**Mr. Douglas Smith, Instructor**

[**d.smith@pasb.com.br**](mailto:d.smith@pasb.com.br)

**Note:** IB Film is a new course offered by the International Baccalaureate program for first assessment in 2010. It is exciting to be part of the beginnings of this course offering. Because of the nature of a new course, students and parents should be aware that some modifications to the syllabus may occur.

**Film Aims and Objectives:**

The film course at the standard and higher level aims to develop in students the skills necessary to achieve creative and critical independence in their knowledge, experience and enjoyment of film.

The aims are to promote:

* an appreciation and understanding of film as a complex art form
* an ability to formulate stories and ideas in film terms
* the practical and technical skills of production
* critical evaluation of film productions by the student and by others
* a knowledge of film-making traditions in more than one country.

Having followed the film course at SL or HL, students are expected to demonstrate:

* an understanding of the variety of ways in which film creates meaning
* an understanding and effective use of appropriate film language
* originality and creativity in developing an idea through the various stages of film-making, from conception to finished production
* technical skills and an appropriate use of available technology
* the ability to draw together knowledge, skills, research and experience, and apply them analytically to evaluate film texts
* a critical understanding of the historical, theoretical, sociocultural, economic and institutional contexts of film in more than one country
* the ability to research, plan and organize working processes
* the ability to reflect upon and evaluate film production processes and completed film texts.

**Syllabus Components:**

The IB Film course is broken into three study areas:

Part 1: Textual Analysis- The detailed study of film sequences

Part 2: Film Theory and History- The study of films and film-making traditions from more than one country.

Part 3: Creative Process- Techniques and organization of production, the development of creative, analytical and production skills within film-making

**Assessment Outline:**

1. External Assessments (50%):
2. Independent Study (25%) Rationale, script and list of sources for a short documentary production of 8-10 pages (12-15 for HL) on an aspect of film theory and/or film history, based on a study of a minimum of two films (4 films for HL)
3. Presentation (25%) An oral presentation of a detailed critical analysis of a continuous extract from a prescribed film. The extract must not be longer than 5 minutes. Presentations are 10 minutes (15 minutes for HL)
4. Internal Assessment (50%):
5. Production Portfolio. One complete film project with accompanying written documentation: no more than 1,200 words (1,750 words for HL) (50 marks) Length of film project: 4-5 minutes including titles (6-7 minutes for HL). HL students also do a trailer of 40-60 seconds. Length of individual rationale for the film: no more than 100 words (HL length of trailer rationale: no more than 100 words. *Students will be assessed on only one role* (must be one of these roles: director, writer, cinematographer, editor)

\*\*Group work: The film project may be undertaken as a group project (up to four students who will be assessed with an unlimited number of performers or assistants who aren’t assessed), but all accompanying documentation must be individually produced.

**HL and SL students cannot present the same film for assessment.**

**Tentative Timeline**

Independent Study (Assessed Year One)- Rough Drafts due at the end of the first week of March, Final Drafts due in the first week of April.

Presentation (Assessed Year Two)- Films assigned in September, presentations due in October.

Production (Assessed Year Two)- September: Introduce Production and Portfolio. October: Approved ideas and groups. November: Scripts and storyboards due. December: All filming due. January: Editing. February: Editing Finished and portfolio due.

**Grade Scale:** At the end of the grading period, I will total points, calculate percentages, and assign grades as follows:

97-100% A+

96-94% A

90-93% A-

89-87% B+

86-84% B

83-80% B-

79-77% C+

76-74% C

73-70% C-

69-67% D+

66-64% D

63-60% D-

59%- Below F

**Absence and Tardy Policy:** Students are urged to be here daily. Poor attendance makes the work seem harder, less enjoyable, and puts unnecessary hardship on the students. Regular attendance helps you keep up, both in the work itself and in understanding course context. It is nearly impossible to be successful in this course without being in class. Read the Student/Parent Handbook for more details.

**Making up missed work**: This class follows the requirements outlined in the student handbook.  The burden for obtaining, completing, and turning in missed assignments is entirely upon the student, not the teacher.  Students should talk to me outside of class as soon as possible after returning from an absence to get and schedule make up work.  Students will not miss, be late to, or leave early this or any other class in order to make up work.

**Non-instructional Routines**: Each student is to arrive to class prepared for the day’s lessons.  Each student is to be seated and ready when the late bell rings.  High school students have the ability to use their time wisely and take care of personal needs at appropriate times.

I have read and agree to follow the expectations set forth for the course. I understand the grading scale and the make-up work policy. I understand that should any questions or concerns arise that I need to contact my classroom teacher immediately.

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Student Signature Date

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Student e-mail (please print neatly)

Students are also required to initial below, indicating having read the following documents:

* IB Film Guide 2010\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* IB Film Subject Outline\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* PASB policies for Academic Honesty, Assessment, Language and SEN\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* IB Film One Page Overview\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* IB Review of Assessments\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* International Baccalaureate Film Syllabus\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Spark Chart Film Studies\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parents and Guardians of IB Film students:

The goal of IB Film is to expose students to films from all over the world and to increase their critical and practical understanding of film as a creative art form and reflection of its time period, society, and political and cultural environment. As a result, this class requires the viewing of a wide variety of films. In some cases, these films may carry an R rating, or, in the case of films made before 1968 and some foreign films, will have no rating at all. Please be assured that all the films selected for this course have a high degree of artistic merit and that many have won numerous awards and are considered part of the film canon. However, if you or your child objects to any film shown that does carry an “R” rating, your child will always have the opportunity to request that an alternative film be assigned.

Examples of “R” rated movies deemed appropriate for the class include The Godfather series, Apocalypse Now, Taxi Driver, American Beauty, Blade Runner, Chinatown, The Exorcist, Fargo, Pulp Fiction, Momento, Nashville, No Country for Old Men, One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest, Raging Bull, Schindler’s List, Hard Boiled, Through a Glass Darkly and La Strada.

Please sign the permission slip allowing your child to watch films of this type. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via email or schedule a meeting.

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I grant permission to my child to watch films chosen by the instructor of this class that the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) has rated either “NR” (not rated) or “R” (restricted).

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Parent Signature Date

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Parent e-mail (please print neatly)

**Caros Pais e Responsáveis dos Alunos da aula de Cinema do IB,**

O objetivo da aula de Cinema do IB é expor os alunos a filmes do mundo todo e aumentar a sua compreensão crítica e prática do cinema como uma forma de arte criativa e como reflexo do seu tempo, de sua sociedade e do ambiente político e cultural.  Portanto, esta classe requer a exibição de uma grande variedade de filmes.  Em alguns casos, estes filmes podem ser classificados como "R" (restrito), ou, no caso de filmes feitos antes de 1968 e alguns filmes estrangeiros, não ter classificação nenhuma.  Tenha certeza de que todos os filmes selecionados para este curso têm um alto grau de mérito artístico e que muitos já ganharam inúmeros prêmios e são considerados parte do currículo normal de aulas de cinema.  No entanto, se você ou seu filho tiverem alguma objeção quanto a qualquer filme a ser mostrado que seja classificado como “restrito”,  seu filho terá sempre a possibilidade de solicitar a exibição de um filme alternativo.

Aqui estão exemplos de filmes considerados “restritos”, mas que são considerados apropriados para a aula: “The Godfather series, Apocalypse Now, Taxi Driver, American Beauty, Blade Runner, Chinatown, The Exorcist, Fargo, Pulp Fiction, Momento, Nashville, No Country for Old Men, One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest, Raging Bull, Schindler’s List, Hard Boiled, Through a Glass Darkly and La Strada”.

 Por favor, assinem a autorização que permite ao/a seu/sua filho(a) assistir a filmes deste tipo. Caso tenham dúvidas ou perguntas, por favor, entrem em contato comigo via e-mail ou agendem uma reunião.

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Eu autorizo meu/minha filho(a) a assistir aos filmes escolhidos pelo instrutor desta classe que a Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) classificou como "NR" (não classificado) ou "R" (restrito).

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assinatura dos pais data

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endereço de email

(por favor, imprima claramente)