



Film Analysis

Grade Level: 12

Semester Elective: ½ Credit

In this one-semester senior elective, students will view and analyze films that address contemporary issues. Films from around the world will be studied for both content and cinematic features. Students will be challenged to consider how a director's artistic choices in the making of films parallel an author's choices in the creation of novels. In short, students will “read” a film as a type of text, applying the same critical thinking, close-reading, and expository writing skills they have learned in their prior English classes. A final project is required.

How is the course structured?

Course Components

- Reading Non-Fiction Texts, Questioning Techniques for Productive Discussion, Research, Language Interpretation and Analysis, Analytical writing, and close viewing. Topics covered include: Film History, Narrative, Mise-en-Scene, and Cinematography.

Course Grade Based On:

- Participation in Discussion, Individual and Small Group Activities, Daily Writing and Note-Taking, Projects, Research

What can I expect?

Course Workload:

- Active participation in class is necessary for success. Homework is given throughout the unit, and can be partly done in class. All work is presented on weekly activity lists, in advance, and students are encouraged to manage their time productively in class and out.

Homework Frequency:

- 2-3 times per week

Type of Homework:

- Viewing and Note Taking, Outlining, Drafting, and Revision of Writing

Major Projects:

- Film Analysis Project-Choice of three films and one or more of the course topics.