Number of Credits

3

Instructor

Dr. Greg Nielsen “Dr. G.”

Dr. G. received a PhD in Education from the University of Nevada, Reno. He has authored several books and articles on a wide range of topics including ancient Egypt, twenty-first century business, the use of film and video as pedagogical tools, and the historical significance of the atomic bomb dropped on the Japanese people in Hiroshima. In addition, he enjoys writing poetry and screenplays. He has written two books of poetry, RiverSpeak and LightWaves. His screenplay Hiroshima was a quarterfinalist in the Zoetrope, Francis Ford Coppola screenwriting contest. Dr. G. is the founder of Spiritual Frequencies Online Academy and a member of the International Big History Association. He teaches Film and Video Fluency for the Digital Age each Wintermester and Summer Mini-Term.

Catalog Description

Specialized instruction designed to develop depth in understanding of a current education problem of the in-service teacher. Maximum of 12 credits, only 6 of which may be applied toward any degree. (Formerly CI 481/681; implemented Fall 2003.) (Formerly CTL 481/681; implemented Fall 2007.)

Required Textbooks/Materials

The following text is required material in this course:


Note: You may purchase any early edition of this text.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to

- view films and videos for genre, story structure, story theme, and the hero journey story cycle;
- analyze and write a film critique/review;
- create a presentation that includes film/video clips;
- recognize perspective, bias, stereotypes, prejudice, and racism in films and videos; and
- analyze a scene for value change from positive to negative, or negative to positive.
First Week of Materials/Assignments

The following schedule is subject to change:

January 2:  Introduction to Syllabus and Cinema Café
            Previewing Activity
            Film of the Day: Predator (1987)
            Arnold Schwarzenegger, Carl Weathers, Shane Black, and Jesse Ventura
            Pair-Share, and Small Group and Class-wide Discussion
            Due: Film Review/Critique

January 3:  Pair-Share and Small Group Read of the Day
            Previewing Activity
            Guests: Producer Brian Sutherland and Actor Max Volume
            Film of the Day: No Where Nevada (2013)
            Q&A with Brian Sutherland
            Due: Film Review/Critique

January 4:  Pair-Share and Small Group Read of the Day
            Previewing Activity
            Film of the Day: Western Django (2007)
            Viewing Activity of the Day
            Small Group and Class-wide Discussion
            Q&A with Pop Culturist Michael Moberly
            Due: Film Review/Critique

January 5:  Pair-Share and Small Group Read of the Day
            Previewing Activity
            Documentaries of the Day: Baking Alaska, Flying Cheaper, and Drones of the Desert
            Viewing Activity of the Day
            Small Group and Class-wide Discussion
            Q&A with Producer Kari Barber
            Due: Film Review/Critique

Course Details

This course encourages viewers of film and video to learn, develop and apply active viewing skills. Toward that end, daily classroom discussions, reading, Q&As, in-class handwritten/word processed film reviews/critiques, and pre-viewing, viewing, and post-viewing activities will provide opportunities to experience visual entertainment in a more comprehensive and literary manner. We will see eleven films chosen and introduced by the course instructor (two films) and guest presenters (eight films).

Click here to view the course trailer (created summer 2016).
Grade Breakdown

The point distribution for the course is:

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Class Attendance/Daily Participation (Discussions, Q&amp;As, Readings, Pair-Shares)</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daily Film Review/Critique</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Presentation/Project/Paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>In Class Presentation</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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The percentage distribution for the course is:

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<th>Letter</th>
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