

GOAL STATEMENT

Introduction to Film Criticism

Thomas Jefferson High School

The Introduction to Film Criticism course will give students ...

During this course the student will:

1. Learn about the history of modern cinema including cinematic history, modern film distribution systems, and the ancient and modern studio systems.
2. Identify the cinematic conventions used by directors in the creation of a film including but not limited to camera angles, shot types, editing techniques, and *misé en scene*.
3. Identify the roles and functions of people associated with the film making process including directors, producers, editors, cinematographers, actors, set designers, and special effects artists, amongst others.
4. Identify literary elements that occur in film such as genre, plot, setting, theme, character, symbolism, and style.
5. Create cinematic critiques that focus on evaluating how a director implements various cinematic elements, follows genre, and works for or against establish stereotypes.
6. Model film critics in creating their own reviews of a selected film from a predetermined list of films paying special attention to identifying and critiquing certain cinematic conventions and techniques used by the director in the creation of the film as well as making a personal and substantiated judgment in writing as to their position and inclination regarding the film.
7. Identify and discuss the techniques, messages, and reasoning used by directors and producers in film and television to convey certain positions and opinions.
8. Be briefly introduced to the application of the same techniques to other fields of media (as a possible transition into the Mass Media Course).