

Film 1 Syllabus & Rules

Instructor

Beth W. Cole

Contact Info

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Class Location

Hellgate

High School Room

261/263

Office Hours

Thursdays

11:15am – 12:00pm

Resources

• [Google Classroom](#)

• [Infinite Campus Student Login](#)

• [Adobe Student Home Access Instructions](#)

Course Overview

This course includes the study of the history, process, and philosophy of narrative film and an introduction into documentary film. Students will study, edit, and create films. Students will develop their knowledge and use of the industry standard non-linear video editing program, Premiere Pro.

Course enables students to explore video communications, incorporating both the technical and artistic aspects of video media.

Course Goals/Learning Objectives

- Evaluate and synthesize film theory as it applies to specific films in written/oral presentations that analyze and deconstruct films in a coherent and thoughtful manner.
- Apply knowledge and comprehension of film technique and theory by participating in the making of a series of original short films in a variety of production roles.

Demonstrate:

- The variety of ways film creates meaning.
- The effective use of film language.
- Originality and creativity in developing an idea through the stages of filmmaking.
- Technical skills appropriate to our available technology.
- The ability to reflect upon and evaluate film production processes and completed film texts.

Prerequisites/Technology Use

The use of technology in class will be extensive. Students will acquire computer literacy to edit projects and present them. Students will frequently be using cameras and computer software.

This class involves a lot of experiential learning. Missing class whether excused or not, will hamper your ability to get the most out of it. It is imperative that you attend and arrive on time.

Bell Schedule

	Monday, Tuesday, Friday	Wednesday	Thursday
Period 1	8:50 – 9:40am	8:55 – 10:25am	
Period 2	9:45 – 10:35am		9:40 – 11:10am
Period 3	10:40 – 11:30am	10:30am – 12pm	
Office Hours			11:15am – 12:00pm
WTh Lunch		12:00 – 12:50pm	12:00 – 12:50pm
Period 4	11:40am – 12:30pm		12:50 – 2:20pm
MTF Lunch	12:25 – 1:15pm		
Period 5	1:15 – 2:05pm	12:50 – 2:20pm	
Period 6	2:10 – 3:00pm		2:25 – 3:55pm
Period 7	3:05 – 3:55pm	2:25 – 3:55pm	

Noteworthy Dates for 2023/2024 School Year

Week	Subject
August 29 – Tuesday	Freshmen only day
August 30 – Wednesday	All students attend

Week	Subject
September 4 – Monday	No School – Labor Day
October 5 – Thursday	September Missing Work Deadline
October 19 & 20 – Thursday, Friday	No School - MEA Teacher Convention
November 2 – Thursday	October Missing Work Deadline
November 22, 23 and 24 – Wednesday, Thursday, Friday	No School - Thanksgiving Break
December 7 – Thursday	November Missing Work Deadline
December 22 – January 1 – Friday through Monday	No School - Holiday Break
January 11 – Thursday	Missing Work Deadline
January 15 – Monday	No School – Martin Luther King Day
January 19 – Friday	End of First Semester
January 22 – Monday	No School – Records Day
February 12 – Monday	No School – Staff Development Day
February 19 - Monday	No School – Presidents Day
March 4 – Thursday	February Missing Work Deadline
March 16 – 24 – Saturday through Sunday	Spring Break
April 4 - Thursday	March Missing Work Deadline
April 19 – Friday	No School – Staff Development Day
May 2 - Thursday	April Missing Work Deadline
May 27 – Monday	No School – Memorial Day
May 30 – Thursday	May Missing Work Deadline
June 7	End of Second Semester Last Day of School

Course Topics/Film List – Tentative and subject to time constraints

Topic	Movies/Projects
Film History	<p>A Trip to the Moon - 1914 - Not Rated – Georges Melies A group of astronomers go on an expedition to the Moon. <i>Film history</i>. IMDB rating 8.2/10</p> <p>The Great Train Robbery - 1903 - TV-G– Edwin Porter A group of bandits stage a brazen train hold-up, only to find a determined posse hot on their heels. <i>Film history, camera angles</i>. IMDB rating 7.3/10</p> <p>Battleship Potemkin, Odessa Steps Sequence - 1925 - Not Rated– Sergei Eisenstein (excerpt) In the midst of the Russian Revolution of 1905, the crew of the battleship Potemkin mutiny against the brutal, tyrannical regime of the vessel's officers. The resulting street demonstration in Odessa brings on a police massacre. <i>Film history, montage editing</i>. IMDB rating 7.9/10</p>
Film Analysis	<p>Looking at Movies: An Introduction to Film Textbook supplement DVD</p> <p>Rear Window - 1954 - PG – Alfred Hitchcock A photographer in a wheelchair spies on his neighbors from his Greenwich Village courtyard apartment window, and becomes convinced one of them has committed murder, despite the skepticism of his fashion-model girlfriend. <i>Film analysis, terminology</i>, IMDB rating 8.5/10</p> <p>Disturbia - 2007 - PG-13– D.J. Caruso A teen living under house arrest becomes convinced his neighbor is a serial killer. Remake of Rear Window. <i>Film history, comparative analysis</i>. IMDB rating 6.8/10</p> <p>12 Angry Men - 1957 - Not Rated – Signey Lumet The jury in a New York City murder trial is frustrated by a single member whose skeptical caution forces them to more carefully consider the evidence before jumping to a hasty verdict. <i>Film analysis, spatial relationships, axis of action, storyboarding</i>. IMDB rating 9/10</p> <p>Grizzly Man - 2005 - R – Werner Herzog A devastating and heart-rending take on grizzly bear activists Timothy Treadwell and Amie Huguenard, who were killed in October of 2003 while living among grizzly bears in Alaska. <i>Documentary film form</i>. IMDB rating 7.8/10</p> <p>A Separation – 2011 - Asghar Farhadi – PG-13</p>

A married couple are face with a difficult decision – to improve the life of their child by moving to another country or to stay in Iran and look after a deteriorating parent who has Alzheimer’s disease. *Film history, comparative analysis*. IMDB rating 8.3/10

The Confession – Tanel Toom

Quiet and sincere nine-year-old Sam is nervous about his first confession: he has not committed sin, therefore he cannot be absolved. His best friend helps him to perpetrate one. An innocent prank turns into tragedy. *Film analysis, mise en scene.*, No IMDB rating.

Documentary Shorts

Fast Horse - 2018 - Not Rated - Alexandra Lazarowich

Follows the return of the Blackfoot bareback horseracing tradition in a new form: the Indian Relay. Siksika horseman Allison RedCrow struggles to build a team with second-hand races and a new jockey, Cody BigTobacco, to take on the best riders in the Blackfoot Confederacy at the Calgary Stampede. *Documentary film form, IEFA*. IMDB rating 6.8/10

Youtube.com/Vimeo.com Shorts

[Gilbert](#)

[Jordanne](#)

[Coffee Portraiture](#)

[Gnarly in Pink](#)

[Quack Squad](#)

[Zoe](#)

Others through Big Sky Documentary Film Festival

Film Production

- Practice Edit
- Found Footage Project
- Camera Clinic
- In-class Movement Project
- Conversation Project
- Mini-documentary Project
- Others as time permits

Daily Expectations

1. **Show up on time ready to learn.** Be present.
2. **Stow and silence your phone.** Phones are expected to be out of sight and silent in class. The exception is during project work time to listen to music but not to text, use social media or snapchat. Parents – please refrain from texting your child during class unless you’re experiencing an emergency. Encourage your child to abstain from using their phone during class.
3. **Take hoods off and remove earphones/ earbuds during instruction.**

Be Respectful . . .

- > of yourself
- > of your classmates
- > of your teacher
- > of our time
- > of our space
- > of our equipment
- > of our materials
- > of our purpose
- > of your potential

Be Responsible . . .

- > for being present and on time
- > for completing quality work
- > for advocating for yourself



Be Safe

Fire Drills & Emergencies

Find me once you get to the parking lot.



Earthquake & Lockdown Emergencies

Don’t panic. Quickly get under a sturdy table or in a doorway to void having things fall on you (like computers, light fixtures, etc).



Lockdowns

Make sure to:

- Lock doors
- Shut and lock windows
- Pull down shades.
- Stay away from windows.
- Keep quiet.
- Silence phones.
- Make sure you fully understand the nature of the emergency before sharing information outside of the classroom.
- Extended lockdowns may require that we remain in the room for longer periods of time. Be prepared to communicate your needs in difficult situations.

Active Threats

- If you can see the threat and feel you can get away, run. Dial 911 as soon as you are safely away from the threat.
- If you can't see the threat, find a place to hide. Avoid hiding places that will restrict your ability to flee if necessary.
- If you face the threat, be prepared to fight. Find object to throw or stab.

If you are out of my room during an emergency

Fire Emergency - do not return to my room but instead exit the building quickly and quietly, go to 6th street parking lot and locate me immediately.

Earthquake Emergency - find a safe and stable location free from hazards (under sturdy tables, in door frames). Return to my room when shaking has stopped.

Building Lockdown - move quickly to a classroom with the nearest adult. If you cannot, find a secure location and wait for an adult to find you to give you instructions.

Active Threat - If you can see where the threat is coming from, **run**. If you are unsure where it is, **hide** but make sure you have an escape route. If you can't avoid the threat, be prepared to **fight**.



Be Respectful

Attendance



Regular attendance is important to your success in school. You are considered present when you are at your desk ready to learn. If you've dropped off your stuff before the bell, left the room and the bell rings while you are out of the room, you will be marked absent

Instruction begins when the bell rings. Plan on being at your seat and logged in to your computer when class begins. If you're running in the door as the bell is ringing, you're considered tardy.

Cell Phone/Distraction Policy

In this class, you will be practicing skills like critical thinking and problem solving. It's important to devote your full attention to instruction and in-class activities to make the most of this class and meet course objectives. Attempting to multitask while learning new material can increase stress and decrease productivity for you, your neighbors, and the instructor. If your cell phone is out or available (on the desk, in your pocket, or on your seat), it will distract you and the rest of the class. You must put away any distraction (including cell phones) at the beginning of class. You're welcome to silence them and place them in a backpack or purse.

The following are the only times cell phone use in class is appropriate:

- Approved classroom tasks: The instructor will notify the class when cell phones can be used to take or save pictures.
- Approved lab work time: The instructor will notify the class when students are free to listen to music during independent work time. The volume should allow you to hear announcements and should not distract others. Texting and social media use are not allowed.
- Emergencies: Only legitimate crises qualify.

Instruction

We use the entire period for learning. If students are regularly logging out and stopping work early, deadlines will be compressed. Remember, cell phones should be stowed and silent for the entire period.

Late/Tardy Policy

Students arriving after the bell and within the first 10 minutes of class will be marked tardy. Students arriving after 10 minutes will be marked absent but should still attend as you will miss important information if you are not there. The default attendance in Infinite Campus is present. When a teacher marks you absent or tardy, Infinite Campus will send an alert to you and your parents. The initial alert will remain as a notification even when attendance is changed.

Bathroom Use

Trips to the bathroom should be expeditious. Don't ask to use the bathroom and then wander the halls, visit friends or go to the coffee cart. One student can leave the room at a time. Students gone for longer than 10 minutes will be marked absent.



Be Responsible

Personal Responsibility

- You cannot have food and drinks at the computers.
- Return all parts of any equipment you've borrowed.
- Remember to log out and restart your computer at the end of the period - don't shut it down.
- If you've used the headphones, place them on top of the computer tower at the end of the period.
- Push in your chair when you leave.
- Use class time wisely. Don't rush through your work so you can play on your phone.

Classroom Rules

- You **will not** be expected to purchase any equipment, software, or any memberships to participate in this class.
- We will be using electronic classroom environments including Google Apps. Abusing the privilege of membership in these communities may result in loss of access of your account(s), which will mean you cannot complete the curriculum and will have to withdraw from the class with an F. Membership in any online community requires you to conduct yourself in a mature and responsible manner.
- Credit will only be given for online forums while they are open.
- Work on and print assignments for my class **ONLY**. Ask before you print other material.
- Don't change the computer settings or download files or games on the computers.
- Arrive to class on time. Students arriving ten minutes or more after the bell will be marked as absent but should still attend class.
- Take care of the equipment you are assigned. You are financially responsible for equipment you damage or lose.
- Guns won't be allowed in graphic and video projects. Exceptions can be made to this policy **ONLY** with the prior written approval of the instructor.
- Certain topics are inappropriate for our projects (sexual references, violence, drugs, tobacco, profanity, and degrading or demeaning references and images) and cannot be included in graphic, video, or audio files.
- Equipment must be returned to me **five minutes before class ends** if used during the class period. If checking equipment out overnight, it must be returned to me **before first period** of the day after it was checked it out. In both cases, failure to return equipment within these guidelines with may result in loss of equipment use privileges.
- Food and drink are not allowed in room 261. Students must store it in their backpacks or leave on the black cabinet in the front of the room. Students may have food and drink in room 263.
- Adhere to copyright, plagiarism, and intellectual property guidelines.

Academic Honesty Policy

- You are expected to demonstrate *YOUR* ability to complete classroom assignments. That means the work must be created and completed by YOU.
- Plagiarism is the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as your own. Work submitted in this class must be original. That includes responses to discussion questions, reflections, papers and designs you create, to name a few.
- Cheating involves representing someone else's work as your own. There will be opportunities to work in groups and submit collaborative material. Individual assignments must be completed by you alone. Cheating will result in a zero on the assignment and disciplinary action.
- Use of ChatGBT (or other AI generators) to complete assignments will result in a zero on the assignment and disciplinary action.

Academic Conduct

- All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available online at <http://www.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/>

Learning Happens Every Day

You are responsible for completing all classwork done while you're absent. If you miss class, assignments can be made up the following ways:

- Using your second Adobe Software License on a home computer - Students enrolled in Hellgate Media Technology classes will have

access to two licenses during the duration of the class. One license is for use on the classroom computers. A second license is available for download on a home computer if your home computer meets the system requirements for the Adobe software. Older computers, Chromebooks and Chromebook type computers cannot run the software.

- Using your second Adobe Software License on a library computer - The Adobe software is loaded on four computers in the library in the drop-in area near the circulation desk. The computers have a sticker designating them as having Adobe Software.
- Working in room 261 during office hours - Office hours are an ideal time to complete missing work.

Adobe Software Licenses

You will have access to two licenses during the duration of the class. One license is for use on the classroom computers in room 261.

A second license is available for download on a home computer (if your home computer meets the system requirements for the Adobe software) or on the library computers labeled as having the software. You can only access two licenses at a time. If you log into more than two devices with the license, you will be asked to log out of one of the computers.

Older computers, Chromebooks and Chromebook type computers cannot run the software. Cell phone and iPad apps are not substitutes for learning the required class software.

Students must have a solid understanding file management to successfully use the software outside the school setting. The licenses will only be available to students while they are enrolled in the class. Instructions for accessing the software are included in Google Classroom.

Homework Policy

Regular school attendance is an important element for success in school. Frequent absences, tardies or early dismissals result in the loss of valuable instructional time.

This is an in-person course. Assignments in this course are designed to be completed in class during the school day. Plan to attend class.

However, students absent from class are responsible for making up any missed assignments during office hours or outside of class. Office hours are offered every Thursday from 11:15am – 12:00pm. Students taking design courses can also download an Adobe license on a compatible personal device while they are enrolled in the course.

Late Work Policy

Work missed for any reason must be completed by the first Thursday of the month following the missed assignment. For example, assignments missed in September must be made up by the first Thursday in October to receive credit.

Work will not be accepted after each month's cutoff date. Time sensitive assignments like course forums cannot be made up after the forums close.

IEP/504

Accommodations will be made for students with Individualized Education Plans and 504s.

Finals

Finals are tests given at the end of a term that serve as a culminating assessment of what you've learned in the course. You will be expected to attend your final in person to receive credit for it. Avoid making other plans during the time designated for your final.

If being absent cannot be avoided, contact me to make arrangements well in advance of the final. Finals cannot be completed remotely.

Grading Policy

Grades are calculated on this scale:

90% = A, 80% = B, 70% =C, 60% = D

Assignments are given a total number of possible points--points are then subtracted for each error. You will have periodic grading reports and semester grades reported via the Infinite Campus online portal. The semester grade will be used to calculate your high school cumulative grade point average. Borderline grade (i.e., 89.5%) will be rounded up.

Business Classes Earn CTE Credit

English	4 credits
Math	3 credits
Science	2 credits
Social Studies	2.5 credits
Health Enhancement	1 credit
Career TechEd (CTE)	1 credit – Graphic Design is a CTE class. Semester classes count for .5
Fine Arts	1 credit

STUDENT AV EQUIPMENT LOAN AGREEMENT

By signing the rules acknowledgement, you agree to return the equipment in the same condition as it was in when you checked it out—with all cords and accessories. You also agree to bring the equipment back to room 261 five minutes before the end of the class period if checked out during the school day. If checking equipment out overnight, you agree to return it before first period of the day after it was checked out to room

261. You are aware that you will lose the privilege of using school equipment if you return the equipment late, broken, or with parts missing. You also agree that you will not allow any students other than yourself to use the equipment. If you fail to follow these rules, you will lose the privilege to check out equipment from Ms. Cole and will have to find alternative arrangements. If you damage or lose the equipment, it will be replaced by the new, equivalently priced and modeled version of what was damaged or lost or the cash equivalent. You understand that if you create a video or any other project that incorporates inappropriate visual, sound, or musical elements (pornography, drug, tobacco, and alcohol use, profanity, violence, inappropriate gestures, etc) you will receive a zero on the assignment and possible removal from the class with an F.

CAMERA USE/CHECKOUT AGREEMENT

Please read this camera check out form carefully. Both you and your parent/guardian must sign this agreement prior to the use of any equipment. In the event the equipment is lost or damaged, you and your parents agree to replace the equipment at current market value. Failure to comply with any of the following will result in immediate revocation of equipment usage rights.

1. You accept full responsibility for the safe and speedy return of the equipment.
2. Equipment must be returned in the same condition it was in when you checked it out. All equipment will be verified to be in good working order upon check-in and checkout.
3. All equipment must be checked and signed out by your instructor and then checked and signed by in by your instructor.
4. You must know how to use the camera or other piece of equipment borrowed. A competency test may be required for the camera.
5. All camera straps must be always used to prevent dropping the equipment. Never carry a camera without the strap around your neck. This is a common mistake that results in costly repairs.
6. Never attempt to repair equipment yourself and never remove any parts.
7. Never use force to turn or wind any part on a camera.
8. Do not get water, beverages, dirt, or food on the camera.
9. Always keep the lens cap on when not in use.
10. Do not let anyone else use the equipment other than you. You are responsible for any damage, regardless of who does it.
11. Camera must be always in your immediate possession. Do not leave equipment in lockers or vehicles. If it gets lost or stolen, or damaged by the heat, you must replace it at current market cost.
12. For home assignments, all equipment is checked out daily. You must return it the following school day, prior to your first class. If you are ill or not coming to school on the day it is to be returned, it is still your responsibility to get it back on time or to contact me of the delay.
13. Cameras are to be used for film class assignments only.

If you cannot follow these terms or will not be able to afford to repair or replace the equipment, don't check it out. If you violate the terms of this contract, you will lose the privilege of checking out equipment.

Acknowledgement of Class Rules & Equipment Use

Please return this signed form to B. Cole in room 261

Please read and review the class rules. Fill out and sign the form below and return to Beth Cole in room 261.

Student Name: _____

Class:						
Intro to Photography	Graphic Design I	Graphic Design II	Film I	Film II		
<i>Circle One</i>						
Period:						
1	2	3		5	6	7
<i>Circle One</i>						

I have read, understand and agree to the Business Lab rules and rules for equipment use. I understand that in my refusal to follow these rules, I could receive detention, lose points, lose computer and equipment privileges, replace broken or lost items, or be removed from class with an "F."

Parent Printed Name

Date

Student Printed Name

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date