



IB Film Y1 Syllabus (HL&SL) Burbank High School 2024-2025

Instructor: Ms. Wisniewski
Department: Fine Arts

Course #: 4533
Conference Period: 6th

Course Description

The International Baccalaureate program Film course is a two-year in-depth study of film theory, history, and production. Throughout the course, students are expected to demonstrate an understanding of the variety of ways film creates meaning while effectively utilizing appropriate and relevant film vocabulary. Additionally, students must produce original works employing creativity to develop ideas from conception to finished production. The course provides an academically challenging curriculum for students to develop essential analytical and critical thinking skills and demonstrate these skills through filmmaking and in written and oral communication. Students are tasked with applying technical skills to draw together knowledge and research and apply them analytically to evaluate film texts within a critical understanding of the historical, sociocultural, economic, and institutional contexts of film in more than one country. These skills involve the ability to research, plan, and organize working processes and the ability to reflect upon and evaluate film production processes and completed film texts. Students are taught to consider film texts, theories, and ideas from multiple origins and the points of view of different individuals, nations, and cultures.

Grading

You will receive a traditional grade for this class and, upon successful completion of the course requirements, you will receive credit either towards an IB diploma or an Individual Course Option.

More information about grading and individual assessment weights can be found in the IB Film Guide on Canvas. Students must follow the Luther Burbank IB World School Academic Honesty Policy.

Assignments (40%)

- **Class notes**
- **Research/Reflection**

- **Filming**
- **Analysis (Reading films)**

Assessments (60%)

- **Textual Analysis (Draft)**
- **Textual Analysis (Final)**
- **Scripts**

- **Presentations**
- **Portfolio Reel #1**
- **Quizzes**

Policy Information

Tardy Policy/Passes/Food/Restrooms

Please arrive on time and in compliance with the dress code. If the door is closed, you will be marked tardy upon your arrival and need to sign in on the tardy log located by the door.

Passes will only be issued after the first 10 minutes of class and until the last 10 minutes of class.

You may bring a tightly closed water bottle into class but absolutely **NO FOOD**. Eat before the bell rings and before you come into class. Food found in class will be confiscated.

Phones/Technology

Phones will be collected as you enter class. We may need to use cell phones for filming and film passes will be provided. Students are to use their cameras appropriately at all times and not cause a disruption to other classes during filming or privileges may be revoked.

Please bring a charged Chromebook daily however they will be taken out only when instructed. This year, notes and reflections will be completed in a composition book but many of your final assignments will be submitted through Canvas. Digital copies of assignments and materials will also be posted on Canvas for reference.

Mac Lab

When in the Mac lab, each student will be assigned a computer. Students will check out a mouse, keyboard, and charging cord every period and return all three at the end of the period after the computer has been shut down. Students will follow the rules in the Mac Lab and will not eat or drink while in the lab.

Supplies

- Composition book
- flash drive/external hard drive
- pen/pencil
- charged Chromebook

Tutoring

My tutoring hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:00 – 8:30 a.m. in room 3217 or by appointment. My email address is **mwisniewski1@saisd.net** and I am more than happy to look at assignments or answer questions through electronic media, phone calls, or text messages.

I would also like to streamline communication between myself and students/families. I have created a Remind section for this class that may be joined using this class code: @fbad4f9

To further facilitate conversations about your student's progress, please provide me with a good contact number and the best ways/times to reach you.

Please return the syllabus acknowledgment form as well as the 'R' movie permission form by Friday, August 23.

Course Overview

First Semester

Unit 1 – Film History and Development (4 weeks)

ATL Skills:

Learner Profile Connection:

Students will learn about film history and take notes on the evolution of film from the first movies to modern times, thematically and technologically. Students will identify different roles in the film industry and how they work together to create a film. Students will also create short videos in various film styles.

Unit 2 – Film and Film Structure (5 weeks)

ATL Skills:

Learner Profile Connection:

Students will research one film role and produce a short, recorded presentation of the role and an analysis of a sample of the work, applying vocabulary they have learned. Students watch films in class and will choose one short piece (one minute max) from one of the films studied to replicate that work along with a reflection and evaluation of their own process.

Unit 3 – Introduction to Film Theory (4 weeks)

ATL Skills:

Learner Profile Connection:

Students will create a presentation on how contrasting film theories can offer different interpretations of a prescribed film. Students will choose one genre (western, horror, musical) and analyze one film of their own choosing and create a short analysis (3-4 minute video) of how the film meets at least four different conventions of the genre; the film should have clips and voice over analysis. Students will also create a 30 or 60-second trailer of their selected film but will use sound, color, and lighting effects to change the genre of the selected film. (e.g. western to horror) **(Preparation for the Comparative Study)**

Unit 4 – Reading Film, Part One (5 weeks)

ATL Skills:

Learner Profile Connection:

Students will write critical analyses, of films viewed in class, and turn in a paper (with visual evidence, i.e. screenshots). Then students will choose an IB Film Cultural Context (Economic, Geographical, Historical, Institutional, Political, Social, Technological) and create a short analysis of one film, using screenshots to highlight points. **(Practice Textual Analysis Assessment)**

Second Semester

Unit 5 – Film Production, Part One (4 weeks)

ATL Skills:

Learner Profile Connection:

Students will create an original script for a 3-minute short film. Students will work in small groups (3-4) to revise one script and then plan all stages to produce a 3-minute film (including preproduction – storyboarding, location. The film will have an agreed-upon directorial intent and each group member will take on one of five production roles as a focus: director, editor, sound, screenwriter, and cinematographer. **(Preparation for the Collaborative Film Project)**

Unit 6 – Film Theory, Part Two (4 weeks)

ATL Skills:

Learner Profile Connection:

Students will construct a 5-minute film analysis consisting of clips and voice-over analysis of one film studied in class applying one film theory learned in this unit. Students will submit a script presenting their findings, providing equal time to both films in a compare/contrast paper.

(Preparation for the Comparative Study)

Unit 7 – Reading Film, Part Two (4 weeks)

ATL Skills:

Learner Profile Connection:

Students will select the film they would like to use for their Textual Analysis assessment and, using the information and vocabulary they have amassed to this point, they will complete their 1,750 max analysis on how meaning is constructed in their selected film. Students will draw on the film's cultural context and a variety of film elements. **(Completed Textual Analysis**

Assessment)

Unit 8 – Film Production, Part Two (6 weeks)

ATL Skills:

Learner Profile Connection:

Students will create an original script for a 3-minute short film. Students will work in small groups (3-4) to revise one script and then plan all stages to produce a 3-minute film (including preproduction – storyboarding, location scouting, casting, production planning, etc.; production; post-production – editing, sound design, etc.) Students will submit the completed film and a project report/reflection (800-900 words) focusing on their role in the production of the 3-minute short film. They will also write a 400-word evaluation to include their filmmaker's intentions and an evaluation of the work. **(Film Portfolio Reel #1)**

Note: By the end of year one, students will have submitted the Textual Analysis assessment and will have collected material for their film portfolio and completed Reel #1. The Comparative Study, Film Portfolio, and, for the HL students, the Collaborative Film Project, will be due at staggered times throughout their senior year.

FILM YEAR ONE SYLLABUS ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

By signing this form, I acknowledge that I have reviewed the syllabus for the year one IB Film course and understand the requirements and procedures associated with this course.

A digital copy of this syllabus will also be available online on Canvas and Ms. Wisniewski's teacher website, accessible through the Burbank homepage.

Thank you for your time and help in ensuring your student has a successful year.

Sincerely,

Michele Wisniewski

Please return this acknowledgment by August 23, 2024.

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name:

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Phone #: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____

Preferred Method of Contact (Please circle one.): Email Phone Text

Best time to contact:

Before school During the school day After school Other: _____

Date: _____