

Department of English, Theatre, Film & Media

FILM Courses (tentative)

2021-2022

(PLEASE NOTE: this course list is subject to change without notice. Please see Aurora Class Schedule for up-to-date information.)

6 credit hour course spanning BOTH Fall and Winter terms

FILM 2280_{xENGL} **Film and Literature**

Fall+Winter (6) Dr. George Toles

My primary aim in this course is to examine the distinct but often complementary pleasures that literature and film afford the viewer/reader. Some of our time will be spent examining film adaptations of challenging novels, plays, and short stories. We will also be looking at the different ways that film and literature can handle related themes, narrative devices, and subject matter in cases where a film is not derived from the literary text it is paired up with on the syllabus. I am determined not to foster a state of mind where we “naturally” assume a progression from Literature (as the authoritative source) to Film (the predatory, slightly disreputable follower or simpleton cousin). Let us grant film a free-standing value and importance in its relation to literature.

3 credit hour FALL COURSES

FILM 1290 **The Art of Film 1**

Fall (3) Multiple sections / instructors

The study of film as an art form, entertainment and document.

FILM 1310 **Film History**

Fall (3) Dr. Jonah Corne

Building on "The Art of the Film," this course gives students the opportunity to complement their newly acquired knowledge of film grammar and concepts with a sense of the total arc of cinema history. Students will be introduced to a variety of influential movements from around the world, including German Expressionism, Soviet Montage, Italian Neorealism, French New Wave, and several more. By the end of the semester, we will be asking ourselves questions about where movies are headed—about what new transformations are transpiring with the advent of digital technology and streaming—but we will also be taking stock of the manifold ways in which the past persists, in which film history continues to inform (even haunt) both new movies and new media.

FILM 2380 **The International Cinema 1: French New Wave**

Fall (3) Dr. Jonah Corne

This course introduces students to the French New Wave, one of the most famous and debated movements in film history. We will begin with a consideration of some of the central precursors of the French New Wave (Bresson, Melville), and then move on to an exploration that divides its attention between those filmmakers most often identified with the movement and affiliated with the journal *Cahiers du cinéma* (Chabrol, Truffaut, Godard, Rohmer), and those who belong to the crucially contemporaneous "Left Bank Group" (Varda, Resnais, Marker, Demy). Throughout, we will be thinking about the theory that animates the practice of the filmmakers, especially given the fact that so many of the directors began their careers as writers of criticism; about matters of style and politics, and their mutual interaction; and about the various "New Waves" from around the world that the movement went on to influence and inspire.

FILM 3440 **Filmmaking**

Fall (3) TBA

In order to develop the necessary skills to be a filmmaker, a student must first understand the methods of technical narrative construction in dramatic filmmaking. There are many complicated tools that need to be understood and mastered in order to properly realize the scope and potential of a film idea. Within the framework of narrative film storytelling technique, this course is an introduction to the filmmaking process. The goals are as follows:

- Basic understanding of film-making procedure
- Basic understanding of the aesthetics of film-making and film language
- Understanding of basic story-telling techniques and narrative film structure
- Knowledge of film-making terminology
- Knowledge of scripting format
- Introductory knowledge of digital camera equipment
- Knowledge of Final cut Pro editing equipment and procedure
- Basic understanding of film crew responsibilities with special emphasis on directing
- Understanding of on-set procedure
- Understanding of pre-production and post-production procedure

3 credit hour WINTER COURSES

FILM 1290 **The Art of Film**

Winter (3) Multiple sections / instructors

The study of film as an art form, entertainment and document.

FILM 1310 **Film History**

Winter (3) TBA

In this course students will examine films from more than one period in film history, exploring the relationships among and between films in terms of genre, style, theme, structure, and other aesthetic elements. Students will study films selected from various periods of world cinema, taking into consideration how and in what ways films bear the traces of their time and place, or are affiliated with relevant movements in art, history, or society, or have been shaped by technical and artistic developments in the art of film.

FILM 3250 **Special Topics in Film: Intermediate Filmmaking**

Winter (3) TBA

An intermediate approach to making short films, this course covers the main points of classical filmmaking technique. Basic and/or introductory points of either a technical or theoretical nature will not be covered, as students are expected to have already learned this in Basic Filmmaking. This is a course for students serious about continuing to work technically and creatively in the film industry.

FILM 3250_{xENGL} **Special Topics in Film: Panels and Frames**

Winter (3) Dr. David Annandale

An exploration of the interrelationship between comic books and film. We will be looking at how the two art forms influence each other, and at the issues surrounding adaptation, with particular focus on the narrative strategies particular to each medium.

FILM 3420_{xENGL} **Film Theory**
Winter (3) Dr. Jonah Corne
[description to come]

FILM 3460 **Acting for the Camera**

Winter (3) Dr. George Toles

This course is a practical exploration of the acting techniques appropriate for work in film and television. Each student will be required to perform a significant number of scene bits and a few full scenes on video camera. Students will develop skills connected with directing actors in film: intensive preparatory scene analysis, storyboarding, and camera operation during performance.