



## Cinema Course Objectives

### Visual Arts - Film

In Emmaus Classical Academy's Cinema Course, students will learn how to engage thoughtfully with the medium of film. They will form the ability to recognize and discuss a film's use of cinematic technique through in-depth study of important and excellent films from various geographical, cultural, and historical contexts. Filmmakers include Walt Disney, Orson Welles, Akira Kurosawa, John Ford, Ingmar Bergman, Alfred Hitchcock, David Lean, and Stanley Kubrick. Historically significant and artistically excellent films like *Casablanca*, *Citizen Kane*, *High Noon*, *Seven Samurai*, *Vertigo*, and *Lawrence of Arabia* will be discussed and studied. We recommend that parents and independent study programs count this class as meeting the requirements for five high school academic credits: Visual Arts: Film.

Students will analyze and interpret artistically excellent films. They will

- explicate the key themes of particular cinematic works
- support their interpretations of a film by referring to specific cinematic choices
- characterize different genres, including musicals, westerns, and film *noir*
- analyze and articulate key themes, ideas, and techniques in 20<sup>th</sup> century filmmaking
- compare and contrast the ideas and filmmaking styles of the various filmmakers studied

Students will analyze and interpret historically significant films. They will

- trace major historical developments of the 20<sup>th</sup> century as expressed in film
- engage with the background and historical context for a particular film
- trace the development of 20<sup>th</sup> century culture and identify key movements in film history, including Italian Neorealism and film *noir*

Students will apply knowledge gained from a synthesis of multiple films and discussions. They will

- evaluate ideas based on the Bible as the ultimate authority on Truth
- exhibit discernment in moral and ethical issues
- demonstrate a willingness to change beliefs and behaviors due to the insight of others

Students will contribute in intellectual discussion confidently, critically, and charitably. They will

- ask relevant, critical questions about films and ideas
- distinguish between good and bad arguments
- recognize, imitate, and produce sound, compelling, and logical arguments
- assess multiple perspectives with fairness and precision in viewing, discussion, and writing

- assert opinions and beliefs about film history and technique with courteous and reasonable arguments
- respond to opposition to opinions and beliefs with courteous and reasonable rebuttals

Course objectives will be realized through the viewing, writing, and discussion required of the students. Discussions and writing assignments will serve as evaluative tools to assess the student's progress toward set objectives. Student notebooks serve as a catalog of the student's progress through the course of the academic semester, and the final paper is equivalent to a final exam.