

ENG 202 Film Analysis & Interpretation

Wintermester 2019

Number of Credits

3

Instructor

Lee Olsen

Catalog Description

In this course you will familiarize yourself with the basic concepts of film, film analysis, and topics in film studies. You will go away prepared to engage films in a more critical manner and you will be prepared to engage more complex facets of film studies: advanced theory, criticism, history, and so on. Especially because we are limited on time, we will spend the bulk of the semester discussing four major topics: mis-en-scene, cinematography, editing, and sound in film. You will develop a precise vocabulary for these and other topics. You will refine your ability to trace the function of style and form within a scene and across an entire film. And, broadly speaking, you will become a more discerning consumer (and producer) of visual discourse. Toward these ends you will practice the skills of critical viewing, note taking, deployment of critical vocabulary, formal response using specific examples, and so on. No more passive viewing: you're about to turn on a critical lens that you'll never be able to turn off again.

Required Textbooks/Materials

The following texts are required material in this course:

David Bordwell & Kristin Thompson, *Film Art: An Introduction* (any recent edition should be fine)

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successfully completing this course, students will be able to

- apply techniques of critical film analysis to analyze film in the context of culture, society, and individual identity
- demonstrate independent critical judgment and analytical skills in relation to critiquing film

- articulate the relationships between film and its historical, cultural, economic, and technological contexts

Core Objective: This course satisfies CO 7: Artistic Composition, Interpretation, & Expression

- Students will apply techniques of critical analysis to study, interpret, and/or create works of art, dance, music, and theater in the context of culture, society, and individual identity.

First Week of Materials/Assignments

The following schedule is subject to change:

January 2: Film as Art

January 3: Genres

Grade Breakdown

The percentage distribution for the course is:

Letter	Percentage
A	94–100
A-	90–93
B+	87–89
B	84–86
B-	80–83
C+	77–79
C	74–76
C-	70–73
D+	67–69
D	65–66
D-	62–64
F	below 62