FILM STUDIES

Course Description:

FILM STUDIES (Wednesday, 1:30-2:45)

This course will cover all the basic techniques of filmmaking, and examples of each. Lesson topics include: Setting, plot, symbolism, cinematography, mise-en-scene, script, foreshadowing, costumes/makeup, editing, special effects, music/sound effects, animation, and film noir. Seventy-five-minute class sessions consist of watching clips, answering writing prompts, discussing techniques, and analyzing directorship. This class may earn High School fine arts elective credits. Instructor: Lyra Porcasi. Max: 9

OUTLINE

Lesson 1: Class rules, definitions, assignments
Lesson 2: Setting
Lesson 3: Plot
Lesson 4: Symbolism
Lesson 5: Cinematography
Lesson 6: Mise-En-Scene
Lesson 7: Script
Lesson 8: Foreshadowing
Lesson 9: Costumes/Makeup
Lesson 10: Editing
Lesson 11: Special Effects
Lesson 12: Music/Sound Effects
Lesson 13: Animation
Lesson 14: Film Noir
Lesson 15: Directorship/Documentary
Lesson 16: Parallels – Final Exam

Required by the students:

Either a spiral notebook with lined paper, a composition book of lined paper, or the students’ own laptop computer. They will be writing or typing their assignments during each class period and will turn
them in at the end of class each day. If writing, they’ll need to staple and turn in the pages, if typing, they’ll need to email the document to me.

**Descriptions:**

Classes will contain more than one lesson, or only part of one lesson, depending on the variable lengths of each lesson, and time given for students to complete each assignment.

**SETTING**—contains clips from 7 films, with an approximate total time of 46 minutes.

**PLOT**—contains clips from 5 films, with an approximate total time of 30 minutes.

**SYMBOLISM**—contains clips from 4 films, with an approximate total time of 16 minutes.

**CINEMATOGRAPHY**—contains clips from 10 films, with an approximate total time of 62 minutes.

**MISE-EN-SCENE**—contains clips from 7 films, with an approximate total time of 34 minutes.

**SCRIPT**—contains clips from 10 films, with an approximate total time of 66 minutes.

**FORESHADOWING**—contains clips from 2 films, with an approximate total time of 9 minutes.

**COSTUMES/MAKEUP**—contains clips from 9 films, with an approximate total time of 42 minutes.

**EDITING**—contains clips from 6 films, with an approximate total time of 52 minutes.

**SPECIAL EFFECTS**—contains clips from 5 films, with an approximate total time of 21 minutes.

**MUSIC/SOUND EFFECTS**—contains clips from 8 films, with an approximate total time of 55 minutes.

**ANIMATION**—contains clips from 9 films, with an approximate total time of 52 minutes.

**FILM NOIR**—contains clips from 3 films, with an approximate total time of 14 minutes.

**DIRECTORSHIP/DOCUMENTARY**—contains 2 full films, with an approximate total time of 3 hours, 39 minutes. Short essays written for both.

**PARALLELS (FINAL EXAM)**—contains 1 full film, with an approximate total time of 2 hours, 13 minutes. Long essay written, incorporating all previous lessons.