

**Columbia-Montour Council, BSA**  
**Camp Lavigne – Scouts BSA Summer Camp 2020**  
**Merit Badge Prerequisites**



**JOURNALISM**

The following requirements must be completed prior to arrival at camp, if the Scout is to complete the merit badge at the end of his long-term camping experience this summer. A Scout should decide with his Scoutmaster's counseling and approval what merit badges he will work on at summer camp at least six weeks prior to his arrival. Numbers and letters refer to the requirements listed in the Merit Badge's worksheet/pamphlet.

*If a requirement is not listed below, it can be completed at camp, unless otherwise specified while there.*

*Be sure use the most recent Merit Badge Pamphlet.*

**A Scout MUST bring proof of the completion of his prerequisites to camp.**

**2.** Do either A OR B:

**(a) Newspaper, magazine, and online journalism**

**(1)** All on the same day, read a local newspaper, a national newspaper, a newsmagazine, and (with your parent's permission) an online news source. From each source, clip, read, and compare a story about the same event. Tell your counselor how long each story is and how fair and accurate the stories are in presenting different points of view. Tell how each source handled the story differently, depending on its purpose or audience

**(2)** Visit the office of a newspaper, magazine, or internet news site. Ask for a tour of the various divisions (editorial, business, and printing). During your tour, talk to an executive from the business side about management's relations with reporters, editors, and photographers and what makes a "good" newspaper, magazine, or internet news site.

**(b) Radio and television journalism**

**(1)** All on the same day, watch a local and national network newscast, listen to a radio newscast, and (with your parent's permission) view a national broadcast news source online. List the different news items and features presented, the different elements used, and the time in minutes and seconds and the online space devoted to each story Compare the story lists, and discuss whether the stories are fair and accurate. Explain why different news outlets treated the stories differently and/or presented a different point of view.

**(2)** Visit a radio or television station. Ask for a tour of the various departments, concentrating on those related to news broadcasts. During your tour, talk to the station manager or other station management executive about station operations, particularly how management and the news staff work together, and what makes a "good" station. If possible, go with a reporter to cover a news event.