

Film Studies FILM 201 – Lecture 60/Lab 60
Introduction to Film Studies
Summer 2011
Monday and Wednesday, 18:30-21:15 (lectures) PF 126
Thursday, 18:30-20:20 (labs) PF 126

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Office Hours: by appointment

Additional Information

Attendance at lectures and scheduled screenings is compulsory. Students are expected to come to class having completed the assigned readings and prepared to engage with the materials in an informed fashion.

Course Description

This course introduces students to the central terms, concepts, issues and approaches involved in the study of film. Topics for analysis and discussion will include: narrative, cinematography, mise-en-scene, editing, sound, and style. Class lectures, screenings, and assignments will explore the significance of genre, history, authorship, technology and world cinema to contemporary debates in the field.

Objectives of the Course

The goal of this course is to educate, inspire, and empower students to think, speak, and write critically about film. Film 201 endeavors to prepare students for further work in the discipline.

Internet and electronic communication device information

Cell phones are strictly prohibited during class and screening times. Laptops may be used for the purposes of in-class note taking, however, they are not permitted during screenings and should be turned off during clips and presentations.

Textbooks and Readings:

Bordwell, David and Kristin Thompson, *Film Art: An Introduction*, 9th Edition. McGraw-Hill.

Supplementary readings will be assigned and distributed during class.

Assignments and Evaluation

Film Journal	30%	intermittently, commencing July 14, 2011.
Film Critique	35%	July 28, 2011.
Take-Home Final Exam	35%	distributed August 17 th , due August 22, 2011.

*It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment. Note: Please hand in your essays directly to your instructor if possible. If it is not possible to do so, a daytime drop box is available in SS320; a date stamp is provided for your use. A night drop box is also available for after-hours submission. Assignments will be removed the following morning, stamped with the previous day's date, and placed in the instructor's mailbox.

Descriptions:*Film Journal*

Throughout the term students will be asked to complete a series of short, written critical response exercises (typically 2 – 3 paragraphs each) in a film journal. Each question will be focused around a specific film or set of films screened in class. I will ask students to submit their film journals periodically throughout the term for evaluation and feedback: July 14, July 28, and August 11.

Film Critique

This assignment is designed to focus students' knowledge, interest and appreciation of film into the format of a film critique. Essays should be 5 to 7 typed, double-spaced pages in length and must comply with the basic guidelines and objectives highlighted throughout class, and in Part Five of our textbook, 'Critical Analysis of Films.' Possible film choices and approaches to this essay assignment will be established in class. Students must clear their selection with me prior to commencing the research and writing of their film critique.

Take-Home Final Exam

The Take-Home final examination will consist of two components. First, there will be a set of short essay-style questions designed to assess students' knowledge of basic Film Studies terms, topics, issues, themes and theories learned throughout the course. In the second part of the exam, students will be asked to perform a focused written critical analysis in response to a key element of one of the films screened in class. This

component of the exam will evaluate students' ability to think and write critically about film.

Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: No.

Please note: If your class is held in the evening, the Registrar's Office will make every attempt to schedule the final exam during the evening; however, there is NO guarantee that the exam will NOT be scheduled during the day.

Policy for Late Assignments

Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). As one consequence, **students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number. Also you will be required to provide a piece of picture identification in order to pick up an assignment or look at a final exam from SS320 after classes have ended.**

For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.

Writing Skills Statement

Department policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. For details see <http://www.comcul.ucalgary.ca/needtoknow>. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

If you need help with your writing, you may use the Writing Centre. Visit the website for more details: www.efwr.ucalgary.ca

Grading System

The following grading system is used in the Department of Communication and Culture:

(Revised, effective September 2008)

	Grading Scale
A+	96-100
A	90-95.99
A -	85-89.99
B+	80-84.99
B	75-79.99
B-	70-74.99
C+	65-69.99
C	60-64.99
C-	55-59.99
D+	53-54.99
D	50-52.99
F	0-49

Where a grade on a particular assignment is expressed as a letter grade, it will normally be converted to a number using the midpoint of the scale. That is, A- would be converted to 87.5 for calculation purposes. F will be converted to zero.

Letter Grade	Grading Scale	Grade Point Value (see U of C Calendar: Academic Standing)
A+	96-100	4
A	90-95.99	4
A -	85-89.99	3.7
B+	80-84.99	3.3
B	75-79.99	3
B-	70-74.99	2.7
C+	65-69.99	2.3
C	60-64.99	2
C-	55-59.99	1.7
D+	53-54.99	1.3
D	50-52.99	1
F	0-49	0

Plagiarism

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university.

You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources.

Please consult your instructor or the Writing Centre (MacEwan Student Centre 4th floor, efwr.ucalgary.ca) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

Academic Misconduct

For information on academic misconduct and the consequences thereof please see the current University of Calgary Calendar at the following link;
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation, it is your responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre (220-8237) and discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of the course.

Students' Union

For details about the current Students' Union contacts for the Faculty of Arts see
<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/governance/elections/home.html>

Student Ombudsman

For details on the Student Ombudsman's Office see
<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

Emergency Evacuation and Assembly points

For information on the emergency evacuation procedures and the assembly points see
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

"SAFEWALK" Program -- 220-5333

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night -- call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot booths.

Ethics

Whenever you perform research with human participants (i.e. surveys, interviews, observation) as part of your university studies, you are responsible for following university research ethics guidelines. Your instructor must review and approve of your research plans and supervise your research. For more information about your research ethics responsibilities, see

The Department of Communication and Culture Research Ethics site:

<http://www.comcul.ucalgary.ca/ethics>

or the University of Calgary Research Ethics site:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/cfreb>

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

To be distributed in class.