

Unit 02: The Grammar of Film and Video

Content Area: **Music**
Course(s):
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**
Length: **Ongoing**
Status: **Published**

Brief Summary of Unit

Students will gain knowledge of the terms necessary to write, prepare, shoot and edit a film. Students will understand the three phases of film and video production that include preproduction, production and postproduction. Students will explore and document video shooting techniques and vocabulary.

Transfer

Essential Questions

- • What are the components that make up a film or video?
- • What is a video production workflow?
- • What is film grammar?

Essential Understandings

- • turning a story into a film or video is based on visual techniques.
- • a film or video needs a purpose.
- • film and video is made up of many mechanical components.
- • shooting a film or video needs organization.
- • the idea, story and written script are the building blocks to making a good film or video.

Students Will Know

- • a basic history of film.
- • how to organize and shoot a film.
- • how to prepare an organizational workflow for their video project.
- • how to synthesize ideas in order to present them in a finished treatment.
- • how to use the unique qualities of the medium to create stories.
- • the structure for preparing a film.
- • the three basic techniques of presentation that include, narrative film, documentary film and

absolute film.

- • the visual storytelling techniques of making a film or video.
- • the vocabulary and shooting techniques of making a film.

Students Will Be Skilled At

Evidence/Performance Tasks

- • articulate through-group discussions the many methods for judging ideas in planning a production.
- • complete a graphic organizer describing the various film and video presentation techniques including narrative film and documentary.
- • complete a graphic organizer to guide them in creating ideas and subject matter for their projects.
- • compose a Film Production Journal entry outlining their personal goals for their projects.
- • Create a chart showing and explaining pre-production, production and post-production.
- • demonstrate knowledge of the grammar of film by completing a viewing guide detailing the techniques used in films viewed in class.
- • demonstrate knowledge of organization by completing a video production workflow sheet based on an imaginary production.
- • demonstrate knowledge of visual storytelling by writing an essay articulating the terms that describe the visual art of making a film or video.
- • document video shooting techniques and vocabulary using a graphic organizer.
- • preview the essential questions and connect to learning throughout the year.
- • write a viewing assessment on peer projects.
- • write a two page report on the beginning history of film.

Learning Plan

- • Analyze film and shooting scripts and compare them to the actual film itself and discuss.
- • Discuss and reflect on essential questions through discussion and writing in their Film Production Journal.
- • Have students bring in a B & W photo from a magazine or newspaper and describe what they see.
- • Individually students will develop ideas, prepare and write a treatment (third-person, present tense description/synopsis of the story action) for a short film based on a story in a newspaper.
- • Prepare a video production workflow for an imaginary project.
- • Recognize and prepare a poster listing the many techniques used in films watched in class.
- • Understand film vocabulary by presenting a poster that visually represents a film vocabulary word.

- • View DVDs to examine and discuss various film techniques.
- • Write viewing assessments on peer projects shown throughout the year.

Materials

Suggested Strategies for Modifications
