

Film Studies

Spring 2026

Category: Humanities

Grades: 6–12

Format: Online / Google Classroom

Note: This will be a separate Google Classroom from your mentor's. The class code will be sent to your Shamrock email the week before class begins.

Class Schedule

- Day/Time: Once a week (Asynchronous)
- Duration: 8 Weeks
- Start Date: January 12th
- End Date: March 8th
- Weekly Time Commitment: Minimum 2 hours/week (16 total hours)

Note: Additional time may be needed for writing and film viewing, depending on your engagement and the length of selected films.

Instructor Information

- Name: Mark Ring
- Email: mring@homeoftheshamrocks.org
- Phone: (269) 932-5531

- Qualifications: Michigan Teacher Certification – Grades 6–12 (English, Film, Drama)
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Course Description

In this course, students will analyze and appreciate film as an art form by studying cinematic elements such as direction, cinematography, and editing. Each element will be paired with film screenings to deepen understanding and foster critical viewing skills.

Assessment & Expectations

- Participation: Weekly engagement is expected.
 - Assignments: Posted each Monday morning; due by the following week.
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Required Time Commitment

- Minimum: 2 hours/week for 8 weeks = 16 hours
 - Additional Time: May be required for film viewing and assignment completion
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Film Access & Costs

- Most films will need to be rented via platforms like iTunes, Amazon, or YouTube.
 - If cost is a concern, you may request reimbursement for up to \$15.00, as most rentals are \$5.00 or less.
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Class Policies

- Weekly participation is expected.
- Make-up assignments are required if a week is missed (except in emergencies).
- Communication with the instructor is encouraged if issues arise.

Film Content Guidelines

- Each week, you will have various film options to choose from
- Options will include G, PG, and PG-13 rated films.
- The film you select should also be approved by your parents.
- Alternatives can be arranged for any content concerns. *Note: Any film with cinematic merit and approved by the instructor may be substituted.*

Weekly Breakdown

Week	Dates	Topic	Activity
1	Jan 12–18	Welcome	Why Study Film?
2	Jan 19–25	The Role of the Director	Screening of Film #1
3	Jan 26–Feb 1	Film #1 Review & Analysis	Written Reflection
4	Feb 2–8	Cinematography	Screening of Film #2

5	Feb 9–15	Film #2 Review & Analysis	Written Reflection
6	Feb 16–22	Editing	Screening of Film #3
7	Feb 23–Mar 1	Film #3 Review & Analysis	Written Reflection
8	Mar 2–8	Final Reflection	Course Conclusion
