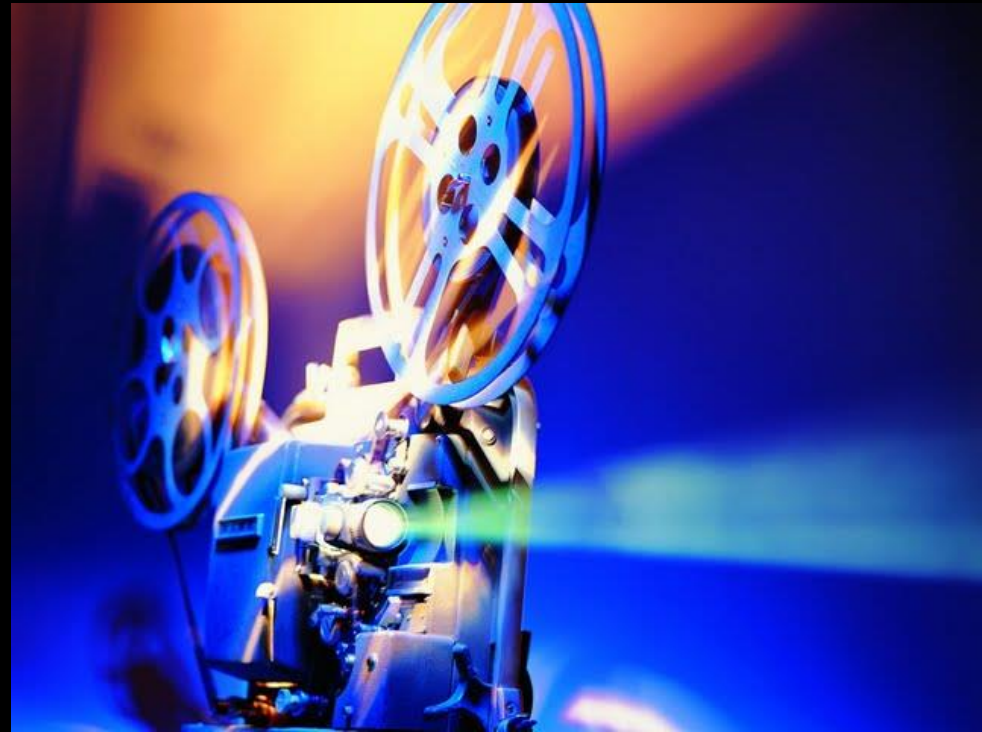


INTRO TO FILM STUDIES

Middle School Film Studies
Unit 1



Why Are You Here?

- Why did you decide to take this class?
- Are you interested in working in the movie business someday, or are you just a movie fan?
- What do you think we will be doing in this class?



What Will We Be Studying?

- The history of film
- How films are made
- How to appreciate film
- How to analyze film
- How to write about film
- How to make your own films



What Will We Be Doing ?

- Learning about film techniques
- Watching film clips for examples
- Watching and discussing full length films
- Writing about and giving presentations on films
- Making short films



Teacher Note: Use full class discussion, think-pair-share, or group discussion and share out.

What is Film

- What is a movie?
- How is it different from other art forms that tell stories, like a book or a play?
- What makes a movie different than a TV show?
- How is being a filmmaker different than being a novelist or painter?
- What are the *choices* a filmmaker makes in creating a movie?
- If you were filming this class right now, what choices could you make?



Choices

- When you take a picture with your phone, what choices do you have?
 - Distance
 - Angle
 - Framing
 - Composition
 - Color
 - Shape
- Anything else?

Teacher Note: Discuss the meaning of each term. If you feel it will not be disruptive, students can use their phones to consider choices. Paper “cameras” or even rolled up paper or paper towel rolls could illustrate some examples.



Choices

- Since a movie camera takes “motion pictures,” what additional choices does this give you?
 - Move or stay still
 - Move towards or away from object
 - Move up and down or side to side
 - Follow object or not
- Anything else?

Teacher Note: Discuss the meaning of each concept. Terms will be introduced later in the course. If you feel it will not be disruptive, students can use their phones to consider choices. Paper “cameras” or even rolled up paper or paper towel rolls could illustrate some examples.



More than Just Pictures

- What other elements besides photography are a part of a movie?
 - Acting
 - What do movie actors do?
 - Sound
 - Dialogue
 - Music
 - Sound Effects
 - Editing
 - What is editing?
 - Story
 - What is a script?



Your Favorite Films

- Pick one of the five favorite films you chose.
- Choose one element you feel was especially good (for example: photography, acting, sound, story, script, etc.).
- Write one sentence explaining what was so good about it.

