

READINESS PROFILE & COURSE EXPECTATIONS

FILM STUDIES 1-2

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Film Studies is designed to provide students with a foundation of knowledge and understanding of film, and an appreciation for film—its history, composition, structure, and relationship to literature. This course will emphasize the film experience as a critical discipline that promotes serious reflection on movies and the role of film in culture, as students explore their physical, emotional, and intellectual responses to film. Using the CA Common Core State Standards for reading, writing, language acquisition, and speaking and listening, *Film Studies* will continue to develop student’s critical thinking skills and prepare them for further study of film in their post-secondary education. This course fulfills the UC/CSU “G” elective and PUSD elective credit.

COURSE CONTENT AND EXPECTATIONS

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Understand the major concepts and practices of film composition—mise-en-scene, cinematography, editing, and sound.
- Gain knowledge of the organizational structure of narrative film, documentaries, and experimental film.
- Explore the history of film from classical Hollywood cinema through contemporary film culture.
- Learn the critical theories (formalism, realism, etc.) and methods of film from classical through contemporary theory.
- Discover how the knowledge gained in *Film Studies* is relevant to critical work in other disciplines including literature and philosophy.
- Demonstrate the ability to examine film critically, and effectively communicate observations, arguments, and analysis through a variety of written forms, projects and presentations.

MAJOR UNITS OF STUDY

- Introduction to Film Culture and Experience
- Formal Compositions—mise-en-scene, cinematography, editing, sound
- Narrative Film and Narrative Genres
- Documentary and Experimental Film
- Film History
- Film Criticism – Critical Theories and Methods
- The Film Process—Production, Distribution, Marketing/Promotion, Exhibition

STUDENT BACKGROUND

Students taking Film Studies should have successfully completed HSE 1-2 and HSE 3-4.

WORKLOAD EXPECTATIONS

Students will have an average of 1-2 hours of homework a week that may include reading, conducting research, working on Film Circle work, or finishing an in-class assignment.

Please see syllabus for additional course rules and information