

Form V Fall Electives 2023

Form V – Class of 2027	Monday, May 8	Online
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Digital Photography I [Mr. Reich] (7)

Discover digital photography in the Cistercian Digital Arts Lab. Learn the how and why of photography with the newest digital camera technology. Students will learn to effectively use the controls of their digital SLR cameras including shutter speeds, f-stops, control of focus and exposure. Photocomposition, lighting and lenses are also covered. Students will use the “digital darkroom” with high-powered computers and Photoshop for digital image manipulation. Color and Black & White printing methods using the latest inkjet technology printers will be available. Students may use their own DSLR cameras or a limited number of the school's *Nikon* digital cameras.

Introduction to Film: Theory and History [Fr. Augustine] (10)

This class seeks to familiarize the student with the basic elements of filmmaking, e.g., screenwriting, casting, acting, set design, cinematography, sound design, music, producing and directing. To that list, one could also add distributing and marketing, an increasingly evolving element in the world of film. This will be done through short educational videos, excerpts of many films, the watching of entire films, and much class discussion. Additionally, the class will introduce the student to the history of film (mostly U.S. films) through the decades, starting with the long-acclaimed classics of the 1930s and 1940s and considering groundbreaking new masterpieces of each subsequent decade thru the mid-2000s. Several of the greatest films ever made will be viewed in their entirety, while excerpts from several more great films also will be watched and discussed, occasionally, as assigned homework. The question of *the auteur* in filmmaking will loom throughout the course. Can any one man, even a brilliant director, really claim credit for such a large and unpredictable undertaking as the making of a major Hollywood movie? Can it be that great directors, if they so choose and are talented enough, are really able to leave a certain “stamp” of style, feeling, and quality on their best works—bequeathing us works which they have marked both as *theirs*, and as “art”? In answering these questions, we hope to identify the various elements that make a movie effective, “good,” and even possibly able to transcend its pop-culture medium to become “high art.” Assessments will consist of some quizzes, a few papers of varying length and scope, and then the final project of *either* presenting at length on some key scenes of an as-yet undiscussed great film, *or* the writing and filming of a roughly 12-minute, multi-scene short film.

Men’s Vocal Ensemble I [Mr. Lewis] (12)

This course will delve into the rich wealth of choral literature written for men’s voices, from Early Renaissance to the classical era, from Barbershop to vocal jazz. A healthy complement of sacred and secular – both accompanied and *a cappella* – will be enjoyed in a wide array of repertoire. Healthy vocal technique, knowledge of the International Phonetic Alphabet – and proper choral pronunciation thereby – will be explored as a conduit to unlock a wide range of songs in their original languages. Grades will be based on Melodic Dictation (aural intervallic identification), Knowledge of the Phonetic Graphemes studied, general score-reading and musicianship, performance, and class preparation (to include small-group demonstration of mastery)

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Studio Art: Painting with Watercolor and Acrylic [Fr. Ignatius] (10)

The first quarter of this course will be dedicated to watercolor painting while the second quarter will be dedicated to acrylic painting. For each medium, the students will learn different painting techniques. Most of the painting projects will be teacher-directed; however, towards the end of each quarter, the students will be given more liberty to choose their subject matter and painting method. The students will learn to paint from their drawings, images of others' artwork, and photographs. It is not necessary to have excellent drawing skills, but some drawing will be involved. Many of the assignments will be representational art, but there will be a few opportunities to make non-representational art (aka abstract art). Evaluation will consist of following directions, effort, creativity, and excellence.

Theatre I [Mrs. Magill] (10-12)

This course is an introduction to the study of Theater as a whole – history, performance, production, and design. We will cover the first part of Theatre History starting with Greek Drama and moving through to Bunraku puppetry. You will study the major influences of the time, read plays, analyze performances, and try out some of the styles and techniques that became the foundation of Theatre as we know it today. You will be graded based on group discussions, comprehension quizzes, willing participation, memorization of material, and completion of simple designs – props, masks, puppets. Part of your final grade will consist of a short presentation during Winter Coffeehouse.