

Culver City High School

COURSE TITLE/SECTION:
FILM PRODUCTION 385/7605
LENGTH OF COURSE: 14 WEEKS
TERM: FALL 2015

TEACHER:
MS. BUTLER
EMAIL: ALEXISBUTLER@CCUSD.ORG
GRADE LEVEL: 9 – 12

CCHS MISSION STATEMENT

Culver City High School is an engaged and caring academic community where diversity is valued and respected. We are committed to educating and inspiring all students to become life-long learners and contributing members of our global society.

1. Each member of our school community plays an integral part in making student success a certainty.
2. All students are provided the necessary resources and opportunities to become successful Collaborative Workers, Adaptable Problem Solvers, Critical Thinkers, Involved Citizens, Quality Producers and Self-Guided Achievers.
3. All students are immersed in vigorous, standards-based curriculum that promotes higher level thinking skills.
4. All students are capable of learning and as such, we educate the whole person providing students the necessary support to achieve their fullest potential.
5. We value diversity and promote tolerance and espouse understanding and compassion.
6. The aesthetic value of our campus is an important part of student achievement.

CALIFORNIA VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS CONTENT STANDARDS

Students apply what they learn in film/video, and electronic media across subject areas. They develop competencies and creative skills in problem solving, communication, and time management that contribute to lifelong learning and career skills. They also learn about careers in and related to film/video.

Standards include:

1. Make acting choices, using script analysis, character research, reflection, and revision through the rehearsal process.
2. Write dialogues and scenes, applying basic dramatic structure: exposition, complication, conflict, crises, climax, and resolution.
3. Identify and compare how film, theatre, television, and electronic media productions influence values and behaviors.
4. Manage time, prioritize responsibilities, and meet completion deadlines for a production as specified by group leaders, team members, or directors.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the professional standards of the actor, director, screenwriter, cinematographer and technical artist, such as the requirements for union membership.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an introductory course designed to expose students to the elements of film production as an art form as well as film history. Students will learn critical thinking skills as they analyze film and media for creativity and content. Students will learn elements of preproduction, production, and post production. Concepts of screenwriting, storyboards, shooting scripts, scheduling, budgeting, production design, cinematography, editing, sound design, scoring and critique will be covered. Students will work in production crews to produce short digital films.

TEXTBOOK

There is no textbook for this class. Supplementary reading assignments will be provided often.

MATERIALS

Lined 8 ½ inch x 11 inch paper

Pen or Pencil

3-Ring Binder (2 inch) - Binder is dedicated to film work only and will be kept in the film classroom at all times

A copy of the Film I/II Syllabus needs to remain in the front of the 3-Ring Binder at all times

5 Section Dividers (keep in binder) - We will label the dividers in class

CLASSWORK, HOMEWORK and PROJECTS

1. CLASSWORK will be given on a regular basis. Observation of and writing about media content on television including commercials, sitcoms, reality television, and movies will occur with regularity. All homework and class work is due as assigned.
2. PROJECTS account for a large part of your grade. There will be times when students are asked to collaborate and work as teams to complete assignments. You will have many graded deadlines to meet prior to final project delivery dates. Productions must adhere to the "Video Production Content Agreement" which must be signed by both guardian and student.
3. WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS should meet the same requirements as English classes and be neatly typed, use correct spelling and grammar, and have proper formatting including proper script formatting.
4. PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE are essential due to the group-oriented nature of the class. It is very important that you cooperate with your crew and participate in class discussion and video critiques. If you know you will be absent on a particular day, please inform the teacher and your group in advance. If you were absent, it is YOUR responsibility to find out what you missed on the day you return. On the day after an excused absence, please ask Ms. Butler about make up work in person during the first 5 minutes of Nutrition, Lunch or immediately after school ONLY. Ms. Butler will not discuss missed work during class time. After an excused absence, students have two weeks to make up missed class work or homework. No assignment will be accepted after two weeks or after an unexcused absence. Good participation will be reflected in your projects and citizenship and you will be graded accordingly. Students will receive 5 participation points per day if they do the following:
 - Attend class for the entire period - no points if you are late to class or absent!
 - Bring materials
 - Read aloud and answer discussion questions during class discussions
 - Behave in a constructive and positive way
 - Stay awake
 - Follow the teacher's direction
5. TEACHER SUPPORT: If at any time you feel you need extra assistance or guidance, please ask to meet with the instructor during Nutrition, Lunch or immediately after school. It is difficult for the teacher to know you are struggling, so you are expected to take the initiative and ask for help.

CLASSROOM VIDEO POLICY & PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION

Any film or film clip screened in class will be shown as part of a systematic course of instruction in face-to-face teaching activities and not for recreational, entertainment, or fund-raising purposes. Movies rated G through PG-13 and television programs rated TY through TV 14 may be viewed. As students of film, video, and emerging media, it is important to periodically screen in part or whole concepts that can be characterized as "mature subject matter" due to language, violence, nudity or other mature subject matter. All works shown in class are held in high esteem by film critics and historians as important works and will be used solely for the purpose of classroom instruction. For any R rated film chosen, the teacher will decide whether to omit or pass over mature scenes completely. Because many films will be shown throughout the year, permission is requested for your child to see all films selected by the instructor throughout the entire year. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Butler.

GRADING

Students will be assessed through class work and homework, which includes written assignments, quizzes, presentations, journal/sketchbook entries, production binders, scripts and video projects.

The grading scale is as follows:

A=90 – 100% B=80 – 89% C=70 – 79% D=60 – 69% F=59% or less

Because the value of an art piece is subjective, grading for short films is based on understanding of film concepts and NOT just on talent or an end result. A - C grades are given for all COMPLETED film projects. As in the film industry workplace, timely completion, attendance and citizenship are highly valued. Grades in film include Citizenship and Mastery of Subject Matter into one final grade.

****PARTICIPATION: We at Culver City High School expect all our students to attend school regularly and arrive to all classes on time, ready to participate, learn and achieve. Participation consists of, but is not limited to,**

arriving to class on time with all appropriate materials; ready to be a positive and productive member of the class. Class participation will contribute to 15% of the student's total grade.**

Centaurian Essential Five Behaviors: Be courteous, considerate, proactive, clean & prepared.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR STANDARDS AND EXPECTATIONS

- HANDLE ALL EQUIPMENT SAFELY AND GENTLY as per the requirements in the "Equipment Check-Out Contract."
- ATTEND CLASS AND BE PROMPT. Be seated in your assigned seat before the second bell rings or you will be marked tardy. As per CCHS policy, after 6 tardies the student will receive a Saturday school and will continue to receive a Saturday school for every tardy thereafter. A guardian will be notified after the 6th tardy. At 7 tardies, a U will be given on the progress report.
- RESPECT yourself, your teachers, classmates, the ideas of others and school property. Treat others the way you would like to be treated. Remember respect is easy to lose and hard to gain. Any and all forms of disrespect (including bullying) will not be tolerated.
- CELL PHONE USE/TEXTING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. Any electronic device that is seen, heard or used will be confiscated at the first offense.
- NO HATS/CAPS are permitted to be worn in school classrooms or buildings at any time.
- DO NOT EAT, DRINK OR CHEW GUM in the editing room or near electronic equipment. Equipment can be damaged by food or liquids and is very expensive to repair or replace.
- BE PRODUCTIVE AND PARTICIPATE IN CLASS DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIVITIES
 1. Remain on task during class time and do not distract other classmates.
 2. Remain in your assigned seat at all times, unless directed to move by the teacher.
 3. Focus your attention on the topic directly related to class lectures/discussion.
 4. Keep all work neat and organized. Write a complete heading (full name, period, date) and title on all assignments. Use the 3-ring binder to keep handouts and notes in order. Keep digital projects organized when editing (guidance will be provided).
- Consequences for violation of class rules (see cell/hat policies above):
 - 1st offense: verbal warning
 - 2nd offense: student/teacher conference and detention or Saturday School
 - 3rd offense: parent phone call and possible parent/teacher/student conference and detention or Saturday school.

If violation is severe, the teacher reserves the right to immediately remove student from class.

TARDY POLICY

- 1st through 5th tardy: verbal warnings
- 6th tardy: Teacher assigns Saturday school and parent is notified
- 7th tardy: Parent is notified by phone and student receives a U on report card
- 9th tardy: Parent is contacted by Attendance Administration
- 10th tardy: Student and parent may be referred to School Site Attendance Review Team.

✂.....*Please Separate and Return This Page*.....✂

Dear Parents,

I am pleased to have the honor of teaching your student at Culver City High School. Please take the time to read the description of my rules and policies.

Please sign your names below. Your signature indicates that you have read and understood the rules and policies in my class.

Sincerely,

Ms. Butler

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have reviewed the course syllabus for _____ and I clearly understand it and will abide by it. (Course Name)

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Name: (Print) _____

Parent Phone # (best number to call to discuss your student): _____

Parent Email: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Name: (Print) _____ Period: _____