



Department of Art, Communication and Theatre

We give expression to the human experience.

**THTR 1183.W2 - FILM APPRECIATION
ONLINE | 8 WEEKS**

Instructor: [Aaron L. Adair, Ph.D., Professor of Theatre](#)

Email: aadair@se.edu

Office Hours: TTR online; also by appointment

Office Location: [VPAC 131](#)

Required Materials –

- Barsam, Richard and Dave Monahan. [Looking at Movies, 5th edition](#). New York: W.W. Norton Publishing, Inc., 2015. ISBN: 978-0-393-26519-4.
- Note-taking Materials
- Internet Access to [Blackboard](#)
- Two month subscription to [Netflix Streaming](#)

COURSE CONTENT - This General Education course is a survey of art form known as Film, with discussions, workshops, and lectures designed to discover, analyze and evaluate all aspects of the cinema experience: scripts, acting, directing, staging, history, criticism and theory. This course is designed to provide you a foundation for future film study; to expose you to a wide range of Film styles and approaches; and to move you from a passive viewer to an active “reader” of film. You will learn the elements of Film language (including narrative, mise-en-scene, cinematography, acting, editing, and sound) and will use that knowledge to analyze the way filmmakers convey information, story, and meaning, develop style, and elicit audience response within a single scene and over the course of an entire feature film. We’ll explore the central critical approaches to the study of Film, and examine a wide range of film styles and movements, from classical Hollywood, to experimental, to European and contemporary world of Film.

CONTENT STATEMENT - The course content listing reflects the minimum work required of all students in this course. Some assignments may be deleted and additional assignments may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS - Available through the [Online Student Support website](#).

NETIQUETTE (INTERNET ETIQUETTE) - Available through the [Online Student Support website](#).



LIBRARY AND INFORMATION RESOURCES - Available through the [Online Student Support website](#).

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Continual and effective class participation and attendance
- Constructive critical viewing of motion pictures
- Completion of written and practical assignments on time
- Textbook and other readings
- Online and written assignments throughout the semester

COURSE PROCEDURES

- Written examinations and essay
- Online discussions of textbook contents and applications to real world film topics
- Subjective critical thinking in film and other arts
- Summative comprehensive analysis of ideas learned during course
- Plagiarism or cheating of any kind will have serious consequences and may result in a failing grade

EXPECTED LEARNER OUTCOMES

- Demonstrate an appreciation of the varied elements of the cinematic art through critical thinking and writing exercises
- Identify the value and necessity of motion pictures in culture and society by responding to online discussion posts
- Compare the relationship between the audience and the film artist by successfully completing quizzes and tests
- Describe the film artist's responsibilities and activities through critical essay writing assessments
- Demonstrate knowledge of the cinema through theoretical experience in acting, design, and directing methods through critical essay writing assessments
- Demonstrate comprehension of the motion picture as an historical form of literature and communication through critical analysis presented in written essay(s) or online presentation

METHODS FOR ASSESSING EXPECTED LEARNER OUTCOMES -

- Demonstrate an appreciation of the varied elements of the cinematic art through critical thinking and writing exercises



- Identify the value and necessity of motion pictures in culture and society by responding to online discussion posts
- Compare the relationship between the audience and the film artist by successfully completing quizzes and tests
- Describe the film artist's responsibilities and activities through critical essay writing assessments
- Demonstrate knowledge of the cinema through theoretical experience in acting, design, and directing methods through critical essay writing assessments
- Demonstrate comprehension of the motion picture as an historical form of literature and communication through critical analysis presented in written essay(s) or online presentation

CRITERIA FOR GRADE DETERMINATION

- Written assignments and research, including quizzes, tests, and essays
- Online discussions of textbook contents and applications to real world film topics
- Subjective critical thinking in film and other arts
- Summative comprehensive analysis of ideas learned during course

ASSESSMENTS

- 11 Quizzes covering Chapters 1 - 11
- 15 Discussion Board Posts during the semester
- 8 Movie Blog Posts during the semester
- 1 Final Exam Essay (see Film Essay Requirements document in Blackboard for details)

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

Approximate point totals for this class are as follows:

11 Quizzes @ 10 points each	110 points
15 Discussion Board Posts @ 10 points each	150 points
8 Movie Blog Posts @ 5 points each	40 points
1 Final Exam Essay:	100 points
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Total Points Possible	400 points

A (90-100%) = 360 – 400 pts.

B (80-89%) = 320 – 359 pts.

C (70-79%) = 280 – 319 pts.

D (60-69%) = 240 – 279 pts.

F (Below 60%) = 0 – 239 pts.

Check Course Calendar on Blackboard for important dates and information!

Grades may be accessed through [Blackboard Gradebook](#).

Final grades may be accessed through [CampusConnect](#)



CLASS POLICIES

ACT OF DISCOVERY STATEMENT: The Department of Art, Communication, and Theatre strives to provide enrichment opportunities in all its classes through the Act of Discovery Series. Therefore your instructor may assign additional work that can include, but is not limited to: gallery, lecture, or performance attendance; reading, writing, or presentation assignments; group discussions or journaling exercises. We understand that students have commitments outside of the university, and to that end your instructor will make every effort to give students 30 days notice prior to an Act of Discovery Series assignment.

CONTENT DISCLOSURE: Courses within the Department usually deal with works of dramatic literature, both on the page and on the stage. Sometimes the situations, actions, and language of these works can be off-putting or offensive to some students, who might be offended on such grounds as sexual explicitness, violence, or blasphemy. As the Department is devoted to the principle of free expression, artistic and otherwise, and it is not the Department's practice to censor these works on any of these grounds, students who might feel unduly distressed or made uncomfortable by such expressions should withdraw at the start of the term and seek another course.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Since the class meets only online, there is NO required attendance policy; however, participation through discussion boards, emails, blogs, et. al., is expected and students are expected to login EVERY WEEK to check deadlines, do assignments, email instructor, etc.

ONLINE COURSE COMMUNICATION EXPECTATIONS:

- *Email reply* – a student emailing an instructor may expect a reply within 24 hours on weekdays (M-F) and 48 hours on weekends (S-Su). The exception is if a student sends an email after 5:00 pm on Friday, then he/she should not expect a reply sooner than 9:00 am on Monday.
- *Chat room* – if the Chat tool is utilized, regular chat times are set by the instructor and will be adhered to strictly, unless the class has been notified by email in advance of a cancellation or date and time change. Students are expected to practice civility and proper netiquette* in all chat sessions.
- *Discussion post* – if the Discussions tool is utilized, students are expected to read and/or post weekly, or as mandated by the instructor. Failure to participate will be viewed as lack of participation and may be subject to score/points reduction as a result. Refer to the course syllabus for clarification.
- *Login frequency* – students are expected to log in at least once per week in order to fulfill attendance requirements set forth by the Distance Education Council. The instructor may require multiple logins each week, so please refer to the course syllabus for clarification.
- *Announcements* – students are expected to check Announcements at least once per week for any new or modified information both from the course and the University.
- *Grade turnaround time* – Instructors shall announce expected dates and times for graded assignments to be posted and to notify students in advance if those expectations change during the semester.

Please refer to the [Online Student Support website](#) for more information and FAQs about online learning at SE.

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, 8:00AM to 5:00PM. 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.



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.

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.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT: (from [SOSU Student Handbook](#))

Behavior that is disorderly, lewd, indecent or obnoxious. This includes nonconsensual photography, video or audio recording of another person without consent. This also includes classroom disruption, and engaging in behavior a reasonable person would view as substantial or repeated interference with the instructor's ability to teach the class or the ability of other students to benefit from the instructional program. Faculty members are authorized to dismiss students from classes pending other action, and it shall be a further 5 offense for any student not to leave a classroom when told to do so by a faculty member. (Note: If a student is dismissed from class due to classroom misconduct, the student must seek permission from the conduct officer before returning to that class. Faculty reserve the right to include in their syllabi statements of expectation and penalties for academic dishonesty and classroom misconduct.)

ACTS OF DISHONESTY: (from [SOSU Student Handbook](#))

No student shall commit acts of dishonesty, including but not limited to the following:

Cheating:

Unless the instructor specifies otherwise, all examinations and other assignments, including homework, are to be completed by the student alone, without inappropriate assistance of any kind. Improper collaboration is considered cheating. When an instructor syllabus permits or encourages "working together" it is expected that group study sessions may result in similar responses or answers to exam questions or other work product. When working together is not permitted, such similar responses will be considered as evidence of academic misconduct. Unless the instructor specifies otherwise, it is assumed that all work submitted for a grade will be the product of the student's own understanding, and thus expressed in the student's own words, calculations, computer code, research data, etc.

Plagiarism:

All writing assignments are to be composed entirely of words generated (not simply found) by the student, except where words written by someone else are specifically marked as such with proper citation. This includes copying words from the internet, a periodical, or a book without proper reference. Simply documenting the source in a footnote or bibliography isn't good enough. You must also indicate that the words themselves are quoted from someone else. For this reason, sentences that should have quotation marks but appear in the paper without quotation marks are plagiarism. It is plagiarism to copy words and then modify them slightly. Paraphrasing is fine when you cite the source and indicate the new expression is actually your own. When the expression remains substantially similar to the source as a whole or in one of its parts – it is plagiarism. Self-plagiarism or "recycled academics" occurs when a student submits the same project or paper for multiple classes and violates the crucial assumption that academic work is performed on a class-by-class basis in order to achieve learning, practice, and growth. Unless the second instructor expressly permits a project or paper from a prior class for credit, this is not permitted.



Other academic dishonesty:

Facilitating or aiding in the cheating, plagiarism, or dishonesty of another student.

Attempting at cheating, plagiarism or other academic dishonesty even if not successful.

Lying in order to gain academic advantage, including dishonesty about why a class was missed, dishonesty to gain an extension on a project or assignment, or dishonesty to gain admission to a program.

MATTERS OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY AND CLASSROOM MISCONDUCT: (from [SOSU Student Handbook](#))

Academic dishonesty matters may first be considered by the faculty member who may recommend penalties such as withdrawal from the course, reduction or changing of a grade in the course, test, assignment, or in other academic work; denial of a degree and/or performing additional academic work not required of other students in the course. Acceptance of the faculty member's recommended penalties by the student shall make the penalties final and constitute a waiver of further administrative procedures. If the student does not accept the decision of the faculty member, the student may have the case reviewed by the academic department chair. If the student does not accept the decision of the academic department chair, the student may have the matter referred to the Executive Dean for Academic Affairs. If this decision is not accepted, the student may have the matter referred to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Student(s) seeking to be heard about a grade dispute should file an appeal with the Academic Appeals Committee. The Academic Appeals Committee will serve as an appeals board upon receipt of written requests from faculty or students who seek to have grades or records altered. The Committee will also act on appeals of students who are on academic probation or who have been suspended for academic reasons. The decision of the Academic Appeals Committee will be final.

If a student is dismissed from class due to classroom misconduct, the student must seek permission from the conduct officer before returning to that class. Faculty reserve the right to include in their syllabi statements of expectation and penalties for academic dishonesty and classroom misconduct. (Note: Faculty members are authorized to dismiss students from classes pending other action, and it shall be a further offense for any student not to leave a classroom when told to do so by a faculty member.)

SUBMISSION OF ASSIGNMENTS: Due dates for all assignments will be announced. Work is due on the designated date, unless otherwise stated by the instructor. Once the deadline has passed for an assignment, NO late submissions or extensions will be granted. All assignments must be submitted in Blackboard. NO submissions by email will be accepted.

PARTICIPATION: Students are expected to participate in class. This includes students asking the instructor questions, students answering the instructor's questions, students responding to other students' questions, and students initiating discussion. It is also important not to monopolize the limited class time and to allow fellow students the opportunity to participate.

Professor reserves the right to amend or revise this syllabus as it becomes necessary.