchUp, and a suite of iPad and computer apps from AutoCad. The Autocad apps include 123d Creature, 123d Sculpt, 123d Catch, 123d Make, and 123d Design. Skills in using perspective, space, measurement and scaling, will be developed. Students will work with wire-frame models as well as learn to apply various textures to objects and spaces they design. We will be using the books SketchUp for Dummies, along with a variety of additional online Sketchup and 3D design resources.

Google SketchUp and the AutoCad apps are free and available for PC and Macs, and iPads and Android tablets. I highly encourage students who have computer access at home to download it to use along with the class.

Projects include designing simple objects, complex objects, buildings, and public spaces. Students will receive introductory instruction and specific project detail in the first few weeks of the term. As the class is project based, it lends itself to project collaboration.

New this year is our ability to print out 3D prototypes and designs. We will have two Makerbot printers – one Makerbot Replicator, and one Makerbot Replicator Mini. Students will print up to four projects during the term; simple 3D objects with 6 points of detail, and two others with more complex design with multiple points of detail.

Students will be expected to create at least one design project as part of a team during the term.

### **Journalism/Yearbook – 12 Weeks**

Students produce the school paper and the yearbook out of this class. They learn styles of journalistic writing, photography, publication layout and design, and skills in project management. Students have the opportunity to take on a variety of responsibilities tied to the production of both the paper and yearbook. As the term evolves, many of the day-to-day activities and work required to produce the two publications becomes student directed.

I use a system of student team leaders called QCEs (Quality Control Experts) who head teams of 10-12 students. They coordinate individual and group Zinger and Yearbook activities for production. I also have a small group of students responsible for oversight, training, and coordination of working with software for production, and as liaisons with our yearbook company representative.

All of our publication is done using computers and digital tools. The yearbook is web-based using LifeTouch's WebEase browser based software, and we use Adobe InDesign and Photoshop for the student paper. Our goal is to produce a minimum of 2 papers per term, and of course, meet our yearbook deadlines. All yearbook content is due in final copy by the first week in April!

### **Digital Animation – 12 Weeks**

Students will study a variety of animation techniques and models during the term. Examples will be demonstrated through the use of a variety of tools, video, and online resources. Students will work with still images, video, Adobe Photoshop, and Adobe Flash to create their projects.

**Digital Video and Film Making – 12 Weeks**

Students will be introduced to a variety of digital video tools and software to complete a series of exercises and projects in this class. Web-based video is trending with opportunities for both purposeful applications and entertainment. We will look at those trends, and opportunities for appropriate application centric to student's lives, their daily experience. Students will work both individually and in teams to complete exercises and assignments.

**CY Morning News – All Year**

Students train in the CY broadcast studio becoming proficient in running the equipment used to broadcast the daily morning news announcements. Students in the Broadcast Media classes receive formal training in the studio, as it is required to pass the class. Many go on to continue working in the studio during 0 Period (before school) to prep and then produce the live newscast. Any student who is interested in working in the studio can contact me, show up and receive training during the 0 Period so they can have an opportunity to work the broadcast. We are now streaming the video broadcast live over the internet.

**CY Media Pros – All Year**

During my journalism class, I have a group of students who are working with a local realtor to produce virtual video walk-throughs of properties in the Eugene area. They work independently under my supervision and with the realtor to go on-site to film and then produce and edit their projects in the CY lab. This is a formal business arrangement where the school is compensated for the work. Compensation received, is put back into the lab to support the tech programs. This year, the CY Media Pro teams will be attending the Eugene Chamber of Commerce Friday greeters as well.