NORTH POINTE PREP
FILM STUDIES
Course Syllabus Spring 2019

REQUIRED READING:

- **Articles, web pages, and excerpts provided by the instructor**

REQUIRED MATERIALS: Students need to have these items by Friday, August 3rd, 2018.

- 1 Packet of Loose Leaf Paper
- Blue or Black Pens

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students will gain an understanding of the different genres of film through viewing, discussing, and analyzing them. They will also be able to distinguish different cultural aspects, past and present, which are portrayed through the film medium.

COURSE POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS:

Point Schools have identified 9 rules which all students are bound to uphold. The instructor shall enforce these rules in this classroom. Violations of these rules will be met with appropriate and fair consequences. These rules and consequences are:

- **Be on Time**
  Students are required to be in their seats and completing the "Do Now" task before the late bell rings. Parents will be notified if a student is tardy to class and the teacher reserves the right to assign In-School Suspension to tardy students.

- **Respect Yourself & Others**
  Pointe Schools is committed to having a disruption-free environment within the classroom. Students who speak out at inappropriate times or inappropriately shall be verbally warned for a 1st offense. A second offense for such disruptions will be an e-mail to the student's parents explaining the situation. The consequence for causing a disruption a third time will be In-School Suspension and possible removal from the classroom by administration.

- **Be Prepared**
  Students will come prepared for class with all required materials and assignments.
  Assignments: Most assignments will be Film Reviews. If you are absent for an entire screening or for part of a screening, you must still write a film review. You can write a film review for any film you wish under these circumstances.

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- **Do Your Best Work**
  Students will do their own best work. Students who plagiarize or cheat will face the consequences laid out in the Student Handbook which include loss of credit on the assignment up to and including In-School Suspension. The teacher will know if you steal information from Wikipedia, IMDB, or other sources on the internet.

- **Maintain an Environment for Learning**
  The best way to maintain an environment conducive for learning is to keep the classroom distraction free. Therefore:
  Cell Phones, Non-Educational Items, and Other Electronic Devices are not to be used, heard, or seen during class time without administrative approval. Students violating this policy for the first time will be verbally warned. Students violating this policy for a second time will be asked to place the device on my desk and that student's parents will be apprised of the situation via email. Students will be allowed to retrieve the object at the end of the **DAY**. Students violating this policy beyond that will retrieve that object at the main office at the end of the day and will face administrative discipline.

- **Keep a Positive Attitude**

- **Take Responsibility**

- **Dress Appropriately**
  Students found in violation of the Pointe Schools Dress Code will be referred immediately to Administration.

- **Use Your Time Wisely**
  Unless confidentially noted as a symptom of a medical condition, sleeping in class is prohibited. The Instructor reserves to right to wake students up from naps during class time using very loud noises or slightly nudging the student's desk.
  Class Participation: Students are encouraged to question their instructor at any time. Students are also encouraged to share their opinions at appropriate times.
  Restroom Use: Students will be allowed to have a pass to the bathroom during class. However, Students should know that restrooms are to be used prior to the start of class or after the end of the class. If a student requests bathroom passes excessively, the teacher reserves the right to contact parents via e-mail explaining the situation.

MANDATORY TUTORING and ACADEMIC PROBATION:

If a student is earning a grade of F, he or she must attend tutoring from 2:35pm-3:30pm Mondays and Wednesdays until his or her grade improves to at least a D. Before these tutoring sessions, students will consult with the teacher in the completion of an Individualized Academic Probation

Plan. This plan is designed for students to commit to specific, problem-solving strategies to improve his or her grade to at least a D.

The school day, per North Pointe policy, starts at 7:15am and concludes at 3:30pm. In this respect, students must attend tutoring sessions if their grade falls into the F range. Failure to report to or refusal to effectively participate in tutoring will be considered insubordination and subject to administrative action.

EVALUATION AND GRADING:

Grading Philosophy: Grading in this course will reflect a student's achievement relative to the assigned coursework (i.e.: tests, quizzes, homework, class work, participation, group projects, etc.)

Course Grading: Each student will receive a letter grade upon completion of this course. This grade will correlate with the effort and achievement of individual students on class assessments and assignments. All assessments and assignments will be recorded in our Online Academic Resource as "Total Points". All points, regardless of category (i.e.: tests/quizzes, Classwork, homework), will be weighted equally to the calculation of the course grade.

You may access our Online Academic Resource through our Student Grades link on northpointeprep.com.

Grading Scale:

All assignments in Film Studies will be graded using the school-wide "points" system. Each assignment will be assigned a certain value of the total possible points.

Academic Friday School: Students who fail a semester core course are required to attend Academic Friday School from 12:15 pm - 3:30 pm the following semester to make up the credit. Students who fail to attend Academic Friday School are subject to disciplinary action.

Once enrolled, North Pointe does not accept course credit from other high school or online institutions.

Instructor Contact Information:
Parents and students are encouraged to contact the instructor with any questions via email.
Email: ksmith@pointeschools.org

Instructor Schedule:

1st Period	AP US History	5th Period	US History
2nd Period	Film Studies	6th Period	US History

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3rd Period US History 7th Period US History

COURSE LAYOUT:

The course will begin with a brief overview of the history of cinema and a precursory look at film criticism and film theory. Film Studies and filmmaking vocabulary will be heavily explored. The course will then follow a genre-based approach. Films to be viewed include, but are not limited to:

Batman: The Animated Series	*Star Wars*	*La La Land*
Modern Times	*Firefly*	*Jaws*
Bringing Up Baby	*Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog*	*Futurama*
Ready Player One	*Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist*	*Black Panther*
Rear Window	*Super 8*	*Singing in the Rain*
Vertigo	*Double Indemnity*	*Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*
Inception	*Casablanca*	*Arrival*

Film Studies Disclaimer: Films will have various ratings used by the Motion Picture Association of America's film-rating system and ALL Films will be reviewed for educational purposes. Films will explore socio-cultural, artistic, political, and scientific endeavors. We will also view films as art, propaganda, communication, and analyze the effects of film on our society and culture in general.

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