

INTRO TO FILM AND MEDIA ARTS

Mrs. Justina Arvig

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COURSE BASICS

This class teaches students how to appreciate, analyze and interpret theme, character, story structure and narrative technique through the medium of film. That's a fancy way of saying "we won't just be eating popcorn and watching a bunch of movies." So, if you signed up for "an easy elective" – this is the part to warn you that you're in the wrong class. Will we be watching movies? Most definitely. But that's just the half of it. In this course, you will:

READ/CONNECT

- Understand screenplay formatting and writing conventions
- Analyze shots
- Research film history
- Study and critique directors

WRITE/RESPOND

- Retool and rework existing scripts
- Compose story treatments
- Pitch ideas in a group setting
- Revise and improve dialogue

CREATE/PRODUCE/PRESENT

- Compose action sequences
- Draft your own 3-page screenplays
- Learn filmmaking techniques
- Film your own original works

So, buckle up – it's going to be a bumpy ride. Roads? Where we're going... we don't need roads.

This course has a \$20.00 fee that can be paid anytime during the semester at the finance office.

DMS STUDENT HANDBOOK -

<https://dms.washk12.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/111/2021/08/Dixie-Middle-Student-Handbook-2021-1.pdf>

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Film discussion seminars only work if students come to class on time. Accordingly, regular attendance and participation are essential – as there is no practical way to adequately replicate an in-class film or clip screening with the corresponding student/teacher dialogue without taking part in the day's instruction.

*****If you miss a film excerpt or a full-length screening, it is your responsibility to watch it on your own time.*****

Electronic Devices:

Cell phones are allowed with exceptions: No cell phones during class presentations, while the teacher is talking, and during the films. At the discretion of the teacher, students may use the assistance of their phone during worksheets.

Food and Drink:

No food (this includes gum) or drinks (water allowed) will be allowed in the classroom unless it is given to the student by the teacher, or permission is granted for such items.

Classroom Rules:

The five classroom rules are based on student respect and responsibility:

- BE PROMPT: One time means in your seat.
- BE PREPARED: Pen/pencil, paper & assignments.
- BE PRODUCTIVE: Stay on task and actively participate in class discussions and group work.
- BE POLITE: Be kind and courteous to everyone. Appropriate language and behavior.
- BE PERSISTENT: Don't give up - keep working, even if it's tough!

Disobeying any class rule will lead to 1) a verbal warning, 2) in-class isolation, and 3) communication with a parent and referral to Assistant Principal

LATE WORK

For each class day an assignment is late, a deduction of 5 points will be applied.

Late Work Exceptions:

In cases of documented medical emergencies or other extraordinary circumstances, students may request an extension for late work without penalty.

Film List

Film Ratings and Parental Consent:

In accordance with Washington School District policy (4240), I am obligated to provide for you a list of films with their ratings and obtain written permission for your son/daughter to view each film in class.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1CJ0VG-2uFX_9I3_mIsbvuffTH4ihhZEoTy0kAW2LyZ8/edit?usp=sharing

Please review this CAREFULLY. If you have a concern and would prefer that your student NOT view a particular film, please circle the title. An alternative assignment will be provided. The ratings are provided.

Parents/Guardian: I have read the class policies and procedures and I am willing to help my student to follow these rules. I will contact Mrs. Arvig if there are problems that need to be addressed.

Student Name (First and last) _____

Parent/Guardian (Print) _____

Parent/Guardian (Signature) _____

Contact number or email: _____ Today's Date: _____

***This may be handed in to Mrs. Arvig in person, or take a picture of the signed paper and submit it in canvas**