



Film Appreciation – MCOM 2213
College of Fine Arts
MCOM 2213 Section X30
Summer I, June 5 to July 7, 2023

Contact Information

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Office Hours: MTR 11am-2pm

Course Description

This class will introduce students to the study of film and its relationship to society, culture, and technology. Understanding film requires reading it from a number of perspectives: as a technology, as a business, as entertainment, as art, and perhaps most importantly, as a socio-cultural artifact which, to some extent, reflects the cultural conditions under which it is produced and received. Towards that end, the class will introduce and explore a wide variety of issues related to the study of film: production, distribution, reception, aspects of film form and style, genre, auteur theory, realism, and formalism. The class will also introduce broader concepts of ideology and representation as theorized within cultural studies, and provide an overview of film history in relation to issues of human diversity.

Students will begin to develop the necessary skills for analyzing film form and meaning in relation to the larger spheres of culture and ideology.

Students who are unwilling to explore issues of race, class, gender, and sexuality within an educational framework should consider enrolling in another class.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Giannetti. *Understanding Movies*: 14th Ed. **ISBN**: 9780134492087.

Note: The textbook is your responsibility. You are to keep up with the readings in the textbook as we progress through the course.

Handouts will be utilized in our course as well. It is your responsibility to keep track of those handouts. They are available on D2L.

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

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Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook-2018-19](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

Grading

Course Grade -

Assignments	Percentage
Quizzes (4 at 5 pts each)	10
Discussion Questions	10
Midterm Exam	20
Film Review	15
Film Analysis	20
Final Exam	25

Table 2: Percentage for final grade.

Grade	Percentage
A	90 to 100
B	80 to 89.9
C	70 to 79.9
D	60 to 69.9
F	Less than 60

Homework

Students will be expected to complete readings, lecture and film viewings, as well as discussion questions by the noted dates on this syllabus.

Quizzes

There will be four quizzes cumulatively worth 10 percent of your final grade. Quizzes must be completed in the time frame provided.

Projects Required

There are two major writing assignments in the course based on the material covered. The first is a film review and the second is a film analysis. More information will be provided in the assignment prompts.

Mid-Term Exam

Your midterm will be a timed multiple-choice exam that is worth 20 percent of your overall grade. It will be written for the course based on the topics covered up to that point in the semester. It will pull questions from the weekly quizzes and add a few more.

Final Exam

Your final will be a timed multiple-choice exam that is worth 25 percent of your overall grade. It will be written for the course based on all topics covered in semester.

Extra Credit

Extra credit will be offered at the discretion of the instructor.

Late Work

State whether or not you will accept late work, and any conditions you stipulate.

Make Up Work/Tests

Late work is not accepted except at the discretion of the instructor. Please check with me for issues that arise related to your coursework.

Important Dates

Deadline to file for graduation: June 26, 2023

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" June 23, 2023

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all meetings of the classes in which they are enrolled. You will be expected to view all of the course lectures and provided materials. Quizzes based on the lectures and readings will be used to evaluate your progress.

Online Computer Requirements

Taking an online class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. **Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.**

Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. **Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!** There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

Instructor Class Policies

Academic Integrity: Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Plagiarism: Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. **Any writing that is not the work of you or your group members is plagiarism. Students in this course are expected to adhere to the MSU Student Honor Code.**

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [Undergraduate Catalog](#)

Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Schedule:

There will be three sections per week for the duration of the course. Each section will include a reading, lecture, film and discussion question. No new sections will be opened on the days of the midterm and final exams.

Course Schedule

Week or Module	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Week 1 6/5 to 6/9	Section 1: Photography Lecture: Chapters 1 Screen: <i>La Jeteé</i> Dir. Chris Marker, 1962	Section discussion post and weekly quiz due by Sunday at 5pm.
	Section 2: Mise en Scène Lecture: Chapters 2 Screen: Short film of your choosing.	Section discussion post and weekly quiz due by Sunday at 5pm.
	Section 3: Story Lecture: Chapter 8 Handout: Film Review Assignment Screen: <i>Her Smell</i> Dir. Alex Ross Perry, 2019 <i>Ratcatcher</i> Dir. Lynne Ramsay, 1999	Section discussion post and weekly quiz due by Sunday at 5pm.
Week 2 6/12 to 6/16	Section 4: Writing About Film Lecture: Screen: Your film for your review.	Section discussion post and weekly quiz due by Sunday at 5pm.
	Section 5: Editing Lecture: Chapter 4 Screen: <i>Sympathy for Mr. Vengeance</i> , Dir. Park Chan-wook, 2002	Section discussion post and weekly quiz due by Sunday at 5pm.
	Section 6: Sound & Genre Lecture: Chapter 5 and Linked Reading Screen: <i>Night of the Living Dead</i> , Dir. George Romero, 1968	Section discussion post and weekly quiz due by Sunday at 5pm.
Week 3 6/19 to 6/23	Section 7: Movement Lecture: Chapter 3 Screen: <i>Rashomon</i> , Dir. Akira Kurosawa 1950	Section discussion post and weekly quiz due by Sunday at 5pm. Film Review due Tuesday 6/20 at 11:59pm.
	Section 8: Alternatives to Narrative Film Lecture: Linked Readings Screen: A documentary of your choosing from a selected list.	Section discussion post and weekly quiz due by Sunday at 5pm.
	Midterm	Midterm due by 6/23 at 11:59pm.

Week or Module	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Week 4 6/26 to 6/30	Section 9: Acting Lecture: Chapter 6 Screen: <i>The Florida Project</i> , Dir. Sean Baker 2017	Section discussion post and weekly quiz due by Sunday at 5pm.
	Section 10: Ideology Lecture: Chapter 10 Screen: <i>Moonlight</i> , Dir. Barry Jenkins	Section discussion post and weekly quiz due by Sunday at 5pm.
	Section 11: Writing Day A day to work on your final papers.	Section discussion posts and weekly quiz due by Sunday at 5pm.
Week 5 7/3 to 7/7	Section 12: Drama Lecture: Chapter 7 Screen: Short dramatic film of your choosing.	Section discussion post due by Wednesday at 11:59pm. Film Analysis due Monday 7/3 at 11:59pm.
	Course Review Lecture: A brief review of topics covered in the course.	Section discussion post due by Wednesday at 11:59pm.
Week 5 Final Exam	Final Exam Available Beginning July 6	Final Must Be Completed by 11:59pm on July 7, 2023