



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CHARTING THE COURSE

Department of Teaching & Learning
Parent/Student Course Information

Cinema Studies
(LA 1444)
One Credit, One Year
Grades 10-12

Counselors are available to assist parents and students with course selections and career planning. Parents may arrange to meet with the counselor by calling the school's guidance department.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of Cinema Studies is to provide students who have completed Introduction to Theatre Arts with the opportunity to continue their theatre arts studies in a comprehensive and sequential production- oriented course which encompasses a wide array of theatre topics in conjunction with 21st century skills. Cinema Studies provides opportunities for students to develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to respond to and create film and video works. Students will gain practical experience in some of the major areas of the industry including acting, scriptwriting, and production. This course will examine the development of cinema as an art form, as well as considering a range of examples from various genres of visual media. The aim is to expose students to the diversity of filmmaking practices which have arisen throughout cinema history, as well as giving them the theoretical tools to draw connections between cinema and the various social, economic, and cultural contexts in which visual media have been produced. This project- based course involves script analysis, writing, casting, story-telling, documentary production, and video and technology domains.

PREREQUISITE

Introduction to Theatre Arts

OPTIONS FOR NEXT COURSE

Performance Theatre and Technical Theatre

REQUIRED STUDENT TEXTBOOK

Understanding Movies, Eleventh Edition

***VIRGINIA BEACH STANDARDS AND OBJECTIVES
FOR THEATRE ARTS***

TOPICS OF STUDY

- TI.6 The student will apply principles of technical theatre by
1. Differentiating among the components of technical theatre;
 2. Identifying the responsibilities of designers and technicians;
 3. Demonstrating theatre safety practices; and
 4. Practicing ethical use of available technology and other resources (e.g., music, visuals and media materials).
- TI.8 The student will identify how theatre, television, film, and/or contemporary media reflect the culture in which they are created.
- TI.10 The student will explore theatre in various historical times and various cultures by
1. Researching historical and cultural information about theatre in other times and places;
 2. Examining non-western traditions in drama; and
 3. Identifying theatrical activity in the community and the commonwealth.
- TI.18 The student will explain how personal experience, culture, and current events shape personal aesthetic opinions and criteria.
- TII.6 The student will demonstrate skills and principles of technical theatre by
1. Applying safety procedures;
 2. Utilizing the elements of technical theatre, such as lighting, scenery, costumes, makeup, properties, and sound;
 3. Making a three-dimensional model from design drawings;
 4. Offering solutions to technical theatre problems;
 5. Interpreting, preparing, and presenting elements of technical theatre to enhance a scene; and
 6. Evaluating technical choices made in formal and informal presentations.
- TII.11 The student will identify major theatrical styles, including classical, Renaissance, modern, contemporary, and non-Western, including
1. Identifying universal characters, situations, themes, and ideas in theatre;
 2. Identifying the use of symbolism and cultural and historical clues in dramatic texts; and
 3. Describing historical production designs, techniques, and performance practices.
- TII.13 The student will explain the impact of theatre, television, film, and/or contemporary media on the culture in which they exist.
- TII.14 The student will examine how advancements in technology impact theatre, television, film, and contemporary media.
- TII.16 The student will analyze selected works of dramatic literature by
1. Summarizing the playwright's intentions and message;
 2. Identifying the elements of genre, style, structure, mood, language, and symbolism;
 3. Demonstrating responses visually, orally, kinesthetically, or in writing, using theatre arts vocabulary; and
 4. Relating dramatic themes to personal experience or current events.
- TII.17 The student will analyze how theatre is similar to and different from other literary genres and other art forms by

1. Comparing theatre to film, video, novels, short stories, poetry, dance arts, music, and the visual arts;
2. Comparing how common themes are expressed in the other literary genres and art forms;
3. Comparing the interpretive and emotional nature of other literary genres and art forms in specific cultures and/or periods; and
4. Describing ways in which dance, music, and the visual arts enhance theatrical presentations.

TII.19 The student will define aesthetics in the context of theatre arts.

TII.21 The student will describe, refine, and organize personal ideas about the aesthetic qualities of a theatrical work.

TIIL.2 The student will exhibit independence, self-discipline, and commitment to the theatre process through work on assigned projects and productions.

TIIL.3 The student will integrate acting skills and techniques involving voice, movement, and analysis into the rehearsal process and performance by

1. Initiating artistic choices to enhance performance;
2. Listening to other actors and responding internally as well as externally;
3. Creating and sustaining multidimensional characters;
4. Enhancing characterizations, dialogue, and action;
5. Demonstrating self-confidence and self-expression; and
6. Making artistic decisions to achieve an ensemble.

TIIL.5 The student will demonstrate playwriting by

1. Conceiving a theme to convey a message;
2. Constructing a dramatic plot structure;
3. Developing a central conflict;
4. Developing an idea through action; and
5. Portraying unique, multidimensional characters.

TIIL.6 The student will demonstrate the application of theatre design by

1. Following safety procedures;
2. Rendering lighting plots, sound plots, properties, makeup, and/or costume plates for a stage or contemporary media production;
3. Making a two-dimensional drawing of a three-dimensional object, using scale drawings, perspective drawings, blueprints, or computer renderings to design scenery, costumes, and/or properties;
4. Building a scale model of a setting for a stage or contemporary media production;
5. Implementing solutions to technical problems; and
6. Analyzing and justifying design choices.

TIIL.9 The student will trace the development of theatre design and performance by

1. Explaining the use and effects of technology; and
2. Analyzing a variety of dramatic texts with reference to their historical and cultural contexts in order to determine their original production requirements.

TIIL.10 The student will investigate contemporary media production, including camera techniques, film terminology, acting for the camera, creating screenplays, and the editing process.

TIIL.11 The student will compare and contrast live performance to contemporary media performance by

1. Analyzing the production methods of each; and
2. Describing the use of contemporary media and theatre in a changing world.

- TIII.12 The student will critique acting styles by
1. Assessing projects, plans, or ideas;
 2. Incorporating personal artistic choices into informal and formal productions; and
 3. Critiquing acting styles of professional theatrical productions, using theatre arts vocabulary.
- TIII.15 The student will justify personal choices regarding characterizations within the acting process.
- TIII.17 The student will justify personal aesthetic criteria in response to theatrical and contemporary media performances.
- TIV.1 The student will work independently and collaboratively as an actor to create formal and informal presentations, including
1. Depicting multidimensional characters;
 2. Depicting given circumstances; and
 3. Living truthfully in the moment.
- TIV.8 The student will research the development of the role of the director as a unifying force in a production.
- TIV.9 The student will use cultural and historical research to justify choices in directing and acting projects.
- TIV.10 The student will analyze and interpret meaning in personal theatre projects.
- TIV.12 The student will critique performances, focusing on the acting or directing.
- TIV.13 The student will evaluate the qualities of a theatrical production that elicit an audience response, including the director's interpretation, the production elements, and the actors' abilities to sustain and project believable characterizations.
- TIV.16 The student will explain how personal aesthetic criteria are applied to personal performance and direction.
- TIV.17 The student will justify personal perceptions of a playwright's intent, as filtered through the director's vision.
- TT.1 The student will summarize how the fundamental aspects of scene design, lighting, sound, costumes, properties, and makeup are applied in individual and collaborative theatre projects.
- TT.2 The student will explain how production design is derived from research, script analysis, and the directorial concept and how it communicates meaning to the audience.
- TT.5 The student will identify the responsibilities of the running crews.
- TT.13 The student will identify the responsibilities of the stage manager, house manager, and business manager.
- TT.17 The student will examine the development of technical theatre by
1. Explaining the impact of technological advancements on theatre; and
 2. Analyzing a variety of dramatic texts to determine their production requirements by referencing their historical and cultural contexts.
- TT.20 The student will justify personal choices in specific design, production, and/or management areas through a variety of completed materials.
- TT.22 The student will devise a constructive critique of peer work.

- TT.23 The student will explain how personal aesthetic criteria are applied to theatre design, production, and management.
- TT.24 The student will compare and contrast the design and production elements of theatre with other fine arts products (e.g., concerts, recitals, exhibitions).
- TT.25 The student will identify how theatre design elements elicit an emotional and/or intellectual response from the audience.
- VBO 1 The student will work independently and collaboratively to raise the standards of formal and informal performance and production work.
- VBO 4 The student will explore careers in which theatre training and experience provide essential skills.
- VBO 5 The student must know how to follow safety guidelines and demonstrate appropriate safety practices.

Dr. Aaron C. Spence, Superintendent
Virginia Beach City Public Schools
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For further information please call (757) 263-1070.

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Alternative formats of this publication which may include taped, Braille, or large print materials are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Call or write The Department of Teaching and Learning, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, 2512 George Mason Drive, P.O. Box 6038, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038. Telephone 263-1070 (voice); fax 263-1424; 263-1240 (TDD) or email her at John.Brewington@VBSchools.com.

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