

# Film Studies

**Ms. Jones**

School Ext. #3250 → Room #108

**Amazon Teacher Wish List:**

<https://tinyurl.com/msjonesWL23>

**Office Hours: during homeroom & after school until 4:00pm**



Krystle.jones@elmoreco.com  
(the best way to reach me)

**REMI**  
Text @filmmsj23 to 81010



## COURSE DESCRIPTION

*This course explores a wide variety and range of film types and units of study individual genre-based units of study. This class teaches students how appreciate, analyze and interpret theme, character, story structure and narrative technique through the medium of film.*

*Students begin to analyze works of cinema, research film history and genres, and create original scripts using techniques studied in class.*

*Students will engage in a blended learning environment through the use of technology to complete assignments, maintain a digital notebook, and take assessments.*

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

**Students will understand that...**

- ☉ Film directors use cinematic elements to create effect, specifically theme and tone.
- ☉ Characterization is developed through dialogue, actions, and costume choices
- ☉ Challenges we face as we “come of age” have similarities across time and culture

**Students will be able to:**

- ☉ Students will be able to identify core elements of the cinematic journey.
- ☉ Students will be able to contextualize how film emerges from staged and written drama.
- ☉ Students will be able to analyze how common filmmaking conventions, directing styles, editing techniques, camera angles, and special effects affect the finished product of a scene.
- ☉ Students will be able to explain different trends, historical movements, noteworthy figures, and performance styles of the filmmaking industry.

## COURSE THEMES & TEXTS

Film Studies class will analyze a combination of clips, excerpts, and full-length screenings (listed below). Please note that this list is by no means exhaustive, and curriculum is subject to change.

- ☉ [Alien \(1979\)](#)
- ☉ [Casablanca \(1942\)](#)
- ☉ [Clue \(1985\)](#)
- ☉ [Jaws \(1975\)](#)
- ☉ [Toy Story \(1995\)](#)
- ☉ [The Dark Knight \(2008\)](#)
- ☉ [Psycho \(1960\)](#)
- ☉ [Schindler’s List \(1993\)](#)

## COURSE ACTIVITIES

- ☉ READ
  - Read screenplays
  - Analyze shots
  - Research film history
  - Study and critique directors
- ☉ WRITE
  - Retool and rework existing scripts
  - Compose story treatments
  - Pitch ideas in a group setting
  - Revise and improve dialogue
- ☉ CREATE
  - Compose action sequences
  - Draft your own screenplays
  - Learn filmmaking techniques
  - Film your own original works

## GRADING:

Grading for this class will be done based on weighting rather than assigned points. This means that an assessment will affect your grade more than a homework assignment even if the homework assignment is worth 20 points and the assessment is worth 15 points.

### WEIGHTS FOR EACH ASSIGNMENT:

- ☉ Formative Assessments (Daily Grades) – **50%**  
{Classwork, quizzes, short essays, discussion, exit slips, etc.}
- ☉ Summative Assessments – **50%**  
{tests, essays, presentations, projects, etc.}

### GRADING CRITERIA

- A = 100 – 90% = Student demonstrates an Exemplary Level of Mastery
- B = 89 – 80% = Student demonstrates an Above Average Level of Mastery
- C = 79 – 70% = Student demonstrates a Basic Level of Mastery
- D = 69 – 60% = Student demonstrates a Below Average Level of Mastery
- F = 59 – 0% = Student has not demonstrated or has not provided evidence of Mastery

### MAKE-UP WORK POLICY:

MAKE-UP WORK IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!! Make-up work must be completed within three (3) school days. More time can be negotiated for students with extended absences. A time to take tests/quizzes can be negotiated in the occurrence of an absence. No make-up work will be completed during class time unless directed.

### LATE WORK/ POLICY:

It is up to the teacher's discretion to accept any late work or to allow students to make up assignments. Any student wishing to discuss their grade (regarding a particular assignment, late work, extra credit, making up assignments, etc.) must directly speak to the teacher either in person or via Remind/email.

## CLASSROOM COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS

- ☉ Practice **RESPECT** at all times.
  - Yourself, Your classmates, Your classroom, and definitely, Your Teacher
  - Students must demonstrate maturity at all times (no foul language, no physical contact, raise hand before speaking, do not interrupt teacher and classmates).
  - This classroom is a **RED ZONE**. Cellphones or electronic devices should not be visible. Please have them in your backpacks (NOT pockets) at ALL TIMES.
- ☉ **CONTRIBUTE** to the learning environment.
  - Be prepared for class every day
  - Raise your hand to speak or stand
  - Participate in the learning process
  - Ask questions if you do not know or understand
  - Provide support for classmates who be struggling with concepts you understand
- ☉ Be **RESPONSIBLE** at all times.
  - Attendance is necessary for success in this class. If a student misses class time, they are missing the instruction time needed to master the skills and content taught in class.
  - Have integrity by being honest and trustworthy
  - Complete your assignments on time
  - Be supportive and considerate of others
  - Clean up after yourself

## CONSEQUENCES

- **STEP 0:** Nonverbal Warning – The teacher will keep students focused on learning without using words or sounds.
- **STEP 1:** Restorative Chat – Students will be verbally reminded that their behavior is not meeting expectations. After a verbal warning, a student/teacher conference will be initiated.
- **STEP 2:** Parent Conference – Parents will be called to schedule an over-the-phone, Zoom, or in-person conference and a restorative consequence will be assigned by the teacher.
- **STEP 3:** Referral to admin who assigns consequence and/or counselor intervention.
- **STEP 4:** Referral to administrator as a **CLASS II Offense**.

ALL incidents that escalate past a nonverbal warning will be recorded as a Teacher Log entry in PowerSchool.

**NOTE:** Students who express gross defiance, disrespect, and belligerence (behaviors that jeopardize the climate of the class) will be immediately sent to an administrator. The parent/guardian of the student will receive a phone call from me explaining the incident.



*Today is a GREAT day to be a MUSTANG!*

Thank you for reading! Please sign and return this bottom portion of the syllabus and be sure keep the rest.

Parents: My goal for any class is to help my students succeed. If you need to speak with me on any issue concerning your child, please feel free to contact me at school or email me at: [krystle.jones@elmoreco.com](mailto:krystle.jones@elmoreco.com)

### STUDENT SIGNATURE:

I have read and understood all items contained in the syllabus for Ms. Jones' Film Studies class.

Student Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### PARENT SIGNATURE:

My signature acknowledges that I have fully read and understood the syllabus for Ms. Jones' Film Studies class.

Parent Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Contact Info (the best way to reach you): \_\_\_\_\_

### Comments, Questions, or Concerns for Ms. Jones: