Introduction to Film and Entertainment
Ms. Topping  toppingd@pcsb.org  (727) 893-2780 ext. 1215

Daily/Weekly Expectations:

**Materials:**
Bring pen (blue or black ink only, please), pencil and paper every day

Each student should have a separate notebook or folder with paper for writing movie reviews. A manila folder will be provided for storing all class information sheets and graded critiques. The folder will be kept in a class filing cabinet. This folder may be used on the student’s final exam.

**Textbook:** Understanding Movies by Louis Giannetti. There is a class set of 20 books. These books are used as reference books and will be read for some of the core information. Students may not check these books out. Any needed information will be provided as handouts.

**Films used:** A list of films that may be shown in class will be given to each student to take home for your approval. These films were chosen because of their importance to the changing history of film and their contribution to each genre. The handout includes the film’s rating. If you have any objection to any film on this list, please circle the title or call me for more information. A substitute will be provided without penalty. Information about each film can be viewed by going to [www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com) on the Internet. Please return these approval forms as soon as possible. Students will be given a second copy to keep.

I supply hand sanitizer, lotion and tissue to use before and after class as needed. I will give students paper and writing utensils in an emergency.

**Behavior:**
Problems with behavior in this class is rare. I will give students a warning the first time, call home or write a note home to be signed by the parent/guardian and returned the second time, and a detention after school if the note home was not returned or if there are additional occurrences. Students will be given 24 hour notice to arrange for transportation if a detention is assigned. Failure to serve an assigned detention will result in a referral.

There will be zero tolerance for cell phone use, having a cell phone out or on, disrespect toward the teacher, bullying, cheating, use of profanity or fighting. Students will receive a referral immediately for these infractions.

**Dress code issues:** Students are expected to arrive dressed appropriately in accordance with the guidelines in the Student Code of Conduct distributed to every student. Students that are out of compliance will be sent to their administrator on a hall pass.

**Tardy students:** After the tardy bell rings, students will report their Assistant Principal for a tardy pass. Students are to report back to class with the pass in a timely manner. The administration will keep track of the tardies and assign consequences according to the school-wide discipline plan. Three unexcused tardies are equal to one absence.
Absences: If a student is absent, please send the student with a note to give to the office. The office will record the absence as excused or unexcused depending on the circumstances. Students with an unexcused absence will have that day's assignment lowered a letter grade per School Board Policy. If a long term project was due the day of an unexcused absence, a zero will result.

Classroom Rules:
- Arrive before the tardy bell, get your terminology notbook out and begin your bell work when the bell rings.
- Follow the school dress code and Code of Conduct.
- No hall passes during the first or last ten minutes of class.
- Be respectful to those speaking and raise your hand to speak.
- No personal attacks or critical remarks.
- Keep your feet on the floor.
- No hats or head coverings allowed in the building.
- Throw all trash in the provided trash cans.
- Make up work promptly. Arrange for makeup work when returning from any absence.
- Complete assignments on time and give your best effort.
- Stay on task and participate.

Consequences for misbehavior:
- A student will receive a verbal warning for the first offense.
- The teacher will call the parent or send a note home requiring a parent signature on the second offense.
- On the third or subsequent offense, the student will be issued a disciplinary referral to his/her administrator.

Referral to an administrator normally results in an in-school suspension, alternate bell schedule assignment, or an out of school suspension depending on the severity of the offense.

Types of Activities:
Daily:
Students will copy film terminology into their own notebook from one slide projected on the SmartBoard during the first ten minutes of class. This notebook will be periodically checked by the teacher for points. Before each film is shown, a basic information sheet about each film will be distributed. Often, the teacher will begin by giving additional pertinent information about the film’s background and specific instructions about what students should look for that day as they view the film. Students should take notes from the teacher’s information on the back of the critique form they will use. Sometimes film clips may be shown to further illustrate a particular concept. The majority of class time will be spent viewing movies in their entirety followed by an exploration of the production values used to make the pictures. Following the viewing of each film, students will have three days to fill out a film critique form that includes essential information about what they have seen. Students will need to summarize the story, describe outstanding film techniques used in the film with examples from the film, and any special effects or other production values. Sometimes students will take a pop-up quiz (called a “Quick Write”). Sometimes students will be asked to complete a project. Projects are usually given three to six weeks for completion.
Topics covered in class will include:
- Photography
- Mise en scene
- Movement
- Editing
- Sound
- Acting
- Drama
- Story
- Writing
- Ideology and
- Critiques

The “Quick Write” assignments are worth ten to twenty points each, so it is important that attention is paid during class! Projects are normally worth 100 points. Each critique form is worth 25 points. The purpose of the course is to give students an overview of the filmmaking process, examine the tools and techniques used in making films, studying classic films and discussing the elements that have made the film a classic as well as becoming a critical viewer of movies. Films will be shown in chronological order.

**Grading:**
Each completed film record is worth up to 25 points. Quizzes over core information are worth 10 to 20 points and major tests and projects are worth 100 points. Students are urged to suggest their own project ideas that would illustrate their grasp of the concepts taught that six weeks. Terminology notebook checks are worth up to 50 points per week.

**Progress Reports**
The county grading scale will be used:
- 100 - 90 = A
- 89 - 80 = B
- 79 - 70 = C
- 69 - 60 = D
- 59 and below = F

Progress reports may be requested at anytime by the student or parent. At the end of the third week of each six week period, students who do not have a minimum of a "C" will be given a progress report to take home to the parent to be signed and returned. All others may request a progress report as needed. This saves trees!
Film List for 2012 - 2013

1902 A Trip to the Moon
1903 The Great Train Robbery
1919 The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari
1931 City Lights
1931 Frankenstein
1932 The Music Box
1933 King Kong
1933 Dinner at Eight
1934 It Happened One Night
1935 Top Hat
1936 My Man Godfrey
1937 Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
1938 The Adventures of Robin Hood
1939 The Wizard of Oz
1940 The Mark of Zorro
1940 The Philadelphia Story
1942 Casablanca
1943 A Guy Named Joe/
1989 – Always (PG)
1950 Sunset Boulevard
1951 The Day the Earth Stood Still
1952 Singing in the Rain
1956 The Red Balloon
1957 An Affair to Remember (G)/
1993 Sleepless in Seattle (PG)
1959 Some Like It Hot (PG)
1960 Spartacus (PG-13)
1960 Psycho (PG-13)
1961 West Side Story
1962 Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge
1964 Fail Safe
1965 The Great Race (PG)
1967 Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner (PG)
1968 2001: A Space Odyssey (G)
1969 Butch Cassidy & the Sundance Kid (PG)
1970 Love Story (PG)
1973 The Way We Were (PG)
1973 The Sting (PG)
1974 Young Frankenstein (PG)
1975 Jaws (PG-13)
1976 Rocky (PG)
1977 Close Encounters of the Third Kind (PG)
1977 Star Wars (PG)
1981 Raiders of the Lost Ark (PG)
1982 Kramer vs. Kramer (PG)
1982 Tootsie (PG)
1982 Victor/Victoria (PG)
1984 Places in the Heart (PG)
1986 Ferris Bueller’s Day Off (PG-13)
1990 Dances With Wolves (PG-13)
1995 Sense and Sensibility (PG)
1995 The American President (PG-13)
2001 Monsters, Inc. (G)
2002 Chicago (PG-13)
2003 Last Stand (NR)
2008 Departures (PG-13)
2008 The Boy in the Striped Pajamas (PG-13)
2011 The Help (PG-13)

Film Clips Only:

1925 The Gold Rush
1927 The General
1934 The Hunchback of Notre Dame
1936 Little Lord Fauntleroy
1938 Bringing Up Baby
1941 Penny Serenade
1950 Harvey
1950 Born Yesterday
1952 The Quiet Man
1953 Gentlemen Prefer Blondes
1959 Ben-Hur (PG)
1955 Rebel Without A Cause
1959 North by Northwest (PG)
1967 Far From the Madding Crowd (TV-14)
1967 Bonnie and Clyde (R)*
1971 Johnny Got His Gun (PG)
1972 The Godfather (R)*
1972 What’s Up Doc? (G)
1979 Breaking Away (PG)
1980 The Elephant Man (PG)
1981 On Golden Pond (PG)
1982 Sophie’s Choice (R)*
1986 Out of Africa (PG)
1986 Top Gun (PG)
1987 Moonstruck (PG)
1989 Dead Poet’s Society (PG)
1993 Mrs. Doubtfire (PG-13)
1994 Forrest Gump (PG-13)
1997 Men in Black (PG-13)
1998 Meet Joe Black (PG-13)
1998 City of Angels (PG-13)
2003 Bruce Almighty (PG-13)
2005 Memoirs of a Geisha (PG-13)
2006 The Queen (PG-13)
2007 White Light Black Rain (NR)
2011 The Artist (PG-13)
Intro to Film and Entertainment Acknowledgement of Syllabus Information

______________________________________ and ________________________________
Print Student’s name                        Print Parent or Guardian’s name

acknowledges receipt of the Introduction to Film and Entertainment Syllabus and agree to strive for success by following the included course guidelines.

______________________________________ and ________________________________
Student’s signature                        Parent or Guardian’s signature

Date returned to teacher

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Required Parent Approval of Class List of Films

Your signature is required to document that you have seen this list and have been given the opportunity to approve the films to be shown as part of the Intro to Film and Entertainment class and that circling any film(s) you find objectionable will guarantee that your child will NOT be shown that particular film and that a suitable film will replace it without any penalty.

______________________________________     ________________________________     _______
Student’s Name    Parent/Guardian Signature                          Date

Please return this signed form in a timely manner. You may also obtain plot summary or additional information about any of the listed films by visiting www.imdb.com and type the film title into the search window.

Thank you,

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Diane Topping, Instructor