



## COURSE SYLLABUS

**COURSE TITLE:** FILM APPRECIATION

**TERM & YEAR:** Fall 2017

**COURSE & SECTION NUMBER:** FLM 203.01/203L.01

**TIME & PLACE:**

MW 1:00-1:50, Taylor Hall 112

W 2:00-5:00, TH 112 (Lab)

**NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS:** 3-2-3

**INSTRUCTOR:** Justin Young

**OFFICE LOCATION/HOURS:**

Taylor Hall 212

MWF 10-1, TR 11-12

and by appointment

**OFFICE PHONE:** 260.665.4290

**EMAIL:** youngj@trine.edu

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Acquaints the student with the art of film criticism. Presents basic cinema vocabulary, information about film production, theory and history of film, and practice in analysis of individual films.

**PREREQUISITES:** NONE

**REQUIRED TEXT:**

**Lecture:** Petrie and Boggs, *The Art of Watching Film*, 8<sup>th</sup> ed. 2011. McGraw Hill ISBN-10: 0073386170, ISBN-13: 9780073386171 MHID 0073386170

**Laboratory:** No Text

**REFERENCES:** None

**OTHER MATERIALS:**

DVD player / streaming media capability

Access to Internet for Moodle

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Critique films intelligently and sensitively.
2. Trace the medium's historical development.
3. Employ basic film terminology.
4. Discuss the connections between cinemagraphic arts and everyday life.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Class Discussion .....	10 points
* 4x Film Response Papers .....	60 points
* 4x Outside Film Reviews .....	60 points
* Midterm Exam .....	150 points
* Final Exam .....	150 points

**Projects Marked \* must be completed for a passing grade in the course. Projects turned in after the three-day limit for late work must be of satisfactory quality (60% or above).**

**CLASS DISCUSSION:** You are expected to participate in class discourse. You get out of this course what you put into in, and as a discussion heavy course that means you have to contribute to the discussion. No one will be penalized for simply being a "shy" person, but you cannot sit silently throughout the entire semester.

**FILM RESPONSE PAPERS:** You must choose 4 from 16 topics to write about over the course of the semester. Your answers should be grammatically correct, spell checked, and at least 600 words in length (2 double-spaced pages). These do not have to be heavily researched, however, you should attribute credit for any quotes by using quotation

marks and citing the original author within your writing. Please also indicate which question you are responding to at the beginning of your post.

Please see the schedule below for due dates.

**OUTSIDE FILM REVIEWS:** You must review four films over the course of the semester from a list provided to you.

This list is composed of films available through the Overlooked Film Festival on campus, checkout through the Trine University Library, and available for instant streaming via Netflix. Obviously, you are also allowed to obtain copies of these films on your own, but most if not all should be easily available through the means mentioned.

You must view and write reviews of four (4) of these films over the course of the semester outside of class time. Your reviews should be grammatically correct, spell checked, and at least 600 words in length (2 double-spaced page). These do not have to be heavily researched, however, you should attribute credit for any quotes by using quotation marks and citing the original author within your writing. Please also indicate clearly which film you are reviewing. You should cite at least one (1) quote from a professional film critic that coincides with your review.

Please see the schedule below for due dates.

### **ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION:**

Simply attending class and turning in work is not sufficient to earn an A in this course. Rather, you should arrive on time, stay for the duration of the class period, listen attentively to lectures, take notes, and participate actively in class discussion.

As in the workplace, regular, punctual attendance for this course is mandatory. You can expect the class to begin on time. A sign in sheet will be passed around at the beginning of class. It is your responsibility to sign that sheet. If you do not, you may be counted as absent even if you did attend class. Every absence after the third, regardless of the reason, can result in a grade reduction of 20 points. Please notify me in advance of absences and make arrangements to turn work in on time.

Absence in five or more classes, for whatever reason, will result in an automatic failure of the course.

- **You cannot make up a missed test except for a school related activity or documented sickness.**
- **Not being in class on a due date is NOT an excuse for not having work turned in that is due.**
- **Class begins by my watch at the time listed in the syllabus. When you come in late you waste not only my time, but also that of your classmates. Be here on time, or be square...and also counted absent.**

**Special note for this class. You are expected to attend every Wednesday afternoon lab class, with no exceptions. If you cannot commit to this, please see me. Missing even a single lab will result in the reduction of your course grade by a letter, or total failure of the course.**

- **Not being in class on a due date is NOT an excuse for not having work turned in that is due.**
- **Class begins by my watch at the time listed in the syllabus. When you come in late you waste not only my time, but that of your classmates. Be here on time, or be square...and also counted absent.**

### **GRADING/EVALUATION:**

The final grade is based on a maximum of 410 points; percentages are as follows:

90 - 100 = A

87 - 89 = B +

80 - 86 = B

77 - 79 = C +

70 - 76 = C

67 - 69 = D +

60 - 66 = D

Below 60 = F (Failing)

### **OTHER POLICIES:**

#### **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

The University prohibits all forms of academic misconduct. Academic misconduct refers to dishonesty in examinations (cheating), presenting the ideas or the writing of someone else as one's own (plagiarism) or knowingly furnishing false information to the University by forgery, alteration, or misuse of University documents, records, or identification. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following examples: permitting another student to plagiarize or cheat from one's own work, submitting an academic exercise (written work, printing, design, computer program) that has been prepared

totally or in part by another, acquiring improper knowledge of the contents of an exam, using unauthorized material during an exam, submitting the same paper in two different courses without knowledge and consent of professors, or submitting a forged grade change slip or computer tampering. The faculty member has the authority to grant a failing grade in cases of academic misconduct as well as referring the case to Student Life.

### **PLAGIARISM**

You are expected to submit your own work and to identify any portion of work that has been borrowed from others in any form. An ignorant act of plagiarism on final versions and minor projects, such as attributing or citing inadequately, will be considered a failure to master an essential course skill and will result in an F for that assignment. A deliberate act of plagiarism, such as having someone else do your work, or submitting someone else's work as your own (e.g., from the Internet, fraternity file, etc., including homework and in-class exercises), will at least result in an F for that assignment and could result in an F for the course.

### **LATE DRAFTS, HOMEWORK, ETC.**

Missed work is covered in the sections of course requirements. A summary:

- homework: cannot be turned in late for any reason
- presentations: cannot be missed
- major assignments: can be turned in up to 3 days late with a 10% penalty per day. Can be turned in by others.

### **WARNING: CLASS CONTENT**

**This is an R-rated class.** Many of the films we will be watching and discussing are R-rated. They contain nudity, sex, profanity, and other forms of potentially objectionable content. If you are not comfortable with this, please speak with me, as this is not likely a course you will feel comfortable participating in.

### **WELLS THEATER SCREENING ETIQUETTE**

Trine University has requested that you carry no food or drinks into Wells Theater. As a courtesy to other movie-watching members of your class (as well as future patrons), please do not put your feet and legs on the seats in front of you during the Wednesday afternoon movies. "No Talking" is the official policy for these screenings, also—although full-throated laughter is not only permitted but encouraged if you find a movie funny (or, in some cases, one supposes, if you find it lacking in humor or wit...).

### **ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Cell phones and music are at times appropriate in the workplace, but usually are inappropriate in the classroom. You are adults, and part of being an adult is depriving yourself of toys for a few hours a day to focus on tasks. Do not text, IM, play games, or answer phones while in class. Please put them on silent, turn them off entirely, or leave them at home. If for some reason you need to receive a call while in class, please set your phone to vibrate and when it goes off leave the classroom and answer it in the hallway. Once done please return to class and your seat. No explanation is needed to me. I will assume this is a private matter of life and death, and therefore should only happen at most once a semester.

**Because of the nature of the lab, use of electronic devices WILL RESULT in a reduction of your grade at the professor's discretion. You are experiencing art and should treat it with the respect it deserves.**

### **CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR**

In particular, the student handbook outlines relevant definitions, especially section 9 and 13 of "UNIVERSITY POLICIES CONCERNING STUDENTS AND STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS." Disrespectful actions will not be tolerated.

**OTHER POLICIES IN THIS CLASS ARE CONSISTENT WITH UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.**

### **COURSE CALENDAR/SCHEDULE:**

Please be aware that the following is a tentative schedule. It is subject to change according to the discretion of the instructor. Due dates will not be changed without ample notice to students. Readings must be read before class begins. Assignments are due on my desk at the beginning of class. If you don't have the work done, you may be asked to leave class and be marked absent.

	<b>Class Topic</b>	<b>Reading Due</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>
<b>Week 1</b>			
M. 8/21	Class Introduction	Syllabus	

W. 8/23	The Art of Watching Films	Chapter 1	
<b>Week 2</b>			
M. 8/28			
W. 8/30	Thematic Elements	Chapter 2	
<b>Week 3</b>			
M. 9/4	LABOR DAY – NO CLASS		
W. 9/6			Film Review #1
<b>Week 4</b>			
M. 9/11			
W. 9/13	Fictional and Dramatic Elements	Chapter 3	
<b>Week 5</b>			
M. 9/18			
W. 9/20	Visual Design	Chapter 4	Film Review #2
<b>Week 6</b>			
M. 9/25			
W. 9/27	Cinematography	Chapter 5	
<b>Week 7</b>			
M. 10/2			
W. 10/4	<b>Special Visual Effects</b>		<b>Topic Paper #1</b>
<b>Week 8</b>			
M. 10/9	<i>FALL BREAK – NO CLASS</i>		
W. 10/11	<b>Editing</b>	<b>Chapter 6</b>	
<b>Week 9</b>			
M. 10/16			Midterm Exam
W. 10/18	Color	Chapter 7	
<b>Week 10</b>			
M. 10/23	Sound Effects & Dialogue	Chapter 8	Topic Paper #2
W. 10/25	<b>The Musical Score</b>	Chapter 9	
<b>Week 11</b>			
M. 10/30	Acting	<b>Chapter 10</b>	
W. 11/1			Film Review #3
<b>Week 12</b>			
M. 11/6	The Director's Style	Chapter 11	
W. 11/8			Topic Paper #3
<b>Week 13</b>			
M. 11/13	Analysis of the Whole Film	<i>Chapter 12</i>	
W. 11/15			
<b>Week 14</b>			
M. 11/20	<i>Adaptations</i>	Chapter 13	
W. 11/22	<i>Thanksgiving/No Class</i>	<i>Thanksgiving/No Class</i>	<i>Thanksgiving/No Class</i>
<b>Week 15</b>			
M. 11/27	Genre Films, Remakes, & Sequels	Chapter 14	Topic Paper #4
W. 11/29	Film & Society	Chapter 15	
<b>Week 16</b>			
M. 12/4			Film Review #4
W. 12/6			
<b>Week 17</b>		<b>Final Exams Week</b>	
<b>T. 12/12</b>	<b>Final Exam @ 2-4 PM</b>		<b>Final Exam</b>

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

- Any papers turned into class must be in 12 point, Times New Roman, double spaced, and with one inch margins.
- Cell phones should always be turned off in class, unless you have an exceptional need for a particular day.
- You are adults, and I assume this also means you know how to come and go to the restroom without my permission. It should never be a problem, until it becomes a problem.
- This class is for your personal edification. Please make use of your professor, your classmates, and any research

materials to increase your scope of knowledge not just about the subject matter of this course, but about the world of knowledge in general.

- I am not a bear and my office is not my bear cave. Please feel free to stop by and see me if you have any questions, or simply would like to talk more about class, college, or a variety of other subject matters.
- Lastly, please come see me before you allow class to get out of hand and overwhelm you. I have helped many students who came to me a month or two into class with failing grades, but there is little I can do if you come to me the final week of class.