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| [www.schoology.com](http://www.schoology.com) Join Code: GM23C-RZQRW | Room 410; 470.254.1980 ext. 272 |

**Course Description:** Film is both a powerful communication medium and an art form. The Diploma Programme film course aim to develop students’ skills so that they become adept in both interpreting and making film texts. Through the study and analysis of film texts and exercises in film-making, the Diploma Programme film course explores film history, theory and socio-economic background. The course develops students’ critical abilities, enabling them to appreciate the multiplicity of cultural and historical perspectives in film. To achieve an international understanding within the world of film, students are taught to consider film texts, theories and ideas from the points of view of different individuals, nations and cultures.

**Texts**:

**Course Objectives**: By the end of the IB Film HL, you will demonstrate the following…

* An understanding of the variety of ways in which film creates meaning
* An effective use of appropriate film language
* Originality and creativity in developing an idea through the various stages of filmmaking, from conception to finished production
* Technical skills and an appropriate use of available technology
* The ability to draw together knowledge, skills, research and experience, and apply them analytically to evaluate film texts
* A critical understanding of the historical, theoretical, socio-cultural, economic and institutional contexts of film in more than one culture
* The ability to research, plan and organize film projects
* The ability to reflect upon and evaluate film production and completed film texts

**Course Requirements**: In keeping with IB Guidelines, this course is divided into three main elements…

* Textual Analysis – The detailed study of film sequences
* Film History and Theory – The study of films and filmmaking traditions from more than one country
* Film Production – Techniques and organization of production; the development of creative, analytical and production skills within filmmaking.

In order to satisfy these three core elements of this course, students will be expected to spend a significant amount of time outside of class watching films and clips independently, working on film productions and writing papers, scripts, film presentations and screening worksheets.

**IB Final Assessments Components**: Throughout the course, we will work towards the successful completion of the final external and internal assessment components.

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| **IB Assessment Components** | **Weights:** |
| **External Assessments:**  **Independent Study**   * Rationale, script and list of sources for a short documentary productions of 12-15 pages HL or 8-10 pages SL on an aspect of film theory and/or film history, based on a study of a minimum of four HL or two SL films. The chosen films must originate from more than one country.   + Length of rationale: no more than 100 words   + Length of script: 12-15 pages HL; 8-10 pages SL   **Oral Presentation**   * An oral presentation of a detailed critical analysis of a continuous extract from a prescribed film. The extract must not be longer than 5 minutes   + Maximum length of the presentation: 15 minutes HL; 10 minutes SL |  |
| 25% |
| 25% |
| **Internal Assessment**  This component is internally assessed by the teacher and externally moderated by the IB at the end of the course.  **Production and Portfolio**   * One completed film project with accompanying written portfolio documentation of no more than 1,750 words HL; 1200 words, SL.   + Length of film project: 6-7 minutes with titles HL; 4-5 minutes with titles SL   + Length of individual trailer: 40-60 seconds HL only   + Length of individual rationale for the film: no more than 100 words   + Length of individual rationale for the film trailer: no more than 100 words HL * Group work: The film project may be undertaken as a group project, but all accompanying documentation ***must*** be individually produced. | 50% |

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| **Riverwood Grading Overview.** All project grades are evaluated using rubrics based on the IB Film Studies Assessment guidelines.  The total semester grades for the IB Film Studies class will be an average of the following categories: | | |
| **Overall Grade %** | **Grading Category** | **Category Breakdown** |
| **40%** | **PROJ** | **Production Projects** |
| **20%** | **CLASS** | **Film Criticisms and Contextual Understanding** (may also include home assignments) |
| **20%** | **JOURN** | **Reading Assignments and Class Assignments** |
| **10%** | **PART** | **Participation** – Homework and Research |
| **10%** | **FINAL** | **Final Exam** |

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| Fulton County uses the following grading scale: | **90-100 = A** | **80-89 = B** | **70-79 = C** | **69-Below = F** |
| Parents will be notified by phone or email after 2 zeroes are recorded and/or when the student is in danger of failing. Parents will also be notified if you are not effectively using the AP class time. | | | | |
| **Due Dates and Submission Protocol**: All work is due by the end of the day that they are due. Printed work is acceptable, but digital files are expected. Work will be submitted to the assignment on Schoology.   * All **major assignments** that are late will be deducted 10% of the overall grade for each day that the assignment is late. If you are absent on a major assignment due date, you should expect to turn in the work on the date of your return. These assignments will be given an extended period of working time so you will enough notice to complete the work. * All **film criticisms, film essays or other class assignments** must be ready on the due date. If you are absent and miss a screening, you are expected to make arrangements to watch the film within one-two days of your return. Late work will be accepted the following day for a 10% reduction and on the second day for a 50% reduction. After the second day, the work will not be accepted. * **Improvement Grades** can be reassessed for any work that is graded on a rubric. An improvement grant must be requested by the student the same week the initial assignment is returned. The improvement grade will be scheduled within five days of the return of the initial assignment. Students are expected to seek additional help and guidance from the teacher outside of class. | | | | |
| **Studio Time/Teacher Office Hours**: AP students are expected to work outside of the regular class hours. The studio is open at 8am every morning for students needing extra time to work on assignments. The teacher is available at that time, but appointments are encouraged if the student knows he/she will need the teacher’s help. You can also set up additional time in the afternoons by a pre-arranged appoint with at least one day’s notice. | | | | |
| **Recovery Policy:** Fulton County’s recovery policy is designed so that students who have regular attendance and have completed all assignments but are still unsuccessful in a course can have a chance to demonstrate mastery. Students can request recovery only if they meet the preceding criteria. Recovery does not mean that a student can skip a test or fail to turn in a major assignment and receive recovery as an alternative. The type of recovery assignments available to students is a matter of teacher discretion as long as it directly relates to the course objects. Teachers will determine when and how students with extenuating circumstances may improve their grades. (See page 4 of the Student Handbook.) | | | | |
| **Course Expectations:**   1. **Outside Class Work**: This course requires you to devote significant time outside of class to complete many projects. These projects consist of written essays, research papers, shot lists, storyboards and scripts, as well as film production. You will be required to watch movies outside of class and will be responsible for acquiring the films. 2. **Attendance**: Be on time and be prepared so we can make use of class time as productively as possible. 3. Participation: You are expected to contribute regularly and meaningfully. Come to class with questions, and share your ideas. Remember – film is a collaborative art. You cannot master it alone. Students who do not actively participate in production when we work as a class, will lost points for lack of participation. 4. **Openness**: Some of the films you will watch in this course may be outside your comfort zone. They may be old, in black and white, or even worse, subtitled. They might be films your friends wouldn’t be caught dead watching. To be successful, you will need to be open to new ideas and respectful of others’ opinions. 5. **Conduct & Behavior**: When you are outside the classroom (including off campus) working on production assignments, you are expected to act maturely and responsibly. You actions reflect directly on the school and on this course. | | | | |
| **Plagiarism:** Plagiarism and other forms of intellectual dishonesty will not be tolerated. Plagiarism means to represent the ideas or words of another as you own. It is plagiarism anytime you put anything in your paper that comes out of a book or magazine or the internet, whether word-for-word or paraphrased, and you do not give written credit to the source. Students who plagiarize will be reported, and given a 0 for the assignment. | | | | |
| **Finding Films:** While certainly not required, a subscription to Netflix is encouraged to support your course study. This will allow you to view movies you might have missed due to absences, and allow you to supplement your screenings with other movies from the same time period, genre or film movement. The Atlanta-Fulton public library is also another great source for finding movies and you take advantage of its resources. | | | | |
| **Film Watching Protocol:**   1. Do not talk during the screening of a film. You questions and comments are important and a vital part of the film experience but it is important that you share them after the movie. Any comments should be written down during the film for later discussion. 2. Do not ask questions while the class is watching a film. Instead, write down the questions so you can ask later. 3. For every film we watch, you should take notes. Notes will be handed in with any screening guide. These notes should help you remember important scenes, camera angles, writing, editing or interesting examples of mise-en-scene, including set design, lighting, composition and acting. You will add to these notes when we discuss the film. Your notes will help you complete the responses you will write after watching the film. 4. If you must leave the class while we are watching a film, please QUIETLY leave the room. Return to class as soon as possible. 5. No eating is allowed while watching a movie. It causes distractions for you and other people around you. | | | | |
| **Supplies for Class:**   * 3-ring binder with loose-leaf paper and tabbed dividers for Film Handouts, IB Material, Production Handouts and Production Projects * Composition notebook (film journal) * 1 external harddrive – minimum of 1 TB – video requires extensive storage space. * Pens and pencils | | | | |