Lindsay Price has developed this Introduction to Film Analysis Unit: Mise en scène. In order to develop visual literacy, students have to be able to analyze what they see. In a film, the composition of everything you see on screen is called mise-en-scène. In this unit, students will explore the individual elements that make up mise-en-scène, be able to identify those elements in stills and film scenes, and apply their knowledge in a culminating analysis activity.

Heads up. You’re going to need some technology for this unit. Students need to be able to view, either as a class or 1:1 images, a google slide deck and selected film scenes.

1 - What is Mise-en-scène?
In this lesson, students will discuss the difference between film and theatre, identify their prior knowledge of film, and identify the definition of mise-en-scène.

2 - Mise-en-scène: Setting & Location
In this lesson, students will continue their examination of the individual elements that work together to create mise-en-scène. The first elements are setting and location. Students will apply their knowledge of how location helps visualize the story and create impact.

3 - Mise-en-scène: Lighting
In this lesson, students will continue their examination of the individual elements that work together to create mise-en-scène. The next element is lighting. Students will apply their knowledge of how lighting helps visualize the story and create impact.

4 - Mise-en-scène: Costumes
In this lesson, students will continue their examination of the individual elements that work together to create mise-en-scène. The next element is costumes. Students will apply their knowledge of how costumes help visualize the story and create impact.

5 - Mise-en-scène: Acting
In this lesson, students will continue their examination of the individual elements that work together to create mise-en-scène. The next element is acting. Students will apply their knowledge of how acting helps visualize the story and create impact.

6 - Mise-en-scène: Composition
In this lesson, students will continue their examination of the individual elements that work together to create mise-en-scène. The next element is composition. Students will apply their knowledge of how composition helps to visualize the story and create impact.

7 - Mise-en-scène: Culminating Activity
In this lesson, students will demonstrate what they have learned about mise-en-scène with a culminating analysis activity. Students will analyze a scene from a film, identify elements of mise-en-scène, and determine the visual impact and emotional engagement in the scene based on the elements.
Standards Connections

Alberta, Canada

Junior Goal II Objectives
- become familiar with dramatic terminology and script format

Junior Orientation
- support positivity the work of others
- understand that technical elements enhance verbal/physical communication

Theatre Studies Level 1 - Beginning (performance analysis)
- 2 - identify specific criteria to assess a presentation

Senior Goal III Objectives
- develop an awareness of aesthetics in visual and performing arts

Orientation Drama 10
- concentrate on the task at hand
- demonstrate effective use and management of time
- work with abstract concepts
- work cooperatively and productively

Technical Theatre/Design 10-20-30 - Costume
- 1 - demonstrate understanding of the purpose of costume

Technical Theatre/Design 10-20-30 - Lighting
- 1 - demonstrate understanding of the purpose of stage lighting

Technical Theatre/Design 10-20-30 - Makeup
- 1 - demonstrate understanding of the purpose of makeup

Technical Theatre/Design 10-20-30 - Management - Sound
- 1 - demonstrate understanding of the purpose of stage sound

British Columbia, Canada

Drama 8
- make choices among a variety of ways to express thoughts, feelings, and beliefs
- use given criteria to assess and evaluate their work
- demonstrate an awareness of dramatic work as a metaphor
- demonstrate an awareness that drama has symbolic meaning
- use appropriate vocabulary to describe drama and theatre elements

Drama 9
- restate the thoughts, feelings, and beliefs of others
- demonstrate an awareness of a dramatic work as a metaphor

Drama 10
- compare their own thoughts, feelings, and beliefs with those of others
- defend choices made in problem solving
- apply stage vocabulary and theatrical conventions to dramatic forms
- compare the conventions of theatre and various media forms
- articulate an aesthetic response based on their own criteria

Drama 12
- justify their aesthetic response to a theatre performance in terms of drama form, style, elements of drama, meaning, use of performance elements, use of production elements

California VAPA Standards (2001)

GRADE 9-12 PROFICIENT - 1.0 ARTISTIC PERCEPTION
- 1.1 - Development of the Vocabulary of Theatre - Use the vocabulary of theatre, such as acting values, style, genre, design, and theme, to describe theatrical experiences

GRADE SIX - 1.0 ARTISTIC PERCEPTION
- 1.2 - Comprehension and Analysis of the Elements of Theatre - Identify how production values can manipulate mood to persuade and disseminate propaganda.

GRADE SIX - 4.0 AESTHETIC VALUING
- 4.2 - Derivation of Meaning from Works of Theatre - Identify examples of how theatre, television, and film can influence or be influenced by politics and culture.

GRADE EIGHT - 5.0 CONNECTIONS, RELATIONSHIPS, APPLICATIONS
- 5.2 - Careers and Career-Related Skills - Identify career options in the dramatic arts, such as cinematographer, stage manager, radio announcer, or dramaturg; and research the education, training, and work experience necessary in that field.

California VAPA Standards (2019)

6.TH:Pr5 Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation.
- 6.TH:Pr5.b - Articulate how technical theatre elements are integrated into a drama/theatre work.

6.TH:Re7 Perceive and analyze artistic work.
- 6.TH:Re7 - Describe and record personal reactions to artistic choices in a drama/theatre work.

Prof.TH:Re7 Perceive and analyze artistic work.
- Prof.TH:Re7 - Respond to what is seen, felt, and heard in a drama/theatre work to develop criteria for artistic choices.

Acc.TH:Re8 Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.
- Acc.TH:Re8.c - Debate and distinguish multiple aesthetics, preferences, and beliefs through participation in and observation of drama/theatre work.

7.TH:Re9 Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.
- 7.TH:Re9.c - Analyze and evaluate the aesthetics of the technical theatre elements in a drama/theatre work.

Common Core

Speaking and Listening
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.1 - Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

Language
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.L.1 - Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.L.2 - Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

Language
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.9-10.1 - Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.9-10.2 - Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
Writing
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.1 - Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

Florida Sunshine State Standards
Critical Thinking & Reflection
TH.912.C.1.3 - Justify a response to a theatrical experience through oral or written analysis, using correct theatre terminology.
TH.912.C.1.8 - Apply the components of aesthetics and criticism to a theatrical performance or design.
TH.912.C.3.1 - Explore commonalities between works of theatre and other performance media.

Skills, Techniques & Processes
TH.912.S.3.1 - Articulate, based on research, the rationale for artistic choices in casting, staging, or technical design for a scene from original or scripted material.
TH.912.S.3.9 - Research, analyze, and explain the processes that playwrights, directors, designers, and performers use when developing a work that conveys artistic intent.

Georgia Performance Standards 2017 - Theatre Arts
Grade 6 - Responding
TA6.RE.2 - Critique various aspects of theatre and other media., a. Identify the purpose of a critique., b. Evaluate a theatre production using an assessment instrument.

Grade 7 - Responding
TA7.RE.2 - Critique various aspects of theatre and other media., a. Identify the benefits of constructive dramatic criticism., b. Apply performance rubrics to evaluate theatre and other media productions.

Grade 8 - Responding
TA8.RE.2 - Critique various aspects of theatre and other media., a. Recognize the role of dramatic criticism in media production., b. Utilize specific criteria to articulate dramatic criticism., c. Apply principles of dramatic criticism as both an audience member and participant., d. Implement appropriate changes based on dramatic criticism.

Grades 9-12 - ACTING LEVELS I-IV - Responding
TAHSA.RE.2 - Critique various aspects of theatre and other media using appropriate supporting evidence., a. Develop and utilize meaningful, structured criteria for assessing the work of an actor.

Grades 9-12 - FUNDAMENTALS OF THEATRE LEVELS I-IV - Responding
TAHSFT.RE.2 - Critique various aspects of theatre and other media using appropriate supporting evidence., a. Generate and use terminology for critiquing theatre presentations., b. Analyze performance and utilize various effective forms of criticism to respond to and/or improve performance.

Grades 9-12 - TECHNICAL THEATRE LEVELS I-IV - Responding
TAHSTT.RE.1 - Respond to technical elements of theatre using appropriate supporting evidence., a. Revise projects, plans, and/or procedures after peer criticism to improve development of technical elements., b. Identify and analyze the characteristics of different types of performance spaces and how they can influence production decisions (e.g. proscenium stage, studio/black box, thrust stage, classroom, arena, found space), c. Evaluate design choices of professional designers., d. Evaluate design and technical elements in a post mortem following the completion of a theatre production.

National Core Arts Standards
TH:Pr5.1.1 - Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation - Grade 6
TH:Pr5.1.6.b - Articulate how technical elements are integrated into a drama/theatre work.

TH:Re7.1.1 - Perceive and analyze artistic work - Grade 6
TH:Re7.1.6.a - Describe and record personal reactions to artistic choices in a drama/theatre work.

TH:Re7.1.1 - Perceive and analyze artistic work - Grade HS Proficient
TH:Re7.1.HS1.a - Respond to what is seen, felt, and heard in a drama/theatre work to develop criteria for artistic choices.

TH:Re8.1.1 - Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work - Grade HS Accomplished
TH:Re8.1.HSII.c - Debate and distinguish multiple aesthetics, preferences, and beliefs through participation in and observation of drama/theatre work.

TH:Re9.1.1 - Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work - Grade 7
TH:Re9.1.7.b - Consider the aesthetics of the production elements in a drama/theatre work.

North Carolina Essential Standards
Beginning High School Standards - Communication
B.C.2.1 - Use improvisation and acting skills, such as observation, concentration, and characterization in a variety of theatre exercises.

Beginning High School Standards - Aesthetics
B.AE.1.1 - Understand the major technical elements, such as sound, lights, set, and costumes, and their interrelationships.
B.AE.1.2 - Explain how the major technical elements, such as sound, lights, set, and costumes, are used to enhance formal or informal productions.

Proficient High School Standards - Aesthetics
P.AE.1.1 - Analyze design concepts for aesthetic impact of technical elements.

Advanced High School Standards - Culture
A.CU.1.1 - Interpret theatre arts from personal, cultural, and historical contexts.

Ontario, Canada
Reflecting, Responding and Analyzing - The Critical Analysis Process
B.1.3 - identify aesthetic and technical aspects of drama works and explain how they help achieve specific dramatic purposes (e.g., write theatre or film reviews assessing whether the lighting, sound, set design, and costumes of a drama are used effectively to illustrate the intended message)

Reflecting, Responding and Analyzing - Drama and Society
B.2.1 - identify different types of drama and explain their function in diverse communities and cultures from the past and present (e.g., the function of television, film, or video game dramas with predictable plot lines and stock or stereotypical characters in today’s society; the function of
theatre in ancient Greece, liturgical drama in medieval Europe, Shakespearean drama in Elizabethan England, and/or “social problem” dramas today)

**Tennessee Theatre Curriculum Standards**

**GRADES 6-8**
- 7.0 Scene Comprehensions - Students will analyze, evaluate, and construct meanings from improvised and scripted scenes and from theatre, film, television, and electronic media productions

**GRADES 9-12**
- 7.0 Scene Comprehensions - Students will analyze, critique, and construct meanings from informal and formal theatre, film, television, and electronic media productions.

**Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Theatre Arts**

**HS 117.315 LI - Foundations: Inquiry and Understanding**
- C.1.G - analyze and describe the interdependence of all theatrical elements.

**HS 117.315 LI - Critical evaluation and response**
- C.5.E - evaluate film, television, or other media in written or oral form with precise and specific observations using appropriate evaluative theatre vocabulary such as intent, structure, effectiveness, and value.

**HS 117.316 LII - Historical and cultural relevance**
- C.4.B - analyze ways in which theatre, television, and film play a role in our daily lives and influence our values and behaviors.
- C.4.C - analyze and evaluate the impact of live theatre, film, television, and electronic media in contemporary society.

**HS 117.317 LIII - Historical and cultural relevance**
- C.4.B - analyze ways in which theatre, television, and film play a role in our daily lives and influence our values and behaviors.
- C.4.C - employ and evaluate the impact of live theatre, film, television, and other media in contemporary society.

**MS 117.211 LI - Critical evaluation and response**
- C.5.C - identify production elements of theatre, film, television, and other media.

**MS 117.213 LIII - Foundations: Inquiry and Understanding**
- B.1.B - explore preparation and warm-up techniques.