

# THE ART (& TECHNIQUES) OF CINEMA

**Levels: B1, B2, C1, C2**

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## **DESCRIPTION:**

Frequently, people will watch a film that impresses them, but then find they lack the ability to fully explain why the film had such an impact.

During this course, we will go beyond the surface and discover the techniques and vocabulary necessary to understand how great films touch the audience. This will include a survey of camera angles, shots, cinematic storytelling techniques, screenwriting, types of cuts, and so on.

We will not only discuss story and imagery, but also go into greater depth on the film as a collaborative art form. This will provide an understanding of the role each participant plays in the production process and also include the reasons behind how and why certain movies get financed and produced.

Texts about the movie industry and the various techniques of cinema will be given as weekly reading assignments. Each student will also give two oral presentations based on the course subject matter.

The first part of every class will include class discussion based on the weekly reading assignments and the films seen during class.

The second part of the class will be an opportunity to analyze movies related to the course content. These may include several films about the movie industry itself as well as classic films by famous directors.

In conjunction with this course, students will be asked to organize a 'cinema club' to watch films related to the themes discussed in class.

## **COURSEWORK:**

Students will be required to read and analyze at least one full screenplay. Class discussion based on weekly themes will involve both role play activity and group debates. Writing assignments will be based on thinking creatively, allowing for original and personal expression. For the autonomous project, students will be paired up to create a short film as a final thesis presentation.

## **GRADING:**

Grades will be based upon participation, classroom presentations, and the assignments.

- 25 % Autonomous Project
- 25 % Screenplay Analysis
- 25 % Group and Writing assignments
- 25 % Class Participation