ROSE STATE COLLEGE

Division Course Syllabus

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<th>Division</th>
<th>Humanities</th>
<th>Course Prefix and Number</th>
<th>ENGL 2123</th>
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<tr>
<td>Course Title</td>
<td>Introduction to Cinema</td>
<td>Course Prefix and Number</td>
<td>ENGL 2123</td>
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<td>Semester and Year Submitted</td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
<td>Credit Hours</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepared by</td>
<td>Claudia Buckmaster</td>
<td>Hours Per Week: Class</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Lab</td>
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Course Description (as it appears in Catalog)

A study of the development of film as a cultural influence, with special emphasis on the methods by which themes are presented. Attention given to unique cinematic techniques that distinguish films from other creative works. Film criticism and cultural writing stressed. May be taken as Humanities credit for General Education requirements.

Prerequisites

ENGL 1213 or equivalent

Text(s):

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Looking at Movies: an Introduction to Film (5th ed.) paperback</td>
<td>Richard Barsam and Dave Monahan</td>
<td>W. W. Norton &amp; Co.</td>
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Reading Level

Supplemental Materials:

(Other books, audio visual aids, etc.)

Access to assigned films, Articles on reserve in LRC
Outline for Remainder of Syllabus:

Rationale: Since the beginning of the twentieth century, motion picture films have been increasingly important in world culture, functioning as a unique narrative form that both reflects and influences the societies that produce and view them. Introduction to Cinema examines the historical significance of film while giving students the analytical tools to understand how a film is created. By becoming aware of these cinematic techniques, their origins and development, students can more readily become discriminate viewers and critics of films themselves.

Expected Outcomes: Upon completion of Introduction to Cinema, students will be able to do the following:

1. View motion pictures with increased understanding and appreciation;
2. Trace the historical development of motion picture film from its beginning in the late 19th century to the present day;
3. Describe basic film techniques and how they are used in the creation of narrative film;
4. Explain the relationship of American film to American culture;
5. Utilize knowledge of film history and basic production techniques to produce original written reviews and analyses of particular films and/or film genres.

Methods of Instruction:

Lecture and Discussion.
Assigned reading and viewing

Assessment (Including Critical Thinking measurements):

Students will be given objective and essay exams, participate in classroom or online discussions, and write 1-3 film reviews and critical essays on films or film-related topics. Relative weight of assessment elements will be determined by the individual professor teaching the class, although it is recommended that the essay format (exam elements and papers).

Learning Objectives:

Unit 1: Basic Concepts. (Outcomes 1, 5, 6)

Upon completion of this part of the class, students will be expected to identify and apply the following concepts:

a. the difference between passive and active viewing;
b. the defining characteristics that distinguish movies from other art and narrative forms;
c. the effect of audience expectation, cultural background, and belief systems on the perceptions of viewers;
d. how movies manipulate time and space, and provide the illusion of movement;
e. the importance of light in filmmaking.
Unit 2: Types of Movies. (Outcomes 1, 2, 4, 5)

Upon completion of this part of the class, students will be able to identify the following classifications of film and to classify individual films accurately, supporting those classifications with correct analysis:

a. narrative, documentary, and experimental movies;
b. genre as a concept and the six major American genres--gangster, science fiction, horror, the Western, the musical, and the comedy;
c. the history and evolution of animation.

Unit 3: Elements of Filmmaking (Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 5)

Upon completion of this part of the class, students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of filmmaking as a collaborative form involving multiple elements and talents:

a. screenwriter and scripting elements;
b. mise-en-Scene and visual design elements;
c. cinematography;
d. acting;
e. editing;
f. sound.

Unit 4: Film History (Outcomes 1, 2, 4, 5)

Upon completion of this part of the class, students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the following:

a. basic approaches to studying film history, specifically the aesthetic approach, the economic approach, and film as social history;