

Horror Film Unit Plan



Grades: 9-12

Subject: Theatre

VA SOLS:

- **TII.5** The student will apply communication and collaboration skills for theatre experiences. a) Create theatre projects and productions through collaboration by assuming shared responsibility for group work and respecting the ideas and points of view of others. b) Create and strengthen trust through participation in theatre games and improvisations that incorporate dialogue and listening skills to express character relationships.
- **TIII.10** The student will investigate tools and techniques for contemporary media production, including camera techniques, film terminology, acting for the camera, creating screenplays, and the editing process.

**Note: This lesson plan was developed for advanced Theatre II & III students. Adapted student handouts can be found at the bottom of the plan document.*

Learning Targets:

- Students will be able to identify and describe the history and characteristics of horror films
- Students will be able to plan write, produce, and edit a horror film
- Students will be able to give and receive constructive criticism
- Students will be able to work collaboratively based on a shared vision and clearly delegated tasks

Overview of Activities:

- DAY ONE & TWO: Research history & characteristics of Horror Films.
- DAY THREE: Presentations on history & characteristics of Horror Films.
- DAY FOUR: Brainstorm & plan
- DAY FIVE: Elevator speeches & peer feedback
- DAY SIX: Storyboard
- DAY SEVEN & EIGHT: Write screenplay
- DAY NINE & TEN: Film
- DAY ELEVEN-THIRTEEN: Edit
- DAY FOURTEEN: Film premier!

Resources:

- [Full Unit Plan](#)
- [Silent Mini Horror Film](#) (adapted version for Theatre 1/Productions 1 to complete individually)
- [When Darkness Falls News Report/Campfire Story Video Project](#) (adapted version for Theatre 2 students to complete individually)
- [Cadence Cinema Film & TV 1-Minute Horror Film Festival](#)

