

AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Northridge Campus

DRAM 2367 - Film History

Fall Semester 2008

Section #21897

Eastview Campus, EVC Building 9000, Room #9211

Tuesday and Thursday 6:00-8:15 pm

Office Hours Tuesday and Thursday 5:30-6:00 pm

Instructor: Cathy Welch, 698-8085, celticfaeriecat@sbcglobal.net

Course Description: A chronological, world-wide survey of the history of film, including the study of progress in film technology, changing audiences, and the socio-cultural impact of film.

Text: *A History of Film*, by Virginia Wright Wexman. Sixth Edition, 2006.

Grading:

Final grade will be calculated as follows:

Quizzes.....45%

Papers.....45%

Class Participation.....10%

Total: 100%

Quizzes: Two take-home quizzes will be given during the course (see class activities schedule). Assigned chapters of reading, accompanying class lecture material, videotapes/DVDs shown, and student and teacher comments during discussion will be covered on the quizzes. Quizzes will consist primarily of short answer questions. Quiz answers must be typed.

Papers: A film representative of the historical period studied in chapter readings will be shown each week. Two short papers, approximately three to four pages in length, will be written in response to those films. Papers will analyze the films as an example of the periods studied, citing specific examples from the films. Papers are due at the beginning of the class following completion of the covered material (see class activity schedule). Papers must be typed and in the form of an expository essay. MLA (Modern Language Association) format will be used for the papers. Talk to the instructor or a writing tutor in the Learning Lab if you are unfamiliar with this format. MLA also has a website you can use for reference. Papers will be graded on organization, thoroughness in addressing the topic, depth of analysis, and backup of assertions with examples. Sources used will need to be cited.

Class Participation/Attendance: Students are expected to attend class, listen to material presented, contribute to discussion, and ask questions. If you miss class, it will be reflected in your class participation grade. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. If you come in late, see me after class to be certain that I have counted you present.

Missed tests dates, papers, or film viewings can be made up only with official, written proof of the reason for your absence, such as a doctor's bill. Verbal excuses after the fact are insufficient. If something happens, and you let me know about it before the test or viewing, I may accept your excuse and give you a makeup date.

However, without discussion with the instructor or appropriate documentation, missed tests or papers missing because of a missed film viewing will be scored as zeros.

ACC Course/Class Policies:

Academic Integrity

A student is expected to complete his or her own projects and tests. Students are responsible for observing the policy on academic integrity described in the current ACC Student Handbook under Student Discipline Policy.

“Acts prohibited by the college for which discipline may be administered include scholastic dishonesty, including but not limited to cheating on an exam or quiz, plagiarizing, and unauthorized collaboration with another in preparing outside work. Academic work submitted by students shall be the result of their own thought, research or self-expression. Academic work is defined as, but not limited to tests, quizzes, whether taken electronically or on paper; projects, either individual or group; classroom presentations, and homework.”

The penalty assessed will be in accordance with the current ACC Student Handbook policy. See <http://www.austincc.edu/handbook/policies4.htm> for more information.

Dealing with suspected violations:

1. With the exception of scholastic dishonesty, suspected violations will be reported to the campus dean of student services on the campus where the alleged violation occurred. Alleged violations that occur at an ACC Center will be reported to the center coordinator who will work under the supervision of a campus dean of student services. Suspected violations that occur at an off-campus activity will

be reported to the Associate Vice-President, Retention and Student Services who will assign the investigation to a campus dean of student services.

2. Suspected scholastic dishonesty will be handled by the faculty member in collaboration with the campus dean of student services.

Examples of prohibited acts: copying files from another person's disk(s), copying answers on an exam, turning in for your grade another person's work, possession of alcohol, drugs or firearms, theft, harassment.

Incompletes

A student may receive a temporary grade of "I" (Incomplete) at the end of the semester only if ALL of the following conditions are satisfied:

1. The student is unable to complete the course during the semester due to circumstances beyond their control.
2. The student must have earned at least half of the grade points needed for a C by the end of the semester.
3. The request for the grade must be made in person at the instructor's office and necessary documents completed.
4. To remove an "I", the student must complete the course by two weeks before the end of the following semester. Failure to do so will result in the grade automatically reverting to an "F".

Freedom of Expression Policy:

It is expected that faculty and students will respect the views of others when expressed in classroom discussions.

Attendance / Withdrawal Policy:

Students are expected to attend classes and will be held responsible for all material covered in class. Regular attendance helps ensure satisfactory progress towards completion of the course.

It is the student's responsibility to complete a Withdrawal Form in the Admissions Office if they wish to withdraw from this class. The instructor may withdraw students from this class if their absences exceed 10% of the total number of class meetings. It is not the responsibility of the instructor to withdraw the students from their class even though the instructor has the prerogative to do so under the above listed circumstances. However, the instructor reserves the right to withdraw students who are not progressing satisfactorily in the course. Unless otherwise arranged with the instructor, all assigned coursework that is due by April 19th must be turned in by April 19th or the instructor will withdraw that student from the course.

Students with Disabilities Policy:

Each ACC campus offers support services for students with documented physical or psychological disabilities. Students with disabilities must request reasonable accommodations through the Office for Students with Disabilities on the campus where they expect to take the majority of their classes. Students are encouraged to make this request three weeks before the start of the semester.

CLASS ACTIVITIES AND ASSIGNMENTS

Day	Date	Class Activity	Assignment
Tuesday	8/26	Distribute Syllabus Birth and Childhood of a New Art, 1895-1914 View Muybridge, Lumieres, and Melies, <i>The Great Train Robbery</i> , 1903	Read Chapter 1
Thursday	8/28	Rise of the American Film, 1914-1919 <i>The Birth of a Nation</i> , 1915 <i>Intolerance</i> , 1916	Read Chapter 2, 3
Tuesday	9/2	Discussion	
Thursday	9/4	Great German Silents, 1919-1928 <i>Metropolis</i> , 1926	Read Chapter 4
Tuesday	9/9	Discussion	
Thursday	9/11	Art and Dialectic in Soviet Film, 1925-1929 <i>Battleship Potemkin</i> , 1925	Read Chapter 5
Tuesday	9/16	Discussion	

Thursday	9/18	Hollywood in the Twenties, 1919-1929 <i>The Gold Rush</i> , 1925	Read Chapter 6
Tuesday	9/23	Discussion	
Thursday	9/25	France in the Twenties And Thirties, 1919-1939 <i>The Grande Illusion</i> , 1937	Read Chapter 7 <u>Take Home Quiz #1</u>
Tuesday	9/30	Discussion	<u>Take-Home Quiz #1</u> <u>Due</u>
Thursday	10/2	Hollywood in the Thirties and Early Forties, 1929-1945 <i>Casablanca</i> , 1942	Read Chapter 8
Tuesday	10/7	Discussion	
Thursday	10/9	Postwar Italy: Neorealism and Beyond, 1945- <i>The Bicycle Thief</i> , 1948	Read Chapter 9
Tuesday	10/14	Discussion	
Thursday	10/16	British Film After the War: Humor, Horror, and Social Criticism, 1945 - <i>A Clockwork Orange</i> , 1971	Read Chapter 10

Tuesday	10/21	Discussion	
Thursday	10/23	Films of the Auteurs: The French New Wave and After, 1954- <i>Breathless</i> , 1959	Read Chapter 11
Tuesday	10/28	Discussion	<u>Paper #1</u>
Thursday	10/30	Other Western European Cinemas: National Cinemas or Eurofilms? <i>The Seventh Seal</i> , 1957	Read Chapter 13
Tuesday	11/4	Discussion	<u>Paper #1 Due</u>
Thursday	11/6	Japanese Film: A Pictorial History and A Modernist Edge, 1951- <i>Seven Samurai</i> , 1954	Read Chapter 15
Tuesday	11/11	Discussion	
Thursday	11/13	Hollywood in Transition, 1945-1962 <i>Some Like It Hot</i> , 1959	Read Chapter 16 <u>Take-Home Quiz #2</u>
Tuesday	11/18	Discussion	
Thursday	11/20	American Resurgence, 1963-1974 <i>Chinatown</i> , 1974	Read Chapter 17 <u>Take-Home Quiz #2</u> <u>Due</u>

Tuesday	11/25	Discussion	
Thursday	11/27	Thanksgiving Holiday	
Tuesday	12/2	Here and Now: United States, 1975- <i>Blue Velvet</i> , 1986	Read Chapter 18
Thursday	12/4	Discussion	<u>Paper #2</u>
Tuesday	12/9	Classic, Modern, and Post-Modern Films	
Thursday	12/11	Discussion	
Tuesday	12/16	Discussion, Tie-Up Loose Ends	<u>Paper #2 Due</u>

HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY!!!