



**Art, Communication, and Theatre  
Film and Culture – THTR 3183**

*1 Instructor Information*

<b>Instructor</b>		Aaron L. Adair, Ph.D.
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<b>Virtual Meeting Time</b>		9a-1p TTR
<b>Office Hours</b>		by appointment

**Catalog Description** Students will explore the principles of film appreciation and analysis through lecture, readings, and viewing of films and film excerpts from the American experience in the medium. Students will also examine advanced film analysis, including the principles of montage, camera movement, lighting, sound, directing, acting and how these have been influenced by American artists and the Hollywood industry.

**Required Course Materials**

**Textbook** Bordwell, David, Kristin Thompson, Jeff Smith. *Film Art*, 11<sup>th</sup> ed.  
ISBN# 978-1-259-53495-9



It is **extremely important** that you obtain course materials before the start date of the course, including the textbook. You do not have to wait until you receive a copy of the syllabus to find out the required book for a given course. You may use the SE Official Bookstore to find the book. Try it now! Go to [goo.gl/jRh3v0](http://goo.gl/jRh3v0) (*this is a shortened web-address for the SE Bookstore*), type in the information for one of your courses, and see the book!

**Handouts and other Course Materials** 2-month subscription to [Netflix Streaming](#)

## **Technology Requirements**

Please read the *Technical Requirements* policy on the Southeastern Distance Education website <http://homepages.se.edu/blackboard/student-support/browser-recommendations/>

In summary, you will need access to a reliable computer with adequate specs and a reliable internet connection, with a backup plan in case you experience technical difficulty. Oftentimes technical problems are browser related, so if this occurs try a different browser. Typically Chrome and Firefox work best Blackboard.

## **Minimum Technical Skills**

Students enrolled in this course will be expected to navigate BlackBoard to obtain course content and complete assignments. Students may also be required to use other SE resources such as the SE library. To ensure each student is adequately equipped for these requirements, you have each been enrolled in a resource course titled Online Student Orientation. There, you will learn to navigate within the BlackBoard folders and modules, as well as use the Bb resources. You will also learn about Respondus and ZOOM. You will complete tutorials on a variety of skills to help you take full advantage of what Blackboard and SE has to offer. If you have trouble loading the tutorials, please review the troubleshooting page upon entering the tutorials module. This course will provide you with the skills needed to succeed in this and other online courses. The Orientation course will take approximately two to four hours to complete in full. You will be required to provide proof of completion of the orientation before gaining access to course work folders. Discovery of falsified credentials (badge) is an integrity violation and will follow SE's academic integrity policy.

## **Prerequisites Knowledge/Skills**

Correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation are necessary in a college course. Therefore, you are encouraged to take advantage of the resource "course" Basics of Language Training (BOLT). These modules are self-paced and will serve as a

refresher course for writing. Each online course will require correct usage of grammar and APA format. The Basics of Language Training (BOLT) course contains self-paced modules on APA basic format as well as Citing Sources in APA. You are strongly encouraged to review these modules to be fully prepared for your courses. If you are unable to demonstrate adequate usage of grammar, punctuation, spelling, or APA format, your instructor(s) may require work to be completed in the Basics of Language Training (BOLT) Course. The BOLT course will remain available to students throughout the program so that they may return to it as necessary.

Additionally, the menu of each course will have a link to the [Purdue OWL site](#), which is an excellent resource for quick reference when completing work.

### **Definition of a Week**

Each week will begin at 12:00am Monday and will end at 11:59pm Sunday. This will be the timeframe for which students will be expected to work within a given week's folder. All assignments will be due at 11:59pm, and the last assignment each week will be due on Sunday. The only exception is the Final Film Essay, due at 11:59pm Thursday of Week 7. All times will be based on the time zone of the institution **Central Standard Time**.

### **Work Load**

The amount of time you will spend in each course will vary from class to class, largely depending on prior education and experience with the topic of the class. Instructors will provide approximate time expectations for each task in the course, but individually, you may spend more or less on any given item depending on your reading speed, the need to re-read content, and how quickly you comprehend the subject and requirements. It is roughly estimated that you will spend an average of 12-15 hours per week in any given course.

### **Standard Grading Rubrics**

Each course will use standard rubrics. They will be attached digitally to your assignments. You should always review the rubric scores and comments to fully understand the grade received and obtain all feedback provided.

## **Course Policies**

### **Course Availability**

This course will be made available one week (7 days) in advance of the start date.

### **Course Content Availability**

Folders for each week's assignments will be available from Monday at 12:00 am until Sunday at 11:59 pm. Once the week passes, that folder will close and access will be restricted.

### **Late Work**

Late work will generally not be accepted. If a student knows in advance that he/she will be traveling or unable to access the course for any reason, it is his/her responsibility to contact the instructor in advance and make arrangements to work ahead. If a student contacts the instructor *after* the due date, proper documentation will be expected; this includes documentation from IT in the case of technical difficulties. (If a student submits a Bb Student Support Request form, he/she will automatically receive an email confirmation, which will be time stamped evidence of due diligence in resolving the issue.) The student will need to keep backup copies of assignments and have a backup plan with at least one alternate location to complete the assignment or take a quiz or exam. Don't wait until the last minute to complete assignments or take quizzes! Excuses such as *"I had to work," "The system was down," "My computer crashed," "I lost my flash drive with my work on it," "I couldn't get to a computer," "I forgot about the assignment," "I didn't see the reminder announcement," "I overlooked the assignment folder," "I didn't realize I submitted the wrong document," "I didn't realize I submitted a blank document," "I couldn't find the assignment in Bb,"* etc., etc., etc., are **not** considered extenuating circumstances. No extra assignments will be given to *"bring up your grade."*

## **University Policies**

### **Attendance**

The Registrar's office defines attendance in online and blended classes as

**Stopped Attending** = *Students who were participating online but have stopped submitting any assignments, etc. without contacting/making arrangements with the instructor*

**Never Attended** = Students who never accessed Blackboard to view the course or never completed any assignments that were due for the course. Statistics Tracking in Blackboard will be utilized in part for determining teacher candidates' accessing of Bb.

**Excessive Absences** = Students who have submitted some work but are infrequent in their participation or late on assignments—leading to a failing grade

Regular and routine participation is required to be “in attendance” for the course. This includes regularly logging in, turning in homework by required dates/times, **and** participating in discussion forums. Seven (7) consecutive days of non-participation **will** result in your access being disabled without warning. Participation, or lack thereof, may also affect your financial aid. Remember, Blackboard automatically tracks and records every click once you log into a Bb course. Bb administrators can see if and when you logged on, the date and time of day you logged on, and what you accessed once you logged in to the course.

This is an online course, but it does require active participation. You should log in every day during 7 weeks of this course. There will be a schedule posted, but updates to the schedule and additional information may be necessary during the course of this class. If you do not log in, you are oblivious to these changes. Just as in a standard class setting, updated announcements take precedence over syllabus and schedule postings. Missing an announcement and deferring to the schedule or syllabus will not be a legitimate excuse.

*Registrar's definitions above will be used for all reporting purposes, per SE policy.*

### **Internet Etiquette (Netiquette)**

Distance conveys a degree of anonymity, and as a result, many people feel less inhibited in online situations than in their everyday lives. This lessening of inhibitions sometimes leads people to drop their normal standards of decorum when communicating online. Become familiar with the following guidelines regarding both online discussions and email messages. View entirety of policy

<http://www.se.edu/dept/online-learning/technology/communication-netiquette/>

**Southeastern Student Code of Conduct** <http://www.se.edu/dept/student-life/files/2009/10/student-handbook.pdf>

**Southeastern Academic Calendar** <http://www.se.edu/dept/registrar/calendar/>

## **Assistance/Tutoring in Writing**

**Smart Thinking** Online tutorial service. **Smart Thinking's** services include personalized, live, and online assistance. Visit <http://www.se.edu/current-students/smart-thinking/> to take advantage of these services.

**The Writing Center** is also available to help with your writing. Here is the contact information <http://www.se.edu/dept/learning-center/writing-center/>

**Counseling Center** Any student experiencing mental or emotional issues who desires free, confidential, clinical counseling is encouraged to contact the SE Counseling Center at (580) 745-2988 to schedule an appointment during normal working hours Monday-Friday, 800AM to 500PM. For after-hours mental health emergencies, please call SE Campus Police at (580) 745-2911 or the Mental Health Crisis Hotline at 1- (800) 522-1090.

**Disability Accommodations** Any student needing special accommodations due to a disability should contact the Office of Compliance and Safety, Administration Building, Suite 311 or call (580) 745-3090 (TDD# 745–2704). It is the responsibility of each student who anticipates or experiences barriers to their academic experience to make an official request for disability related accommodations in a timely manner.

**Blackboard Support** Can be found on the Southeastern Blackboard homepage at <https://blackboard.se.edu/> by clicking on Bb technical support request or in the lower right hand corner on “Live Chat” between the hours of 700am-100am CST.

**Equity and Non-Discrimination Statement** Southeastern Oklahoma State University, in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices, procedures, or programs. This includes, but is not limited to admissions, employment, financial aid, and educational services. Inquiries regarding non-discrimination and equity policies may be directed to Michael Davis, Director of Compliance and Safety & Title IX Coordinator, (580) 745-3090, or [mdavis@se.edu](mailto:mdavis@se.edu).

## **Course Format**

**Menu** Each course will utilize a Course Template to accomplish a common look and feel. The template will contain a course menu with nine buttons

**Course Home Page** - Here, students may obtain quick information regarding announcements, assignments due, etc.

**Announcements** - Announcements may be used to clarify assignments, make changes in the schedule, provide holistic feedback to the class, etc.

**Start Here** - This section will contain the syllabus, the instructor's contact information, course policies, etc.

**Course Work** - Here students will find a folder for each week of the course. All the content, assignments, etc. will be placed into the appropriate week's folder. An outline of contents should be placed on the front of the folder. Assignments may be due throughout the week.

**Henry G. Bennett Library** - This is a link to the SE online library for convenience.

**Student Tools** – Students may access any student tool from this area, including grades. They can also email the instructor or classmates from here.

**Student Email** - All university announcements and other communication with instructors will be sent to student email. This link gives quick convenient access to student email.

**Weekly Folders** There are Seven Weekly Folders, located on the Blackboard Home page tabs, containing all course exercises. Students will collaborate with the instructor and each other via the online tools provided by Bb, including discussion boards. All assignments, instructions, and explanations will be posted to Bb within the corresponding weekly folder. On the front of the folder is the Introduction. It will give you a summary of the contents of the folder as well as an introduction to the subject matter. Assignments, Quizzes, Discussion Boards, and Exams are contained in the sub-folders. The course content will be available from the beginning of the course with due dates listed for each assignment. Please note that early submission of an assignment will not result in the assignment being graded earlier.

## **Course Calendar**

### *2 Weekly Activities*

<b>Week</b>	<b>Lesson Title, Objective</b>	<b>Activities/Learner Interaction</b>
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<p><b>One</b></p>	<p><b>Title - Chapters 1 and 2</b>  <b>Objective - investigate Creativity, Technology, and Business and Film Form</b>  <b>Materials - textbook readings; Netflix Streaming subscription</b></p>	<p><b>Activities - Chapters 1 and 2 quizzes</b>  <b>Learner Interaction - Discussion Board Posts Chapters 1 and 2 and Course Expectations, part 1; Movie Blog 1</b></p>
<p><b>Two</b></p>	<p><b>Title - Chapters 3 and 4</b>  <b>Objective - investigate Narrative Form and Mise-en-Scene</b>  <b>Materials - textbook readings; Netflix Streaming subscription</b></p>	<p><b>Activities - Chapters 3 and 4 quizzes</b>  <b>Learner Interaction - Discussion Board Posts Chapters 3 and 4; ; Movie Blog 2</b></p>
<p><b>Three</b></p>	<p><b>Title - Chapters 5 and 6</b>  <b>Objective - investigate Cinematography and Editing</b>  <b>Materials - textbook readings; Netflix Streaming subscription</b></p>	<p><b>Activities - Chapters 5 and 6 quizzes</b>  <b>Learner Interaction - Discussion Board Posts Chapters 5 and 6; ; Movie Blog 3</b></p>
<p><b>Four</b></p>	<p><b>Title - Chapters 7 and 8</b>  <b>Objective - investigate Sound and Film Style</b>  <b>Materials - textbook readings; Netflix Streaming subscription</b></p>	<p><b>Activities - Chapters 7 and 8 quizzes</b>  <b>Learner Interaction - Discussion Board Posts Chapters 7 and 8; ; Movie Blog 4</b></p>
<p><b>Five</b></p>	<p><b>Title - Chapters 9 and 10</b>  <b>Objective - investigate Film Genres and Documentary, Experimental, and Animated Films</b>  <b>Materials - textbook readings; Netflix Streaming subscription</b></p>	<p><b>Activities - Chapters 9 and 10 quizzes</b>  <b>Learner Interaction - Discussion Board Posts Chapters 9 and 10; Movie Blog 5</b></p>
<p><b>Six</b></p>	<p><b>Title - Chapters 11 and 12</b>  <b>Objective - investigate Film Criticism and Film History</b>  <b>Materials - textbook readings; Netflix Streaming subscription</b></p>	<p><b>Activities - Chapter 11 and 12 quizzes</b>  <b>Learner Interaction - Discussion Board Posts 11 and 12; Movie Blog 6</b></p>



<b>Seven</b>	<b>Title - Final Film Essay</b> <b>Objective - create summative written analysis of course contents</b> <b>Materials - textbook readings; Netflix Streaming subscription</b>	<b>Activities - Final Film Essay</b> <b>Learner Interaction - Discussion Board Post Course Expectations, Part 2</b>
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## Learning Objectives

*The objectives of this course are*

- Develop a more informed film artist, participant, and/or patron
- Study the craft of film in both the performance and technical disciplines
- the development of motion pictures during the past 120 years
- Argue the future of the cinema

## Learning Assessments

*The course assessments are*

- Written assignments and research, including quizzes and essays
- Summative comprehensive analysis essay of ideas learned during course
- Online discussion posts and replies of textbook contents with applications to real world film topics
- Subjective critical thinking blogs in Film studies

## Grading Policy

- 12 Quizzes covering Chapters 1 – 12
- 1 Final Exam Essay
- 14 Discussion Board Posts during the semester
- 6 Movie Blog Posts during the semester

Bonus points are available for approved first-run films attended during the semester. See Announcement in Blackboard or contact instructor for more details.

Approximate point totals for this class are as follows

<b>12 Quizzes (10 points each)</b>	<b>120 points</b>
<b>1 Final Exam Essay (100 points)</b>	<b>100 points</b>
<b>14 Discussion Board Posts + 2 replies to each post (10 points each)</b>	<b>140 points</b>
<b>6 Movie Blog Posts (10 points each)</b>	<b>60 points</b>
<b>Total Points Possible</b>	<b>420 points</b>

A (90-100%) = 378 – 420 pts.

B (80-89%) = 336 – 377 pts.

C (70-79%) = 294 – 335 pts.

D (60-69%) = 252 – 293 pts.

F (0-59%) = 0 – 245 pts.

### **Rubrics**

There are rubrics embedded in Blackboard for each Discussion Board Post and for the Final Film Essay. Please take a look at the criteria in each rubric to see how points will be determined for each assignment.

### **Instructor Feedback**

Students should expect a timely response to email questions and prompt grading and posting of assignments and exams. You should receive a response to your email within 24 hours. If you haven't received a response within 24 hours, please email again just in case I overlooked it. You should do your best to email from your official SOSU student email account. **Be sure to include your name in the body of every email you send as well as the assignment number you are referencing.**

Students should expect prompt grading and posting of assignments and exams. Instructor feedback will be provided to students before the next assignment is due (within 7 days).

The professor reserves the right to make adjustments to the syllabus and/or grading policy as needed in order to meet the instructional needs and goals of the class. Students will be notified of any adjustments to the course schedule.

### **Course Evaluations**

All students are asked to complete an anonymous evaluation of this course. A link to the course evaluation will be provided in Blackboard/Announcements during the last week of the course.