

Contemporary Film & Conversation: A Movie Theater Experience

Spring 2026

Instructor: Mark Ring

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Instructor Qualifications

- Michigan Teacher Certification
- Certified in English, Film, and Drama

Course Overview

Grades: 6–12

Category: Humanities

Location: Celebration Cinema, Benton Harbor, Michigan

Schedule: Every other Tuesday, 5:00–9:00 PM

Duration: 6 sessions/weeks (January 13 – March 24, 2026)

Estimated Weekly Time Commitment: 2.5-3 hours per session

- Most time will be spent attending and watching the film
- Additional assignments on **Google Classroom**, including:
 - Background on the week's film and why we are watching it
 - A short post-film reflection comment

Course Description

This 6-session experiential course is designed for students who like movies and want to explore it more deeply through a real-time, immersive movie theater setting.

Each session includes viewing a PG or PG-13 theatrical release. If you miss a class or decide the selected film is not a good fit for you for whatever reason, I will suggest an alternate movie options that is comparable and available to rent and watch at home. You can respond to those films through a make-up assignment to receive full credit for the class you missed.

Why These Dates and Times?

- **Why every other Tuesday?**

Meeting biweekly allows for more flexibility in film selection and gives time for meaningful reflection between sessions.

- **Why 5:00–9:00 PM?**

Film showtimes and runtimes vary. This window allows us to accommodate different start times for the films we are watching.

Cost

- **Free to attend** – Movie tickets are fully covered by the course :)
- **Optional expense** – Bring money if you'd like snacks from the concession stand.

Tentative Schedule

Week	Date
Week 1	January 13, 2026
Week 2	January 27, 2026
Week 3	February 10, 2026
Week 4	February 24, 2026
Week 5	March 10, 2026
Week 6	March 24, 2026

Weekly Format

Meet 10 Minutes Before Showtime - Get Tickets and Seats

Film Viewing – Showtime Varies / Current PG/PG-13 theatrical releases

Meet 10 Minutes After Film – Post-Film Wrap-Up

Google Classroom

- Full film details, trailers, and showtimes will be posted **3 days in advance**
 - Post-film reflection comments need to be posted before the next class meeting.
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What to Bring

- **You!** (Movie tickets are provided)
 - **Optional:** Money for snacks/drinks
 - **Required:** An open mind :)
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