

Fall 2020

HSS 403-103: Film Studies

Rodney Reyes

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	<u>Syllabus HSS 403 - LIT SEM: FILM STUDIES</u>
	<u>Instructor: Rodney Reyes</u>
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Office Hours:	Online, Wednesdays from 4-5pm, Fridays (by appointment)
Prerequisites:	All Lower Division and 300 level Humanities GUR requirements. Can take the 300 level HUM/LIT/HIST/PHIL during the same semester.
Required readings:	MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, Joseph Gibaldi, Modern Language Association, 6th ed., 2003 (Either this manual or the APA manual is required for the course.)
Required Viewings:	There will be no books assigned. However, you will be required to watch the films assigned. All the films assigned are available for rental off of iTunes, Amazon, Youtube or Netflix.
Homework:	Homework will be assigned throughout the semester.
Technical Requirements:	A VIMEO account is required for this course. It is similar to YouTube. You will create a free account on http://vimeo.com which will enable you to upload your Visual Exercises for viewing.
	A Smartphone or Digital Camera that records HD VIDEO is required. Visual Exercise assignments require the ability to record video. Minimum editing knowledge is preferred.
Course Objective:	This is a class on the art of film and its roles in culture and exploring its relationship to our world. We will explore film on a craft level and its disciplines as an art form through analysis and critique. This is a class for those who want to know more about film through a variety of films from different genres throughout the decades. Students will also conduct research on a topic; as appropriate and formulate a critical argument related to film and its influence.
Course Goals:	Learn basic film vocabulary such as montage, mis-en-scene, various camera shots, cinematic conventions. Grasp on filmmaking through visual exercises to understand the basic theory regarding the camera's role in shaping the viewer's perception. Understanding on the purpose and function of film.
Method of Instruction:	Watch films and videos. Lecture and class discussion. Small group work. Student presentation. Library work. Quizzes and final presentations.
Attendance is mandatory	Class attendance is mandatory. Assignments for that class date must be completed on that date. Quizzes also must be taken at designated dates and times, no make-up quiz will be given.
Policies:	No Cell phone use, including texting, during class. No Internet surfing in class. No late quizzes given. Late assignments may be accepted with permission
CLASS ONE	SEPT 8: INTRODUCTION OF CLASS AND SYLLABUS DISCUSSION
CLASS TWO	SEPT 14: CITIZEN KANE DISCUSSION (Quiz);
CLASS THREE	SEPT 21: SHANE/THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY DISCUSSION (Quiz);

CLASS FOUR	SEPT 28: VISUAL EXERCISES #1 PRESENTATION;
CLASS FIVE	OCT 5: CASABLANCA DISCUSSION (Quiz);
CLASS SIX	OCT 12: BLADE RUNNER DISCUSSION (Quiz);
CLASS SEVEN	OCT 19: VISUAL EXERCISE #2 PRESENTATION;
CLASS EIGHT	OCT 26: GOODFELLAS DISCUSSION (Quiz); THE RED BALLOON DISCUSSION (Quiz);
CLASS NINE	NOV 2: PULP FICTION DISCUSSION (Quiz)
CLASS TEN	NOV 9: THE ROYAL TENENBAUMS DISCUSSION (Quiz); * VISUAL EXERCISE #3 DUE
CLASS ELEVEN	NOV 16: HER DISCUSSION (Quiz);
CLASS TWELVE	NOV 23: SPECIAL GUESTS TBD
CLASS THIRTEEN	NOV 30: SEARCHING DISCUSSION (Quiz);
CLASS FOURTEEN	DEC 7: FINAL FILM PROJECT PRESENTATIONS;
QUIZ	There will be quizzes on the day of film discussions.
ASSIGNMENTS:	
	CREATE VIMEO ACCOUNT; SEPT 14
	VISUAL EXERCISE 1: Show an Ordinary Day in 60 Seconds; DUE SEPT 28
	VISUAL EXERCISE 2: 5X5; DUE OCT 19
	VISUAL EXERCISE 3: Redux; DUE NOV 9
	TOPIC PROPOSAL OF RESEARCH PAPER; DUE NOV 16
	FINAL SHORT FILM PROJECT & PRESENTATIONS; DUE DEC 7
	FINAL RESEARCH PAPER; DUE DEC 7
GRADING	15% Attendance/Class Participation, 15% Visual Exercises 1-3, 25% Quizzes, 20% Research Paper, 25% Final Short Film Project Presentation
GRADING SCALE	100-90 A, 89-85 B+, 84-80 B, 79-75 C+, 74-70 C, 69-60 D, 59- F
	This syllabus may be subject to updates throughout the semester.