



SPRINGVALLEY
HIGH SCHOOL
of Palmetto Gold Award School

120 Sparkleberry Lane
Columbia, SC 29229
www.richland2.org/svh

Film Studies
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Fall 2025

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Course Description:

Film Studies is designed based upon the goals identified in the SC Visual Arts Standards and the 2017 SC Media Arts Standards. The curriculum enables students to develop their creative abilities for making art (studio), interpreting and evaluating visual images (art criticism), and raising questions about the nature of art (aesthetics).

The Film Studies class is focused on understanding the language of film and creating films based upon the goals identified in the SC Visual Arts Standards and the 2017 SC Media Arts Standards. We will explore topics including film history, film technology, and popular culture to the impact of literature on movies as well as various critical theories and perspectives that have been brought to film studies. The goal of this course is to create films while also developing the students' media literacy by becoming an avid *reader* of film.

2017 State Standards Address:

[http://ed.sc.gov/scdoe/assets/File/Second_Reading_SCVPA_Standards_\(Approved_June_13_2017\).pdf](http://ed.sc.gov/scdoe/assets/File/Second_Reading_SCVPA_Standards_(Approved_June_13_2017).pdf)

General Course Information:

The overall goal of this course is to develop verbal, visual, and technical skills essential for planning, executing, critically analyzing, and evaluating works of art as well as expanding the student's problem solving abilities which includes working within required and self-imposed limitations.

1. To introduce students to film concepts based on the elements and principles of design
2. To offer instructional guidelines in various film and editing technology to create and interpret movies.
3. To expose students to film making techniques, analysis, digital citizenship, and media literacy.
4. To familiarize students with works of past and contemporary filmmakers and artists
5. To make critical comparisons and analysis of historical and student films.

Student work will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- *Film & Design Components:* Specific objectives relative to each project will be stated at the beginning of each assignment or unit of study
- *Film & Media Applications:* use of media, techniques, materials; technical execution/craftsmanship
- *Communication and Composition:* Aesthetic and conceptual quality of finished work



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A sample rubric *may* look like this:

	5-10	15-20	25	Weight	Total
Film Components	Work contains little of the required components.	Work contains most of the required components.	Work contains all required components listed above.	1	
Final Cut Pro Applications	Little to none of the Final Cut Pro techniques are used in an effective and proper manner.	Most of the Adobe Final Cut Pro techniques are used in an effective and proper manner.	All of the Adobe Final Cut Pro techniques (transitions, cuts, sound levels, etc) are used in an effective and proper manner.	1	
Shot Composition and Editing	The film uses poor composition, editing, and sound choices to communicate his/her story to the viewer.	Film mostly uses composition, sound, and editing choices well in order to communicate his/her story to the viewer.	Film effectively uses composition and editing to effectively communicate his/her story to the viewer.	2	

Student's work meeting deadlines/due dates of each assignment/project.

Late and incomplete works are subject to grade penalty (see below)

Students will be informed of deadlines via Google Classroom, website calendar, and written daily on the board

Homework/Make-Up Policy/Late Work:

At all times, it is the students' responsibility to make arrangements with the teacher regarding assignments or assessments that were missed due to a verified absence.

For late work, at all times, it is the students' responsibility to stay abreast of assignments, assessments, and due dates.

Late Work is defined as any work (excluding homework) completed and turned in after the designated due date. A grade of 0 will be assigned until the work is received and graded by the teacher. NO late work is eligible to be accepted during the last five days of each quarter.

NO MORE THAN 3 ABSENCES IN A "SKINNY" OR 1/2 CREDIT CLASS

Number of Days Late	Deduction Applied
1 day after due date	25% deduction off of the earned grade
2 days after due date	50% deduction off of the earned grade
3 days after due date	75% deduction off of the earned grade
4+ days after due date	A grade of 0 will be assigned

[PLEASE REFER TO THE SCHOOL WIDE POLICY HERE FOR MORE DETAILS](#)

Richland School District Two does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, age, or other protected characteristic in its programs and activities.



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Equipment Policy

Students who need to check out equipment (cameras, tripods, lenses, etc) must complete a form to do so. **Students are responsible for the entire cost of checked out equipment if it is lost, broken, or stolen. It is also illegal to film your teacher, or other students in a classroom without permission.**

Movie Policy

Students will watch and analyze multiple film clips and some full movies. Some of these movies may include Alfred Hitchcock's Psycho, 2001: A Space Odyssey, Citizen Kane, Modern Times, and many clips of various films. Please refer to the Media Arts website for complete analysis and reasoning behind every film and clip that is viewed in class.

Tech Discipline Procedures:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BzzpJlba_ZA4RmswUfLKQWRzMVhhY3h6Z0Vublf0TUxFam9v/viwe?usp=sharing

Electronic Devices

[South Carolina](#) **DOES NOT** allow students use or access their individual electronic devices (ipods, cellphones, ipads, etc) in the hallways, during lunch, and in classes (see free to focus info below)

It is also illegal to film your teacher, or other students in a classroom without permission.

Sharing videos of individuals taken without their permission will result in legal action.

Restroom Policy

Students are allowed to use the restroom during class before or after teacher-led discussion and demonstrations (After the first 10 minutes of class). Students must use the classroom teacher pass when going to the restroom. If restroom breaks are being taken advantage of, parents will be notified of missing class time and policy procedures will change.

Use of Student work

Student work may be used and displayed on the SV Visual Arts websites, hallways, and art shows

Classroom Procedures:

*All school rules will be enforced. [Please see the student handbook book for full details.](#)

STUDENTS' RIGHTS/BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

The following students' rights and expected behaviors have been established in order to ensure that every art student has the opportunity to learn and create in a safe environment that is free from disruption.

- All students have the right to hear all instructions. This means you must stop talking when the class is being addressed.
- All students have the right to a clean studio environment. This means you must clean up after yourself.
- All students have the right to use good equipment and adequate materials. This means you must use equipment and tools properly and you must not waste supplies.
- All students have the right to undisturbed work time. This means you must stay in your workspace, keep your hands to yourself and talk in quiet conversational tones.

CONSEQUENCES

1. Warning given to disruptive student
2. Parent notification if the disruptive and/or inappropriate behavior continues
3. Discipline referral if problem continues after parent notification

SEVERE DISRUPTION

Incidents that warrant immediate attention will begin with discipline notice written and conference with the grade level administrator.

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Consent:

- I have read, understood and I am willing to comply with the principles and procedures established by Josh Drews! and Spring Valley High School.
- I will accept the consequences stated if I should refuse to abide by them.
- I sign under no undue compulsion, but by my own free will.
- I acknowledge my responsibilities in undertaking such a rigorous and challenging course.

I acknowledge my responsibilities in undertaking such a rigorous and challenging course.

Student Signature

Date

Parents and Students,
Please sign that you have read the information from this class syllabus and the consent including the following topics:

Teacher Information
Course Description
Grading Procedures
Homework Policy
Make-Up Policy/Late Work
Equipment Policy
Movie Policy
Technology/Electronic Devices Policy
Restroom Policy
Use of Student Work
Classroom Procedures
Honor Pledge



CONSEQUENCES

1ST OFFENSE

REDIRECTION

2ND OFFENSE

CONFISCATE DEVICE;

RETURN DEVICE TO STUDENT
AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

3RD OFFENSE

CONFISCATE DEVICE;

RETURN DEVICE TO PARENT

4TH OFFENSE

REFUSAL TO OBEY / DEFIANCE

STUDENT AND PARENT COURSE CONSENT

We have read and understand the expectations and will support efforts to provide an effective learning environment. We also understand that this course is a rigorous course that will require a significant amount of effort on the part of the student.

Student's Signature/Date

Parent's Signature/Date

Richland School District Two Honor Pledge

On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this assignment. I understand that any violation of the Richland School District Two honor code will result in academic and disciplinary action.

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