

# Film Studies

## Course Outline and Expectations

### Period 5

Instructor: Mr. Watson

Office: 402

### Course Outline:

In this one-year course, students study the development of the American and Classical film as an art form and a social phenomenon. The course surveys classical and contemporary genres, eras, trends, directors, studios and influential people in the industry. Students will focus on the techniques of acting as they apply to the electronic and film media. Class work will focus on class discussion and criticism of various films. This course will fulfill either the one art/humanities credit or one of the elective credits required for graduation.

### Course Goals:

1. To expand knowledge of American and Classic films as an art form.
2. To recognize the impact of proper interpretation of the elements of Film.
3. To apply methods of critical evaluation to viewing of the films.
4. To evaluate classical and contemporary productions of selected films from a performance perspective.
5. To develop an appreciation and understanding of film in relationship to themselves and their community.
6. To analyze and evaluate dramatic film.
7. To expand the depth and scope of aesthetic judgment by experiencing film of diverse styles, modes, and genres.
8. To recognize the importance of respecting alternative textual interpretations and production decisions.
9. To gain insight concerning discipline, knowledge, skills requisite for career preparation in film.

### Lessons Topics:

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Becoming Acquainted  | 8. Film Form                   |
| 2. AFI Top 100 Films  | 9. The Action Blockbuster      |
| 3. To Kill A Mockingbird Unit: Film History, Film Terminology | 10. Citizen Kane               |
| 4. Film Types   | 11. The Horror Genre           |
| 5. A Study in Genre   | 12. James Bond Unit            |
| 6. Script Writing   | 13. Dark Comedy                |
| 7. Storyboards  | 14. Science Fiction: Star Wars |

### Text and Materials:

Text: Looking at Movies: An Introduction to Film (Richard Barsam)

Handouts and various films will also be used as text for this class. Students must keep all handouts, assignments and other class materials in a three-ringed binder which must be brought to class everyday. Students must have a small spiral notebook that they can turn in as their journal writing for the class.

### Grading Policies/Expectations:

<u>Grade Breakdown:</u>	<u>Grading Scale:</u>	<u>Semester Grading:</u>
Daily Class Participation = 10 %	A = 90 %-100 % of possible points	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter = 45% of Semester Grade
Written Assignments/Notebooks/Journals = 20 %	B = 80 %-89 % of possible points	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter = 45% of Semester Grade
Quizzes = 30 %	C = 70 %-79 % of possible points	Final Exam = 10% of Semester Grade
Unit/Chapter Exams = 40 %	D = 60 %-69 % of possible points	
	F = 59% or less of possible points	

### Daily Class Participation:

Daily participation plays an important role in film studies. Many assignments are graded solely based on participation during class time. Each student earns points by actively participating in the class activities. Students must be present to participate, therefore absences and tardies weigh heavily on participation points. Distractions such as cell phones, sleeping in class, etc will negatively affect participation points.

### Notebooks/Journals:

All Film Studies students are required to keep a notebook in which all handouts and evaluations are kept. All written work from class will be kept in this notebook. Students are to keep a journal in their film studies folder that they will write entries in during class at least once a week on assigned topics. Journals will be collected and graded on a regular basis based on completeness and content regarding the topics assigned.

### Written Assignments/Projects:

Students will begin the majority of their assignments in class with a few special assignments to be worked on at home. Written work and/or projects will be graded based on the items below:

#### Format, Spelling and Grammar:

Worksheets and handouts that are handwritten must be completed neatly and legibly to receive a grade. All pre-assigned papers, essays, etc are required to be typed in 12 pt font, double-spaced with 1" margins. Assignments that are not typed, when required, will be deducted points. All assignments should be clearly labeled with the student's name, date of the assignment and class period in the upper right hand corner of the document. Assignments must be written with correct grammar and spelling reflecting mastery of English skills.

#### Group Work:

Some group assignments and/or projects will be given. Skills of interpersonal communication, cooperation, understanding, patience, tolerance, and acceptance are expected to be utilized by all students. In these circumstances students will receive both group and individual grades.

#### Completeness and Content:

Work will be graded on the completeness of the assignment, how well the student followed the directions and the quality of the work the student submits. Incomplete assignments or assignments that are not correctly formatted as stated above will not be accepted nor graded.

### Quizzes and Unit/Chapter Exams:

Quizzes and unit tests will be administered throughout the course of study to determine the individual student's development as well as the effectiveness of the teaching system being employed. Quizzes may or may not be announced ahead of time (pop quizzes). The teacher will give tests at the end of each unit of study as well as an end of the semester final exam.

### Final Exam:

The final exam will be written and will cover the same materials that were included on the unit exams from the entire semester. It will be administered on the final exam dates indicated on the school calendar.

### Homework Policy:

Homework is a practice at home of a skill or concept learned in class. Please, always prepare yourself by doing your homework. The teacher will accept homework assignments only when directions have been followed, the assignment is complete, the paper labeled, and neatness and legibility are evident. All homework is to be typed when applicable.

### Class Attendance and Make-Up Policies:

Your attendance in class is vital. Since much of your grade is based on class participation, it may be necessary for you to make up your attendance. Students will be responsible for getting caught up on notes and/or parts of movies they miss. They will either need to rent the movie on their own or arrange time with the instructor to come in and view the film. Students will NOT be allowed to check movies out from the class.

### Excused Absences:

If you are absent and it is excused it will be your responsibility to find out what you have missed. You will be given three days from your return to class to make up the work. Work not made up within that time will be recorded as a zero in the grade book. Once you return to class, please ask a classmate for notes of what you have missed. Then go immediately to the instructor to get any handouts that were distributed while you were absent. If you have checked with another student and collected the handouts and you still have questions, please ask the instructor.

**If you are aware in advance that you will not be in class**, please notify the teacher so you can get all of the work you will need to complete to keep up with the class. **When you have missed an exam/quiz**, you will be required to take it immediately upon return.

### Unexcused Absences:

If an absence is unexcused, no make-up work will be given and the student will lose all possible points for the day(s) that he/she was absent.

### Excessive Absence:

Students that acquire 10 or more absences excused or unexcused in a semester will receive a failing grade and will lose credit for the course. Excessive absence may also result in a student not being allowed to perform on a performance.

### Tardy Policy:

Students are expected to be in their seats with all required materials when the bell has rung. Failure to do so will result in a tardy. If a student is 30 or more minutes late he/she will be counted absent for that class. Coronado High School progressive tardy policy will be followed.

### Late Assignments:

Each day that an assignment is late the grade will be lowered by one letter for that assignment. If a student is absent the day that an assignment is due and the absence is excused the assignment must be turned in the day that he/she returns to class. The assignment will be counted late if turned in after that time.

## Classroom Expectations and Procedures:

### Expectations

- ✓ Respect other people and their property. This includes school property and personnel.
- ✓ Speak only when called upon and/or it is appropriate to do so.
- ✓ Keep food, drink, gum and candy outside of the building. Water in a closed container is acceptable.
- ✓ Take responsibility and always be prepared.

### Consequences for Inappropriate Behavior

Warning

Detention

Negative Impact On Grade

Phone Conference with Parents

Parent / Teacher Conference

Dean's Referral

Note: Mr. Watson has the final say on what is appropriate and inappropriate behavior. Disciplinary action is at Mr. Watson's discretion depending on the circumstances of the infraction.

### Severe Class Disruption

Any severe disruptions in class will result in a demerit and immediate referral to the Dean.

### Habitual Inappropriate Behavior

Disruptions in class on a daily basis are not fair to others and will not be tolerated. A consistently disruptive student will be referred to the Dean's office for disciplinary action.

### Be Prepared

Have with you at all times your Coronado planner, Film Studies Notebook/Journal, paper, writing utensils, highlighters, etc. Be ready to present projects on the date assigned. Please turn in written work that has been completed with pride—neatness counts! Continual lack of preparation will result in a lower grade.

### Keep the Orchestra Room Clean

Food, drink, candy and gum are strictly prohibited in any of the 400's are including the theater. Students violating this rule may receive disciplinary action.

### Personal Property

Please do not bring valuables with you to class, as activities will often require students to leave their personal belongings unsupervised, and CHS is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Please be sure to take all of your belongings with you at the end of class. **Nothing may be stored in the orchestra room at anytime! You must use your school locker.** This includes articles of clothing, shoes, trash, personal items and materials for other classes.

### Classroom Property

Please do not touch anything that doesn't belong to you without permission. Touching or using any equipment without permission will result in immediate disciplinary action. **Mr. Watson's work area is off limits at ALL TIMES.** Also, please make sure that the room is in order at the end of the period, replacing any chairs, music stands, depositing trash, etc. **Any items left may become the property of CHS orchestra Dept. and may be thrown away!**

### Cell Phones and Nuisance Items

Cell phones and electronic devices are not allowed in class or in hallways. *Please see the Coronado High School handbook for acceptable uses of cell phones during school hours.* Any use of a cell phone (including texting, etc) or electronic device will result in a demerit and confiscation of the device. Confiscated items will have to be picked up after school in the Dean's office. Only parents/guardian's will be allowed to pick up confiscated cell phones at the Dean's office.

### Coronado Dress Code

Coronado Dress Code must be followed at all times. Violation of the dress code will result in being sent to the Dean's office. See your Coronado Student Handbook for details on appropriate dress.

### Appropriateness In All We Do

Any questionable material (film clips, visuals, etc) must be approved prior to presentation. Students in class shall maintain conversation and behavior pursuant of CCSD Regulation #6130, Section II:

*Profanity, inappropriate dress, or any action promoting the acceptability of alcohol, drugs, immoral conduct, or any language that might be interpreted as degrading shall be prohibited.*

### Class Procedures:

1. Speaking In Class - If you have a question or wish to speak, raise your hand.
2. Leaving the room during class - you may leave only if it is an emergency or if you have been called out. You must have your handbook for me to sign you out of class. Otherwise, it is your responsibility to take care of your bathroom needs before or after class. No student is allowed to stray into the dressing rooms, backstage areas, lobby, shop, tech booth or theatre office, etc without permission.
3. Handing In Assignments - Please place any due assignments in the appropriate receiving bin.

## Film Studies Viewing List

Following is a list of movie titles which will be shown in Film Studies class, either as a clip or in full, during the school year, none of which have ratings stronger than PG. Movies not on the list with a rating of PG or less may be added during the course of the year.

- *A League of Their Own (1992)*
- *Adventures of Robin Hood (1958)*
- *All About Eve (1950)*
- *Animal Farm (1956)*
- *Annie Hall (1977)*
- *The Apartment (1960)*
- *Attack of the Killer Tomatoes (1978)*
- *Benny and Joon (1993)*
- *Boat (Das Boot) (1982)*
- *Bridge on the River Kwai (1957)*
- *Bringing up Baby (1938)*
- *Casablanca (1943)*
- *Citizen Kane (1941)*
- *Double Indemnity (1944)*
- *Dr. Strangelove (1964)*
- *Dr. No (1962)*
- *Driving Miss Daisy (1997)*
- *Duck Soup (1938)*
- *Frankenstein (1931)*
- *Gaslight (1944)*
- *Giant (1956)*
- *Gone With the Wind (1939)*
- *Goldfinger (1964)*
- *Hairspray (1988)*
- *Home Alone (1985)*
- *It's a Wonderful Life (1946)*
- *Jaws (1975)*
- *King Kong (1933)*
- *Knights of the Round Table (1953)*
- *Laurel and Hardy Comedy Classics (1930's)*
- *Little Shop of Horrors (1986)*
- *Maltese Falcon (1941)*
- *Maverik (1994)*
- *Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street (1994, 1947)*
- *Miracle Worker (1962)*
- *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington (1939)*
- *Modern Times (1936)*
- *Murder (1930)*
- *Never Say Never (1983)*
- *North by Northwest (1959)*
- *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest (1975)*
- *Out of Africa (1985)*
- *Owl and the Pussy Cat (1970)*
- *Patch of Blue (1965)*
- *Radio Days (1987)*
- *Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981)*
- *Rear Window (1954)*

- *Rebel Without a Cause (1955)*
- *Right Stuff (1983)*
- *Rocky (1976)*
- *Sabotage (1936)*
- *Secret Garden (1993)*
- *Shane (1953)*
- *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (1937)*
- *Some Like it Hot (1959)*
- *Star Wars Trilogy (1977)*
- *Star Wars: The Phantom Menace (1999)*
- *Star Wars: Attack of the Clones (2001)*
- *Sunset Boulevard (1950)*
- *The Big Sleep (1946)*
- *The Graduate (1967)*
- *The Man Who Knew Too Much (1934)*
- *The Philadelphia Story (1940)*
- *The Santa Clause (1998)*
- *To Kill a Mockingbird (1962)*
- *Treasure of the Sierra Madre (1948)*
- *Vertigo (1958)*
- *Young Frankenstein (1974)*
- *You Only Live Twice (1967)*
- *Wargames (1983)*
- *Wizard of Oz (1939)*
- *World is Born-World of Abbott and Costello (1964)*

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# Coronado High School Film Studies Student Participation Agreement

Please fill out and return this document to Mr. Watson no later than Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup>!

I have read and am willing to abide by all of the guidelines set forth in the Film Studies Class Expectations. I realize that if I do not live up to the standards outlined here that it will affect my grade.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone #

In addition to the agreement above, I have reviewed the film viewing list and give permission for my son/daughter to watch the film listed including films that are rated PG.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mother/Legal Guardian (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Father/Legal Guardian (please print)

**STUDENTS ARE NOT TO HAVE FOOD/CANDY OR BEVERAGES (OTHER THAN WATER) OR CHEW GUM IN THE ORCHESTRA ROOM.**

**STUDENTS HAVING THESE ITEMS HAVE AN AFTERSCHOOL DETENTION. STUDENTS THAT ARE CAUGHT REPETITIVELY WILL BE REFERRED TO THE DEAN AND HAVE PARTICIPATION POINTS DEDUCTED.**

**THE SAME APPLIES FOR STUDENTS USING INAPPROPRIATE LANGUAGE OR GESTURES.**

I have read and understood this policy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name/Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name/Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

