

PVCP INTRODUCTION TO CINEMA HS ELECTIVE

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COURSE STATEMENT

This introductory course is mainly designed to aid students to understand and appreciate the human condition through film. The course will also look at the history of film making and the technical advancements within the industry. The course will analyze different topics such as redemption, talent, plot, character development, and camera techniques through variously selected films. Student participation and attendance is the main grading criterion for this elective.

COURSE POLICIES

- ❖ **Attendance/Absences/Make-up-work:** Regular attendance for this zero hour (7:15a) elective is necessary for passing this elective.
- ❖ **Classroom Rules/Expectations:** Students are expected to arrive punctually each day, ready to participate. Students are expected to redeem the classroom time by faithful engagement with the subject at hand and an edifying interaction with peers and teacher.
- ❖ **Homework:** Homework, though seldomly assigned will be expected to be completed prior to the start of the class meeting. 10% will be taken off for every class period the assignment.

GRADING POLICY

- ❖ **Homework (10 points per assignment):** Page headings, side notes, and underlining. There is no assigned textbook, but there may be copies printed for reading.
- ❖ **Participation (5 points per class period):** Active engagement in class discussion that fosters depth of inquiry.

DISCLAIMER ABOUT FILM RATINGS

- ❖ **Film Rating:** *Film ratings will vary throughout this course. Most films after the 1950s have removed the right and obligation to privacy in filming. As such, it is difficult to separate the art from the explicit content. Every effort will be made to eliminate nudity or graphic images. Language and brief scenes of violence will be more difficult to effectively eliminate without ruining the flow of the story. For an extensive look at the rating system provided by the MPAA see article 3C in the [Classification and Rating Rules guidelines 2010](#). If you wish your child to be excused for any screening, just email me and we can create an alternative assignment. Class screenings are subject to change.*

I will respond to e-mails or phone calls placed after 4pm or on weekends as soon as possible the next business day.

Course Outline

1) SCREENINGS:

1. Charlie Chaplin selections (origins of film)
2. Buster Keaton selections (origin of film)
3. Gone with the Wind (historical fiction)
4. Singing in the Rain (musical)
5. Rebel without a Cause (Countercultural elements)
6. The Searchers (American Identity)
7. The Princess Bride (plot and character types)
8. Les Miserables 2012 (redemption theme)
9. Terminator 2 (computer graphics)
10. Bourne Identity (camera technique)
11. Stranger than Fiction (Character development and romance)
12. Momento (plot analysis)