

Film Theory and Video Art
Instructor – Ms. Naima Thompson

Grades 9-12

Course Description:

This one year course, teaches digital video production as well as cinematic technique and appreciation. Students will conceptualize ideas, develop treatments, build storyboards, create shot- lists, build schedules for rehearsals, shooting and editing to produce collaborative and individual video projects.

Theme:

Convert a concept from script to screen

Essential Questions:

- How does a film get from the planning stages to the screen?
- How does an entire film function?
- How do we classify films?
- How do film techniques contribute to film form?
- How may we analyze a film critically?

Strands

1. Cinematic Technique and Pre Production
2. Shooting and Editing for Digital Video
3. Screening Videos and Film Criticism

Strand 1 – Cinematic Technique and Pre Production

Standard 1 - Students will become familiar with cinematic terms and techniques required to develop the various components of pre-production.

Benchmarks - By the end of Grades 9-12, students will:

- 1 – 1 Conceptualize an idea for a 3-5 minute video and develop a *treatment* for the same.
- 1 – 2 Complete original *screen plays* based h an understanding of shot types and angles
- 1 – 3 Design *storyboards* and *shot lists* from completed screen-plays.
- 1 – 4 Create rehearsal and shooting schedules from the shot lists.

Strand 2 – Shooting and Editing for Digital Video

Standard 2 - Students will use a *single chip* digital camera for on-location shooting using three-point lighting for video and with external digital sound for audio. They will edit projects on the Macintosh G4 desktop using the *i-movie* editing program.

Benchmarks - By the end of Grade 9-12, students will:

- 2 – 1 Understand the functions of the single chip, mini-digital video camera.
- 2 – 2 Understand the use of sound.
- 2 – 3 Understand the rules of three point lighting
- 2 – 4 Understand rules of *composition* and *mis-en-scene*
- 2 – 5 Understand and operate the editing features of the *i-movie* editing program using the Macintosh G4 desk top.

Strand 3 – Screening Videos and Film Criticism

Standard 3 - Students will be guided through a series of classical as well as contemporary films to demonstrate concepts relative to film criticism. With this understanding, they will engage in critical writing for the screen.

Benchmarks - By the end of Grade 9-12, students will:

- 3 – 1 Understand classical narrative cinema
- 3 – 2 Understand narrative alternatives to classical filmmaking
- 3 – 3 Understand documentary form and style
- 3 – 4 Understand form, style and ideology of film