



# Film Study 1 and 2 Syllabus

2019-2020 School Year



## Instructor

Denise Elia-Yen

## Email

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## Classroom and Office Location

Room J-4, Performing Arts Bldg.  
Office hours by appointment

## Overview for Film Study - “Open eyes, open minds, open hearts.”

Welcome! I’m honored to continue the tradition of this course taught at MCHS and to teach you all about film. This is a college-prep elective that the UC system recognizes as fulfilling their fine arts entrance requirement. We will watch a wide range of many different types of film. The movies will be representative of their genre, style, or ground-breaking expression. I don’t expect you to love every single film you see, but I do expect you to give every film a try. This is where our “open eyes, open minds, open hearts” adage comes into play. This concept will challenge you to develop a keen artistic and critical eye for storytelling in film. You will develop an understanding of how films are made, and how they can so powerfully communicate with cinematic, dramatic, and literary elements.

## Course Goals

- 1) **Artistic Perception:** Learn the job of a screenwriter, director, actor, cinematographer, editor, artistic director, etc.
- 2) **Creative Expression:** Complete a variety of artistic projects related to film.
- 3) **Context and Relevance:**
  - Identify historical and cultural artists, eras, and movements in film.
  - Understand the sociological and political implications of films.
  - Connect to the collaborative nature of film among other art forms and social sciences.
- 4) **Aesthetic Analysis:** Analyze films and study film criticism.

## Work and Activities

Both Film I and II—evaluation for each film, regular participation in class discussion, film terminology/concepts tests, final exam including written responses

Film I—quarterly projects selected from a provided list

Film II—independent reading/study and in-depth analysis portfolio of student-selected/grouped “triumvirate” films first semester; short film second semester

## Required Course Materials

- Binder dedicated to Film Study
- Loose-leaf, college-ruled binder paper
- Folder dedicated to Film Study
- Organizer/planner for important dates and assignments
- Pens, pencils, highlighters

## Rules

Students are expected to arrive on time, ready to work, and behave safely, responsibly, and maturely. Respect each other and each person's point of view and do all of your own work. Not following safety guidelines, causing disruption, disrespect, chronic tardiness or use of the bathroom pass, failure to adhere to classroom and school policies, or other offenses may result in a referral and/or visit with an Administrator. Students will be marked tardy if they are more than 5 minutes late without a tardy slip.

Use of cellphones or other electronic devices during class is strictly prohibited unless usage is permitted at designated times. If the teacher deems that a cell phone or personal electronic device is not used for school work during a designated usage time, or if it is not put away upon arrival, the teacher will confiscate the cell phone or personal electronic device and provide it to the front office for a parent to retrieve.

Bathroom Passes: Each student is given 5 bathroom passes for the semester. Each bathroom pass not used, will be worth 1 point extra credit at the end of the semester.

## Grading

Grades will be viewable via Illuminate Ed. Grades will be calculated on a percentage basis cumulatively for the semester.

Assignments (30%) This includes classwork and homework. Support is available to assist in completing assignments by clear due dates with plenty of notice. Last submission of an assignment will result in a 10% grade reduction per day it is late, up to two days at 50%. Late assignments will not be accepted after two days.

Tests and Projects (40%) Tests are at the end of each unit and quizzes in between. Projects are due at the end of each quarter. Plenty of advance notice will always be given, but there may be pop quizzes!

Participation (30%) Attendance, preparedness for class, contribution to class discussions and written reflections, and citizenship (exhibiting a respectful attitude toward our MCHS film program, classmates, and teacher) all round out this grade category.

A = 93-100	C = 73-76
A- = 90-92	C- = 70-72
B+ = 87-89	D+ = 67-69
B = 83-86	D = 63-66
B- = 80-82	D- = 60-62
C+ = 77-79	F = Below 60

Percentages within 0.5% of the next percentage point will be rounded up.

## Late and Make-Up Work

At the core of this class is watching and discussing films together, so **good attendance is essential**. Turning in a project one class period late will result in a full-grade point deduction; turning in a project two class periods late will result in a two-grade point deduction; **no project may be turned in more than two class periods late**.

Regular film evaluations must be turned in on time to receive a stamp. **Only stamped, filed evaluations may be submitted later for credit among your top evaluations for the semester.**

Absences - If you miss class due to an excused absence, you must make up any work or test within the same number of classes that you missed (gone two days: you have two days to do make-ups), though faster is almost always better. Students who are absent are expected to contact Mrs. Elia-Yen and/or another student to learn what was covered while they were gone. Notes, handouts, assignments, and upcoming tests are all among items to ask about. **It is *your* responsibility to find out what you missed and make arrangements to make up the work.** Missing all or most of a film will mean needing to get an alternate approved by Mrs. Elia-Yen - **check the class agenda when you come back.**

Extra Credit - Students may earn extra credit via additional projects approved by Mrs. Elia-Yen.

## Volunteering

Parents, please see the volunteer and donation sheet. We appreciate your support!

## DRAMA and STAGECRAFT EVENTS

Film is part of the Theater Department at MCHS, so we extend a special invitation to you to our events this year!

- September 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, 29 = Shakespeare in the Square: *Twelfth Night*. Outdoors before the MCHS Theater. Show times TBA. Tickets = \$10.
- October 26 and 31 = Haunted House. Walking tour through the MCHS Theater. Show times TBA. Tickets = \$10.
- November 14, 15, 21, 22, 23 = Fall Drama Production. MCHS Theater. Show Times TBA. Tickets = \$10.
- December 9 = Winter Theatre Showcase, highlighting Drama 1 and Drama 2 classes. MCHS Theater. Show Time TBA. Tickets = \$5.

February 7, 8, 9 = Lenaea High School Theatre Festival. Folsom Lake College, Folsom, CA.

*The Lenaea Festival is not mandatory for Film students: Drama 2 and Stagecraft students may be chosen to compete. Drama 1 students may observe. A select group will attend based on competition production needs, adult drivers, and cost. If any slots open up, Mrs. Elia-Yen may consider offering attendance to a small number of film students who may be interested in theater at her discretion. Theater is very different from film, but there is potential for crossover interest. I will keep you posted as interest, slots, and details develop. We hope to bring as many students to the festival as we can manage!*

- March 27 = Opening Night Gala - Dinner and Performance of Spring Theatre Production. MCHS Theater. Dinner and Show Time TBA  
*\*Combo tickets for the Gala Dinner and Performance, as well as tickets just for the show, are TBA*
- March 28 and April 2, 3, 4, 5 = Spring Theatre Production. MCHS Theater. Show Time TBA. Tickets = \$10.
- April 24 = Spring Theatre Showcase, highlighting Drama 1 and Drama 2 classes. MCHS Theater. Show Time TBA. Tickets = \$5.
- May 18 = End of Year Drama Club Party. All department, *including film students*, are welcome! MCHS Theater after school!  
Tickets = Free! Paid for by Dept.

## Find Us Online:

MCHS Website: <http://www.mariacarrillohighschool/dramaandstagecraft>

Facebook: Maria Carrillo High School Arts

Instagram: MCHS Arts

RemindApp: Class name = "Film Study" Directions: Text @yenfilm to the number 81010



CUT HERE. RETURN THIS BOTTOM SLIP by Sept. 1!

I have read and understand the above syllabus.

STUDENT: Printed Name	Signature	Date
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PARENT/GUARDIAN: Printed Name	Signature	Date
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## Permission for R-Rated movies

This year, the R-rated films shown in Film Study may include, but are not limited to: *The Conjuring, Kill Bill Volumes 1 and 2, The Matrix.*

My student named above has permission to view R-rated movies (such as those listed above) as part of either Film Study 1 or Film Study 2 at Maria Carrillo High School for the 2019-2020 school year.

PARENT/GUARDIAN: Printed Name	Signature	Date
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