

MERCYHURST PREP SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

MR. BAKKA

HOLLYWOOD AND HISTORY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to provide students with an in-depth study of historical events and people by exploring how the movie industry has presented the past. The class will focus on comparing how the movies portray history in relation to what really happened. We will examine how Hollywood has shaped our understanding of history and analyze how people can have different interpretations of the same historical event.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Each student is expected to have a notebook in which to keep class work, lecture notes homework and other assignments. Teaching methods will include lectures, discussions, homework assignments, and cooperative activities. Methods for grading will include exams, presentations, and cooperative assignments. The grade will be based on points earned by each student during the term. The points will be expressed as a percent of the total possible points. A missed assignment will result in a "0" grade. Any assignment turned in late will be penalized an appropriate point value.

CLASSROOM POLICY

While I am talking, everyone is listening. If you wish to speak, raise your hand and we will all listen. Always be polite. It is common courtesy to respect the rights and opinions of others. Students will be expected to exemplify the qualities of a good citizen on all class trips. As a faculty member I will strive to respect each individual as not only a student but also as a person. As a community we will strive to make the statement of integrity an integral part of our development as teachers and students.

COURSE OUTLINE

Possible movies to be used include:

- Apollo 13
- Glory
- Patton
- Saving Private Ryan
- Pearl Harbor
- The right Stuff
- Good Morning Vietnam
- Truman
- The Tuskegee Airmen
- Mississippi Burning
- Black Hawk Down
- United 93
- All the President's Men
- We Were Soldiers

Each of these movies was chosen based on its historical relevance and significance. Some of these movies are rated R based on language and violence. As a result, I need each parent to email me at dbakka@mpslakers.com or send in a signed note with your child giving your son or daughter permission to watch these movies. Thank you.