Welcome to Film Analysis and Criticism!! Each month a new genre will be studied—what elements make up the genre, iconic classics, cult classics, modern films, literary adaptations, etc. will be studied. There is a significant amount of writing associated with this course—it is not simply about watching movies. Students will have a writing assignment for every film we watch, research papers in formal MLA format, group projects, movie analysis, movie critiques, quizzes, exams, etc. This course is an English elective and does not substitute a core English course but rather utilizes the skills learned in those courses and applies them here. The level of expectation is high and students are expected to enter this class already familiar with different genres of literature and writing, with strong writing skills in both formal and informal assignments, knowledge of literary devices and figurative language, of MLA format, etc.

**Grading:**
Grading will be based on a traditional percentile. Each test, quiz, essay, assignment, project, etc. will be graded with points. The beginning of each semester will start off with a clean slate—an A+! First and Second Quarter will equal the First Semester grade and Third and Fourth Quarter will equal the Second Semester Grade. The percentile is as follows:

- 100%-90% A
- 89%-80% B
- 79%-70% C
- 69%-60% D
- 59% and lower F

Grades will be posted online shortly after school begins. I will update them regularly. The school is going to be using the district wide system: ABI's Parent Portal. Please contact the school for further information about signing up and setting a password. Through the Parent Portal, grades and attendance records will be available.

**Latework Policy:**
For an excused absence(s), you will have the number of days absent to make up the work and turn it in. For example, if you are absent (excused) for 3 days, you have 3 days to get the assignment and turn it into me. It is your responsibility to come and get any work you need from me or other classmates.

For unexcused absences/tardies, due dates stand and late work IS NOT accepted.

If you miss a movie or a portion of a movie, it is your responsibility to borrow the DVD. The make-up timeline still stands. No work will be accepted until the borrowed DVD is returned. Each day that the DVD is late will be 10% off of their critique and/or quiz.

Students will receive 4 No Questions Asked (NQA) passes a semester that can be used for a one day extension on certain assignments. See NQA sheet for details.

**Attendance:**
Attendance is taken on a daily basis and double checked through the school's system. Keep in mind that excessive absences and tardies will affect your grade. Refer to the Student/Parent Handbook for specific details.

**Classroom Rules:**
1. Respect all people and their property.
2. Come to class with proper materials and be prepared to work. Be on time and in YOUR seat when the bell rings.
3. Follow all school rules. All rules in Gahr High School's Student Handbook will be followed. This includes policies for detentions and blue slips.
4. Demonstrate Proper Digital Citizenship within this classroom and for all assignments.
5. Take pride in your work.
6. There is no eating and/or drinking in class. You may have bottled water only and the cap needs to be on the bottle. I do not want to see (or hear) any other drinks and/or food in my classroom at any time. Even if it is before the bell, no food or drinks in the classroom. NO GUM IS ALLOWED ON CAMPUS.
7. Each student receives 4 hall passes a semester. At the end of the semester, any remaining hall passes can be turned in for 5 extra credit points each. When redeeming a hall pass, the student must return to class promptly. It is not an excuse to disappear. If any student is found abusing the pass, their pass privileges will be revoked. If you use all of your hall passes, then you run out of hall passes. If you have a medical condition, please see me.

Electronic Devices (Cell Phones, Pagers, iPODs, MP3 Players, CD players, etc):
As is Gahr's policy for electronic equipment-no electronic equipment is to be seen or heard in the classroom. If a device is seen or heard, the student/parent handbook’s consequences will be followed. Work missed due to going to the office cannot be made up. Students are to keep backpacks, bags, purses, etc. off the top of their desks and off of their laps in order to avoid suspicion.

Plagiarism and/or Cheating:
Plagiarism is the act of taking credit for another person’s work whether it be copying word for word or paraphrasing. Any assignments, quizzes, tests, projects, presentations, etc. that are plagiarized, copied, or is a product of cheating will earn an automatic zero and the appropriate disciplinary action.

Materials:
Each student needs to come to class prepared to work. Students should have a binder to keep to keep all handouts and work organized. For every film that we view, students will be taking notes in a specific format so an ample amount of lined college ruled paper is necessary. We will have numerous writing assignments and several projects that may require computer equipment and/or a video camera. If there are any financial difficulties in obtaining these materials, please contact me ASAP.

If a student is absent, s/he will be able to check out the movie from my DVD library. DVD’s need to be returned in the same condition. If a DVD and/or the case is damaged, the student is responsible for replacing that DVD with a BRAND NEW one-no used or illegal copies will be accepted. In order for a student to check out a DVD, s/he must have a DVD check out form on file with the teacher.

School Appropriateness:
I expect all of my students to conduct themselves in a mature fashion. All school work needs to be school appropriate. Any inappropriate material written about or discussed in class will have to be reported to the school and if needed, the proper authorities. This includes but is not limited to any blatant as well as insinuated material about oneself or other people.

Extra Credit:
There will be several opportunities for extra credit. But keep in mind that extra credit alone cannot pass you. You will still need to do the daily work and study for tests. The extra credit is intended to help boost your grade slightly, not substitute for other assignments. All extra credit will be offered to all my classes as a whole. I feel that an individual chance for extra credit is not fair. If a student abuses the extra credit system or has multiple discipline or attendance issues, their extra credit privileges may be revoked. If a student has excessive attendance or discipline issues, s/he is not eligible for extra credit.

Miscellaneous
I will periodically take pictures of the students working. This is not for professional or copyrighted publication purposes but for school related usage such as a slide show for Open House.

I expect all of my students to be responsible for their work. They are at a stage of their lives where they need to learn about actions and consequences. If they forget to bring their work, the consequence is that they do not earn points.

Work that is turned in on anything other than college ruled paper will suffer consequences.

Contact Me:
Please contact me at any time. Email me at lisa.imai@abcusd.us or Ms.LisaImai@gmail.com. The school does have a strict firewall and I am sometimes not able to receive emails from freemail accounts such as Yahoo or Hotmail. Email will yield the quickest results. I do have a website that can be visited to check on items: http://mslisaimai.weebly.com.
Syllabus Agreement and Plagiarism Contract

Please read the syllabus attached and sign below recognizing that you have read the syllabus for Ms. Imai’s Film Analysis and Criticism class and will abide by the rules. Please have a parent/guardian sign acknowledging that s/he has read the syllabus and is aware of Ms. Imai’s policies and expectations.

Please read the Gahr High School English Department’s Plagiarism Contract attached and sign below recognizing that you understand the definition of what plagiarism is, how to avoid plagiarizing, what the school policy is, and what the consequences will be for plagiarizing.

Print Student Name ________________________________________________________________

Student Signature ________________________________________________________________

Date ____________________________ Period ____________________________

Print Parent/Guardian’s Name _________________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature ___________________________________________________________