

□ Advanced Filmmaking and Media Arts Pacing Guide: Full Year

Standards Alignment: NYS Media Arts High School Standards

Term 1: Foundations and Analysis (September 9, 2025 – January 16, 2026)

Unit #	Unit Title	Duration / Dates	Films / Key Concepts	Learning Objectives & Targets	Standards Alignment	Weekly Project / Deliverables
1	Intro to Film Studies and Visual Storytelling	5 Weeks (Sept 9 – Oct 10)	Films: <i>Coney Island, Suspense, Crooklyn.</i> Concepts: Silent Film Era, Mise-en-Scène.	Objective: Analyze visual storytelling in early cinema; Demonstrate basic camera language proficiency. Target: "I can apply principles of	MA:Cr2.1.H SI	Wk 4: Silent Film Script & Shot List Submission. Wk 5: A Day in the Life Short Film Doc Project Due.

				silent film storytelling in an original short project."		
2	Film Analysis, Genre, and Symbolism	6 Weeks (Oct 14 – Nov 22)	Films: Psycho, Pan's Labyrinth, Get Out. Concepts: Genre Conventions, Visual Metaphor, The MacGuffin.	Objective: Identify and subvert genre conventions; Examine symbolism as a tool for social commentary. Target: "I can combine elements from two or more genres to create a new cinematic experience."	MA:Cn11.1. HSI	Wk 7: "Awkward Shots" Psycho Recreation (5 B&W shots). Wk 8: Genre Mash-Up Script Pitch & Storyboard. Wk 11: Final Genre Mash-Up Film Due.
3	Mise-en-Scène and Cinematography	4 Weeks (Nov 25 – Dec 19)	Films: <i>Fall of the House of Usher, Psycho.</i> Concepts: 3-Point Lighting,	Objective: Manipulate lighting and staging to establish	MA:Cr3.1.H SI	Wk 13: <i>Fall of the House of Usher</i> Stylistic Recreation (Photo assignment). Wk 14: Final Mise-en-Scène Challenge Due.

			Framing, Blocking, Deep Focus.	mood; Recreate complex cinematic techniques. Target: "I can effectively use 3-point lighting to sculpt a subject and control shadows."		
4	The Power of Sound and Editing	3 Weeks (Jan 5 – Jan 16)	Films: <i>A Quiet Place, West Side Story.</i> Concepts: Non-Diegetic/Diegetic Sound, Continuity Editing, Sound Mixing.	Objective: Apply post-production techniques to control narrative pacing; Compose an original soundscape. Target: "I can use sound design and editing to control the	MA:Re7.1.H SI	Wk 16: Final Silent Film (Visuals) Edit Due. Wk 17 (Term End): Final Silent Film w/ Original Instrumental Music Due.

				emotional response of the audience."		
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Term 2: Production and Media Arts (January 28, 2026 – June 16, 2026)

Unit #	Unit Title	Duration/ Dates	Films / Key Concepts	Learning Objectives & Targets	Standards Alignment	Weekly Project / Deliverables
5	Advanced Film Studies and World Cinema	5 Weeks (Jan 28 – Mar 6)	Films: <i>City of God</i> , <i>Parasite</i> , <i>Amélie</i> . Concepts: Global Film Movements, Auteur Theory , Cultural Context.	Objective: Analyze global filmmaking techniques; Finalize a professional pre-production package. Target: "I can produce a comprehensive pre-production book to professional standards."	MA:Cn11.1.H SI	Wk 4: Full Shot List & Storyboard Submission. Wk 5: Final Pre-Production Book Due (Schedule, Budget, Call Sheet).

6	Documentary Filmmaking	4 Weeks (Mar 9 – Apr 1)	Films: 13th, I Am Greta, He Named Me Malala. Concepts: Modes of Documentary, Ethics in Filmmaking, Interview Techniques.	Objective: Produce a non-fiction short adhering to ethical guidelines; Conduct effective cinematic interviews. Target: "I can structure an interview to elicit compelling narrative content."	MA:Cr1.1.HSI	Wk 7: Interview Transcript & B-Roll Shooting Plan. Wk 9: Final Documentary Short Film Due.
7	Independent Film Projects: Production & Post	4 Weeks (Apr 13 – May 8)	Major Project: 5–10 min Narrative Short. Concepts: Directing, VFX/Color Grading, Final Sound Mixing.	Objective: Execute all phases of a short film production; Apply advanced post-production techniques. Target: "I can apply professional color grading and sound design to elevate a final cut."	MA:Cr2.1.HSI	Wk 11: Assembly Edit Due (Picture Lock). Wk 13: Final Picture Lock/Sound Mix Submission.
8	New Media Specialization: Podcasting and	3 Weeks (May 11 –	Projects: Narrative Podcast (5	Objective: Adapt storytelling skills to new media	MA:Cr1.1.HSI	Wk 14: Podcast Script & Sound Map. Wk 16: Final Podcast AND

	YouTube	June 1)	min) & YouTube Video (3-5 min). Concepts: SEO, Digital Branding, Audio Mixing, Audience Retention.	platforms; Apply digital marketing strategies to content. Target: "I can script, record, and edit a narrative podcast using spatial audio techniques."		Final YouTube Video Due.
9	Final Film Screenings and Reflections	2 Weeks (June 2 – June 16)	Concepts: Distribution Planning, Artist Statement, Portfolio Curation.	Objective: Professionally present a body of work; Critically reflect on artistic growth. Target: "I can articulate my artistic vision and process in a formal presentation."	MA:Cr3.1.HS I	Wk 17: Capstone Film Trailer and Poster Design Due. Wk 18: Final Portfolio (All Projects) & Formal Presentation (Term Ends June 16).