

## Literature as Film—Mr. Goldin—2014/15

“Why not go out on a limb? That’s where the fruit is.”

—Mark Twain

### Contact Information

*Please do NOT call my work phone.*

Email: [louis.goldin@dcsdk12.org](mailto:louis.goldin@dcsdk12.org) Classroom: 3400 Off Periods: 4th & 7th Access: 3400

Website: accessible via RCHS website

### Course Description & Objectives

In this semester long course, we will study a wide variety of films; we will also study the characteristics of the film medium and how they apply to films studied in the course. Emphasis will be on critically analyzing and interpreting film. In addition, this course will have a pop culture “trivia” component. We will talk about directors, musicians, actresses, actors, academy awards, etc. Understanding of film techniques and literary analysis will be demonstrated through a variety of written and oral responses, and two individual studies. Often a “Worksheet” will accompany a film with the intended outcome to be observation/analysis of some intended element.

### Five things that I care immensely about and always focus on:

1. Respect yourself, others, others’ belongings, and the school
2. Accountability for one’s self and one’s actions
3. Critical Thinking
4. Ask the important questions
5. Student advocacy vs guardian advocacy

Films we will be ‘Reading’. (This list is not all-inclusive and each film will not necessarily be viewed in its entirety.)

2001: A Space Odyssey	Field of Dreams	Rocky	Simon Birch
A Beautiful Mind	Fletch	Rudy	Some Like It Hot
A League of Their Own	Forrest Gump	Sense and Sensibility	Spaceballs
Ace Ventura	Friday Night Lights	Simon Birch	Star Wars
Alice in Wonderland	Ghostbusters	Some Like It Hot	The Birds
American Grafitti	Glory Road	Spaceballs	The Dark Knight
An Inconvenient Truth	Gone With the Wind	Star Wars	The Diving Bell and Butterfly
Anchorman - Ron Burgundy	Groundhog Day	The Birds	The Fountain
Arthur	Hoosiers	The Dark Knight	The Fugitive
Awakenings	I am Sam	The Diving Bell and Butterfly	The Great Outdoors
Batman	In Cold Blood	The Fountain	The Natural
Batman Begins	Inception	The Fugitive	The Odd Couple
Batman Returns	Indiana Jones	The Great Outdoors	The Parent Trap
Beetlejuice	Insidious	The Natural	The Sandlot
Being There	Invasion of Body Snatchers	The Odd Couple	The Simpsons
Big	Jaws	The Parent Trap	The Sixth Sense
Big Fish	Juno	The Sandlot	The Sting
Butch Cassidy	Lawrence of Arabia	The Simpsons	The Thin Man
Casablanca	Les Miserables	The Sixth Sense	The Truman Show
Citizen Kane	Life is Beautiful	The Sting	The War of the Worlds (1953)

Close Encounters	Lord of the Rings Trilogy	The Thin Man	The Wizard of Oz
Cool Hand Luke	Mean Girls	The Truman Show	Tommy Boy
Coraline	Million Dollar Baby	The War of the Worlds (1953)	True Grit
Corpse Bride	Minority Report	The Wizard of Oz	Uncle Buck
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon	Miracle	Tommy Boy	Vegas Vacation
Dances with Wolves	Miracle on 34 Street	True Grit	Vertigo
Days of Heaven	Modern Times	Uncle Buck	Visions of Light
Dead Poets Society	Mrs. Doubtfire	Vegas Vacation	War of the Worlds
Doctor Zhivago	North by Northwest	Vertigo	What Dreams May Come
Dr. Strangelove	Poltergeist	Visions of Light	Young Frankenstein
Duck Soup	Pride and Prejudice	War of the Worlds	
E.T. The Extraterrestrial	Raiders of the Lost Ark	What Dreams May Come	
Fahrenheit 911	Raising Arizona	Young Frankenstein	
Fearless	Rear Window	Rudy	
Ferris Bueller's Day Off	Rebel Without a Cause	Sense and Sensibility	

**Behavioral Expectations:** Every student in Douglas County is expected to comply with the *Douglas County School District Student Code of Conduct and Discipline*. Breach of this conduct will result in disciplinary action. This includes no food/drink in the classroom. Of course, water is acceptable, but no McDonald's feasts! No cell phone use either. I will confiscate cell phones and give to administration.

**Makeup work: Accepted for excused absences only, within the time period designated by Douglas County School District policy.** This equates to one day per day missed plus an additional day. For instance, if you miss two days due to illness, you would have three days to complete work. It is your responsibility to find out what you missed. **Films missed due to absences will have to be viewed at school;** I do not check out films to students.

**Tardies:** If you are not in your seat when the bell rings, you are tardy. Our time together is important. I will begin instruction as soon as the bell rings. We will often start with a “bell assignment.” If you have an unexcused tardy and miss the assignment, it cannot be made up. Other consequences: please refer to the **Rock Canyon tardy policy (also defined on wall)**.

**Late Work:** No Late Work Allowed.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism, cheating on tests, copying papers, forging the signatures of teachers and/or parents on any document, or illegally changing a grade. Students will face disciplinary action (referral to office) in all cases involving academic dishonesty. **In cases of academic dishonesty on an assignment, including plagiarism or copying, your grade will be an automatic zero.**

**Grades:** Your grades will be a compilation of points from homework, class work including discussion participation, tests & quizzes, and various writing assignments. Grades will be based on the percentage of points possible using the following scale.

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0-59

The Final Exam for the semester will be weighted to contribute 15% of your total grade. A 9-week participation grade will be assigned worth 20% of your total grade, and the other 65% will come from tests/quizzes/assignments. In other words, 85% of the total grade is comprised of total points across all participation/activities throughout the semester, and the other 15% comes from your semester final. Participation scores (out of 100) are evaluated based on timeliness to class, appropriate viewing of films (no phones/no sleeping), and contribution to class discussion.

**Please keep these expectations in your notebook for future reference; the syllabus will be posted on my website as well.**



## **Rock Canyon High School Film as Literature Course Expectations Agreement**

Your name (please print):

\_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First)

Some of the films studied in this course may contain material you may find offensive. Your enrollment in the course and required contract signature shows your willingness to approach these films in a mature, critical manner. I/We have read the course information for Film as Literature, and will contact Mr. Goldin with any questions, issues, or concerns about this information or the course work at any time throughout the year.

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_