

# Film Study

English 5-6  
Mr. Coia

During this unit, we will explore ways in which film is considered to be a narrative art, like poems and short stories are. Like the novelist, the filmmaker has an array of tools to use in order to get his message to the audience. (e.g., the author uses metaphors; the director uses lighting.) We will examine both the tools and the effects on the message.

This unit is fast-paced and requires your attendance and attention. Since we will use many film clips for discussion, you will need to be there to get the information. There will not be private screenings.

For our unit, we will work the following films:

*Citizen Kane*

*Othello*

*Forrest Gump*

*Apocalypse Now*

*Say Anything*

*North by Northwest*

*Castaway*

*The Graduate*

*Good Morning, Vietnam*

*One Hour Photo*

*Blue Velvet*

*Ghost*

*Philadelphia*

*The Remains of the Day*

*Rocky*

## Symbol Writing

You will have two opportunities to write on a symbol in one of our film clips viewed in class. Describe the object and what it represents within the context of the film clip. I am looking for thoughtful, deep responses that bring meaning to a character in the clip. These must be from two different clips.

- Type a minimum of 150 words
- Include the title and director for each
- You can put both symbols on one page

## Poetry Film Project

You will show your understanding of film terms by turning a poem into a short film. You will choose any poem you'd like and turn it into a short movie. You'll use all of our methods (angles, framing, lighting, etc.) to add to the power of the poem. You can choose your poem and your partner.

**(Note: This requires time outside of class to film and edit. You do not have enough class time alone to complete this project).**

**Tues 2/17 (Wed 2/18)**

- Introduction to Film Unit
- Why study film?
- Film as a narrative art
- Explain handouts
- View clips: Good Morning, Blue Velvet, Citizen Kane
- Shots
- *HW: Get a partner to film with; look for a poem to film*

**Thurs 2/19 (Fri 2/20)**

- Focus
- Angles
- Clips: Kane
- Symbol Writing #1

**Mon 2/23 (Tues 2/24)**

- Sound
- Lighting
- Mise-en-scene
- Othello, Apocalypse Now
- Symbol Writing #2

- *HW: Type both symbol writings; bring a poem to film*

**Wed 2/25 (A Day)**

- **Field Trip to "Fahrenheit 451"**

**Thurs 2/26 (B Day)**

- Meet in computer lab for iMovie training

**Fri 2/27 (B Day)**

- Meet in computer lab for iMovie training

**Mon 3/1 (Tues 3/2)**

- **Turn in your poem with both names on it**
- Viewing Day #1: Rocky
- Discussion on symbols & techniques
- "Road Not Taken": Storyboarding

**Wed 3/3 (Thurs 3/4)**

- Viewing Day #2: Rocky
- Discussion on symbols & techniques
- Poem Storyboards / shot list

**Fri 3/5 (Mon 3/8)**

- Viewing Day #3: Rocky
- Discussion on symbols & techniques

- Poem Storyboards/shot list/music

**Tues 3/9 (Wed 3/10)**

- Viewing Day #4: Rocky
- **Rocky notes due today**
- Discussion on symbols & techniques
- Filming

**Thurs 3/11 (Fri 3/12)**

- Meet in computer lab with your footage
- **Turn in Viewing Logs**

**Mon 3/15 (Tues 3/16)**

- Computer lab work

**Wed 3/17 (Thurs 3/18)**

- Computer lab work: Final touches only
- Films are due mid-period
- Exam: Film terminology

## End of third quarter Spring Break

**Monday 3/29**

- Begin "Life You Save May Be Your Own, by Flannery O'Connor"

**Assignments:**

<i>Poetry Film Project</i>	50 points
<i>Exam</i>	40 points
<i>Viewing Logs (3 each)</i>	30 points
<i>Rocky Notes</i>	20 points
<i>2 Symbol Writings</i>	20 points

**Period 1 Students:** You'll need to attend an after-school training session on iMovie. I'll be in the computer lab on Wednesday, 2/25, Thursday 2/26, and Friday 2/28.

Or,  
If you have a free period on periods 7 & 8, come to computer lab on 2/26 or 2/27.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

**Viewing Log #1**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Director: \_\_\_\_\_

What I noticed as interesting or creative:

---

---

---

---

**Viewing Log #2**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Director: \_\_\_\_\_

What I noticed as interesting or creative:

---

---

---

---

**Viewing Log #3**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Director: \_\_\_\_\_

What I noticed as interesting or creative:

---

---

---

---

**Viewing Log #4**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Director: \_\_\_\_\_

What I noticed as interesting or creative:

---

---

---

---

### **Viewing Log #5**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Director: \_\_\_\_\_

What I noticed as interesting or creative:

---

---

---

---

### **Viewing Log #6**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Director: \_\_\_\_\_

What I noticed as interesting or creative:

---

---

---

---

### **Viewing Log #7**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Director: \_\_\_\_\_

What I noticed as interesting or creative:

---

---

---

---

### **Viewing Log #8**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Director: \_\_\_\_\_

What I noticed as interesting or creative:

---

---

---

---

**Viewing Log #9**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Director: \_\_\_\_\_

What I noticed as interesting or creative:

---

---

---

---

**Viewing Log #10**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Director: \_\_\_\_\_

What I noticed as interesting or creative:

---

---

---

---

**Viewing Log #11**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Director: \_\_\_\_\_

What I noticed as interesting or creative:

---

---

---

---

**Viewing Log #12**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Director: \_\_\_\_\_

What I noticed as interesting or creative:

---

---

---

---