



Instructor: Mr. DiBenedetto

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Course Overview:

This course provides an introduction Video production. You will learn a variety of skills and techniques used in the studio, as well as in the field. You will also be introduced to concepts of media literacy and critical viewing. Student produced projects will be aired on local access channels, as well as uploaded to our youtube channel. (Youtube.com/MelroseHighTV)

Course Objectives:

- Understanding of basic production & editing techniques
- Ability to work both as an individual and in groups
- Understanding of the media that you view everyday

Required Materials:

-8GB SDHC Memory Card, Class 10

(\$8-\$12. Needs to be "Class 10" in order to be used for video recording)

Grade Breakdown:

50% Projects

10% Tests & Quizzes

20% Film Reviews & Reflections

10% Remote Shoots

10% Participation & Attendance

Projects (50%):

Multiple projects will be assigned throughout the semester including a :30 Second Public Service Announcement, In-Camera Edit, Movie Trailers, and more!

Tests & Quizzes (10%):

A variety of tests and quizzes will be given over the duration of the semester. They will include multiple choice and short answer, as well as practical applications (ex: I ask you to demonstrate how to focus a camera).

Film Reviews & Reflections (20%):

You are required to write four movie reviews & reflections. **ALL PAPERS MUST BE TYPED!**

For your first assignment you can select any film from the **top 25** of the American Film Institute's Top 100 Films of All Time. These films can be found on Netflix, iTunes, at the Library (they also have books), local video stores, On-Demand, etc. Please do not choose a film being broadcast on Network TV. I'm sure the director didn't have commercial breaks in mind during production! I will also have a limited number of films available for those students unable to obtain one from the described methods. **Due on or before Friday, October 17, 2014**

The second review & reflection can be any film released in theaters after *October 3rd, 2014*. Movie studios typically release films that are in contention for the Oscars at this time of year, and there should be no shortage of great films for you to choose from. Movies are a very personal and subjective thing and the purpose of this activity is to get you out to the theater and thinking about what it is you are watching. **NO RE-RELEASES OF EARLIER FILMS!** **Due on or before Friday, January 19, 2015**

For your third assignment you can select any film nominated for an Oscar in the Best Picture Category for 2014. The nominees will be announced in early January. I try and make it a point to see all the nominated films (now up to 10) every year. In this paper, you will discuss things like why you selected the film, if you think it deserved to be nominated, it's technical merits, etc.

In addition, there will be a mock Oscar pool! All spring semester students will have a free chance to fill out their own Oscar ballots predicting who they think will win. The student(s) who predict the most winners will win a prize! **Due on or before Friday, February 20, 2015**

The final review & reflection can be any film released in theaters after *March 6th, 2015*. This is an interesting time of year for movie releases. February and March tend to be a slow time at the movies, and it's when studios tend to release films that are not quite Oscar caliber. However, the closer we move towards May, the closer we get to the unofficial start of the Summer Blockbuster Season. **NO RE-RELEASES OF EARLIER FILMS!** **Due on or before Friday, June 5, 2015**

Please Note: Plagiarism will not be tolerated and penalties will be carried out in accordance with the policies found in the MHS Student/Parent Handbook.

Remote Shoots (10%):

You are required to cover TWO remote shoots ("remotes") each semester. Remotes include things like sporting events, concerts, and other events around the community. Sign up sheets for events will be posted in the studio on a rotating basis. It is expected that if you sign up to cover an event, then you do in fact show up and cover it. It is also expected that you demonstrate the production techniques we outline in class and submit a quality product.

Participation & Attendance (10%):

This is a hands on class and participation is required. Everyone will have an opportunity to try each aspect of production including being on camera talent. It is also important that you are on time and ready to go at the start of class. Video production is fun, but also time consuming. You will need every minute to get your projects completed!

Please Note: Attendance policies for this class will follow those outlined in the MHS Student/Parent Handbook. *Three tardies equal an absence. Seven absences is a failure for the quarter.*

Cell Phone Policy

There will be times in this class where you will be asked to use your cell phone for class assignments, or given permission to use your phone while awaiting further instructions. Phones should not be used while assignments are still being completed. This includes pre-production, production, and editing. While you are working on your project, you should be focused on the task at hand, and not playing with your phone.

Anyone using their phone without permission is subject to having their phone taken by Mr. DiBenedetto. First offense, phone is lost for the remainder of class. Second offense, phone is lost for the remainder of the day. Third offense and beyond, phone is given to an administrator.

At no time, should you be recording, or photographing anyone without their permission. Applications like SnapChat, are not to be used in class. Anyone seen using applications like SnapChat, or taking images of people without their consent, will have their phones taken away, and delivered to an administrator. ***This is your only warning!***