

**VIDEO-FILM Course Syllabus**  
**Mr. Farris, Rm. 410 - 411**  
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**Course Website:** <http://teachers.sduhsd.net/sfarris>  
**Facebook:** LCC Video-Film

**Course Overview:** Video-Film is a year-long elective course in the study and practice of film-making. Semester one exposes students to film history, theory, criticism, and the basics of film-making, including photography, mise en scène, movement, editing, sound, acting, and story. By the end of the first quarter, students will be working with video cameras and editing software (Adobe Premiere) to complete shooting scripts, storyboards, and video projects of varying genres.

**Textbook:** *Understanding Movies*, 11<sup>th</sup> Edition, Louis Giannetti

**Equipment:** Video-Film students have access to school-owned digital video cameras, computers, and video editing software. Students who damage or misplace video or editing equipment due to carelessness, recklessness, or negligence will be held financially liable for repair or replacement. All equipment must be checked-out prior to use, and returned to the storage locker at least ten minutes before the end of the period. Students may use their own video or editing equipment if they choose, but must assume all responsibility for its safe-keeping.

**In-Class Rules:**

- No food, drinks, or rowdy behavior are allowed in the editing room.
- Clean up after yourselves.
- Be respectful of the students, teacher, classroom, and equipment.
- All student-submitted video projects must be appropriate for school viewing. Use of profanity or inappropriate subject matter (including drug/alcohol references, excessive violence, or sexuality) may result in a lowered grade and/or referral for disciplinary action.

**Rules Outside of Class:** Video-Film often requires students to leave the classroom and complete assignments without immediate teacher supervision. During this time, students are expected to behave in an appropriate and respectful manner. Students must wear a Video-Film badge while working outside. The classroom quads and parking lots are off limits (see “Out of Class Map” on course website for more detailed information). Students may not leave campus or enter restricted areas during class time.

**Late Work / Make-Up Work:** Chapter responses, film notes, and in-class assignments are due by the end of the period in which they are assigned. Assignments submitted later than that will receive no more than half-credit. Late video projects will be lowered 10% (one letter grade) per school day past the due date. Students who miss film notes due to an excused absence have one week to submit notes from any film on the American Film Institute’s Top 100 Film List (link available on course website: <http://teachers.sduhsd.net/sfarris>).

**Grade Book:** Grades can be accessed through the district’s Aeries Parent Portal at <http://parents.sduhsd.net>. Students and parents are strongly encouraged to check this website regularly.

**All Video-Film students will complete the following Individual Assignments:**

- **Director Project** - Video or PowerPoint + Presentation (100 pts.)
- **Instructional Video Reviews** x 2 per quarter (10 pts. each = 20 pts.)
- **Movie Analysis** (selected from AFI Top 100) x 2 per quarter (10 pts. each = 20 pts.)
- **Storyboard** (15 pts.)
- **In-Class Work** (as assigned by Instructor)

**Additionally, all students will work (alone or in groups) to complete the following Video Projects:**

- **Short Story Video** (50 pts.)
- **Music Video** (50 pts.)
- **Documentary Video** (50 pts.)
- **Re-Shoot Video** (50 pts.)
- **Technical Project** (50 pts.)
- **Special Project?** (“Choice Night,” “Elective Ad,” etc.)
- **Q4 Assignments:** Students are responsible for accumulating (independently or in groups) 150 points selected from the Project Options List below:
  - **Short Story** - 50 pts.
  - **Music Video** - 50 pts.
  - **Documentary** - 50 pts.
  - **Movie Trailer** - 50 pts.
  - **Action Sports Video** - 50 pts.
  - **Instructional Video** - 50 pts.
  - **Re-Shoot Video** - 50 pts.
  - **Ad/PSA** - 25 pts.
  - **Comedy Sketch** - 25 pts.
  - **Other?** (see Instructor)

\*\*Descriptions and requirements for all Video Projects can be found on the course website.

**Attendance and Promptness:** Regular attendance is crucial to student success in this course. Excessive absences are likely to negatively affect both individual and group grades. The course website provides assignment information and links, but absent students should contact a classmate or the teacher to get information about any additional assignments before the due date.

Because tardies are both disruptive and disrespectful, they are considered a disciplinary issue and will be treated as such according to the LCC Tardy Policy (the full text of which can be found on the school’s web site: <http://lc.sduhsd.net/>).

**Important notes about ESPs (Extended Study Periods)... new to this year’s bell schedule**

Unless otherwise specified, ESPs are an extension of our Video-Film classes, occurring after the 90 minutes of regular instructional time on certain days of the week (see bell schedule).

Attendance is compulsory – student absences from ESPs are recorded as absences from their Video-Film class period on that day.

\*\*\*Students who are out of class when the ESP bell rings are given **5 minutes** to return to class for a second roll-call. Late arrivals will be marked tardy; no-shows will be marked absent.\*\*\*

**Approved ESP Activities:**

1. In-class Video-Film work (individual or group work, video editing, etc.)
2. Extension or continuation of daily lesson
3. Silent reading
4. Homework, classwork, or test preparation
5. One-on-one sessions with teacher

**ESP Restrictions:**

1. Students are NOT permitted to work in the Learning Commons during this time
2. Students are NOT permitted to “visit” other classes/ teachers or to make up tests in other classrooms.
3. Students are NOT allowed to leave the classroom except to use the restroom. As with any class period, students must present an off-campus pass to leave for any other reason.

**PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN THIS PORTION**

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**Students and Parents:**

When you have read and understood these rules and policies, **please sign and return this entire sheet.** If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at: [speed.farris@sduhsd.net](mailto:speed.farris@sduhsd.net). A copy of this syllabus is available online at <http://teachers.sduhsd.net/sfarris>. Thank you.

**I have read and understand the course policies and syllabus for Video-Film.**

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Print **Student** Name

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**Student** Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Print **Parent** Name

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**Parent** Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

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**\*\*Parent\*\*** Email Address

**PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN THIS PORTION**