FIS 100 1001 INTRO TO FILM 3.0 Credits SPRING 2020

INSTRUCTOR: Dale Melgaard email: dale.melgaard@unlv.edu

INTRODUCTION TO WEB CAMPUS

If this is your first Online Education experience and you have questions or difficulties in navigating the course, then click on the ‘question mark’ ? located on the icon menu on the Home Page and then click on ‘UNLV WebCampus-Canvas Support Site’.

In addition to this Syllabus, always check Announcements and the Course Schedule for specific due dates and assignments.

DUE DATES ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY: There is no credit for late assignments. There is no extra credit or make up assignments. Mark your calendar!

If you encounter technical problems with Web Campus…

FIRST contact Web Campus Support 702-895-0777 OR ithelp@unlv.edu

Technical problems are solved by Web Campus Technical Specialists not your instructor.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an introductory course in the historical and critical study of film. Through screenings, lecture notes, and discussions, students will learn the basic terminology and fundamental elements of cinema. We will follow the evolution of film production from its beginnings in France to contemporary American films. The study of film history includes following the development and influence of these perspectives: technical, cultural, economic, social and aesthetic.

COURSE OVERVIEW

We will follow the history of film chronologically from the late 1800’s to the present day. Most of the films we view will be American productions. We will screen a small selection of foreign films for the purpose of understanding how a particular film or director has influenced and modified the way films are made in the US.

The selection of films you will view are considered to be groundbreaking and/or classic by International, American, and UNLV Film Department standards. Please view them with an open mind and a sense of historical perspective and context. The object is to appreciate the film for its contributions to history and not necessarily to criticize it by today’s standards.

Available at the UNLV bookstore or Amazon.com or any source you can think of to save money.

REQUIRED FILM VIEWING

All the films listed in the syllabus are required viewing.

These are options for viewing the films for this course:

1) Most of the films are on reserve in the Lied Library Media Resource Center.
   Call to confirm availability: 895 2122.

2) Rent, purchase, stream or download through Netflix, Amazon, etc.
   It is important to investigate the costs which could be as high as $100 for the term so look carefully for special offers. (Netflix and Amazon for example is offering a 30 day trial period that includes unlimited streaming).

3) unlv.kanopy.com and openculture.com are free.

If you have difficulties accessing a film, please let me know.

For each of the required films, I have indicated its availability by streaming at Kanopy, Netflix, Amazon, iTunes, openculture.com, YouTube etc.

Websites often change their film offerings without notice so the availability of films listed in the Learning Modules may not be accurate. Feel free to share with your classmates any website(s) not listed here.

DISCLAIMER You are not required to sit through a film that offends, disturbs, or upsets you in any way. Please inform the instructor. Your grade will not be affected.

HOWEVER if you cannot view R rated films for religious or any other reasons, do not take this course.
CLASS SCHEDULE/PROCEDURES

This course begins January 21 and concludes with the Final Exam on May 11. The course is divided into 14 modules covering the entire semester. There will be one midterm and one final exam. There are 14 mandatory written discussion posts regarding the films we view. The questions are located in each module and also by clicking on ‘Discussions’.

There is one midterm exam on March 10 and one final exam on May 11.

All course work and assignments are graded on a point system.

Exam dates are strictly adhered to and clearly listed in this Syllabus and the ‘Announcements’ section. Make arrangements now with your employment and social situations so you can take exams on the scheduled days.

There will be a study guide posted in “Announcements” one week before the midterm and one week before the final exam.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

_ Acquire a basic understanding of the 130 year history and development of film from its genesis to the present day.

_ Identity the historical, economic, technical and social criteria that influenced the growth of film as an industry.

_ Develop an essential vocabulary of film terminology.

_ Be familiar with the classic films, groundbreaking directors, and celebrated actors.

_ Develop analytical abilities to criticize and evaluate individual films in general.

_ Comprehend storytelling in terms of genre, style, plot and character development.

_ Articulate the difference between film as a business and an art form.

TIMELINES AND DUE DATES

Timelines and Due Dates are not the same thing.

TIMELINE: The Module dates are a suggested timeline to follow so you don’t fall behind with reading assignments and film viewing.
DUE DATES: The Discussion Post schedule specifies Due Dates for the written Posts.

The Module timeline and the Discussion Post Due Dates are located in this syllabus.

They are also located on the main menu on the home page by clicking on “Let’s Get Started” or “Syllabus” or “Course Schedule”.

MODULE 1 January 21 - 26

Topics: Film as a business, as entertainment, as an art form.
Evolution of editing.

Screenings: Lumière’s First Picture Shows (watch thru Train Arriving at Station) (Kanopy)
The Great Train Robbery (YouTube)
A Trip To the Moon (YouTube)
A Girl And Her Trust (YouTube)
A Corner In Wheat (YouTube)
Gaumont Treasures, Part 1 (watch thru Automated Hat Maker) (Kanopy)
Three Films by Alice Guy Blache (watch the text intro and then the second film,
Canned Harmony that starts at the 16 minute mark) (Kanopy)

Textbook Reading: Chapters 1 – 4

MODULE 2 January 27 - February 2

Topics: The great silent film comics: Chaplin and Keaton

Screenings: Charlie Chaplin Easy Street (YouTube) 1917
Charlie Chaplin The Immigrant (YouTube) 1917
Charlie Chaplin The Rink (piano score version YouTube) 1917
Buster Keaton Cops (YouTube) 1922
Ub Iwerks Steamboat Willie (openculture.com) 1928
Buster Keaton The General 1927
(Kanopy, YouTube, Amazon)

Textbook Reading: Chapters 5 and 6
MODULE 3 February 3 - 9

Topics: Genres: Horror and Science Fiction

Screenings:  
* Metropolis  Fritz Lang  1926  
  (Kanopy, YouTube, Amazon, Open Culture)

  * The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari  Robert Wiene 1920
  Watch the first 30 minutes.
  (Kanopy, YouTube, Amazon, iTunes, OpenCulture)

Topics: Stylistic Filmmaking: The Director’s Vision

Screening:  
* The Battleship Potemkin  Sergei Eisenstein  1925  
  (Kanopy, Amazon, Vudu, Open Culture)

Textbook Reading: Chapters 7 and 8

MODULE 4 February 10 - 16

Topics:  
* Sound Films  Film as Social Commentary
* Warner Bros. – Films for the working class

Screening:  
* I Am Fugitive From a Chain Gang  Mervyn Leroy 1932  
  (YouTube, iTunes, Amazon, Vudu)

Textbook Reading: Chapter 9

MODULE 5   February 17 - 23

Topics:  
* Hollywood Studio System  Production Code Administration

Screening:  
* It Happened One Night  Frank Capra  1934  
  (Amazon, YouTube, Vudu, iTunes)

Textbook Reading: Chapter 11
MODULE 6 February 24 - March 1

Topics: Technicolor MGM Genre: musical

Screenings: *The Wizard of Oz* Victor Fleming 1939
(YouTube, iTunes, Amazon, Vudu)

*Fantasia* Algar and Armstrong 1940
(YouTube) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mxGM3c7IGvo

MODULE 7 March 2 - 8

Topic: Classic Hollywood Cinema 3 Act Dramatic Structure
Actor: Humphrey Bogart

Screening: *Casablanca* Michael Curtiz 1942
(Amazon, Vudu, iTunes)

MIDTERM EXAM March 10

(Study Guide available one week before the exam)

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MODULE 8 March 9 - 15


Screening: *On the Waterfront* Elia Kazan 1954
(Amazon, Vudu)

*Singin’ in the Rain* Donen, Kelly 1952
(Amazon, Vudu)

Textbook Reading: Chapter 12
MODULE 9 March 16 - 29

Topic: Italian Neo Realism
Screening: *Bicycle Thief*  Vittorio De Sica  1948  
(Kanopy, Amazon, YouTube, iTunes)

Topic: French New Wave  Auteur Theory
Screening: *400 Blows*  Francois Truffaut  1959  
(Amazon, Hulu, YouTube, iTunes, Kanopy)

Textbook Reading: Chapter 13

MODULE 10 March 30 - April 5

Topic: National Cinemas: Sweden
Screening: *Wild Strawberries*  Ingmar Bergman  1957  
(Kanopy, Amazon, iTunes)

Topic: National Cinemas: Japan
Screening: *Yojimbo*  Akira Kurosawa  1961  
(Kanopy, Amazon, iTunes)

Textbook Reading: Chapter 14

MODULE 11 April 6 - 12

Topic: Decline of the Production Code  Independent filmmaking.
Screenings: *The Graduate*  Mike Nichols  1967  
(Netflix, Amazon, iTunes, YouTube)

*Easy Rider*  Dennis Hopper  1969  
(Amazon, Vudu, YouTube, iTunes)

Textbook Reading: Chapter 15
MODULE  12  April 13 - 19

Topic: Hollywood Blockbusters
Screening: Jaws Steven Speilberg 1975
(Amazon, Vudu, YouTube, iTunes)

Screening: Star Wars George Lucas 1977

Textbook Reading: Chapter 17

MODULE  13  April 20 - 26

Screening: One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest Milos Forman 1975
(iTunes, Vudu, Fandango Now)

MODULE  14  April 27 - May 8

Topic: The Film School Generation Films of Personal Expression
Screenings: Boyz N the Hood John Singleton 1991
(Amazon, Vudu)

Do the Right Thing Spike Lee 1989
(Amazon, Vudu)

FINAL EXAM May 11

(Study Guide available one week before the exam)

GRADING Midterm Exam March 10 84 points
Final Exam May 11 84 points
14 Discussion Posts (7 points) 98 points

266 Total Points
Midterm   March 10   True/False  Multiple Choice  Matching  Covers Modules 1-7
Final     May 11    True/False  Multiple Choice  Matching  Covers Modules 8-14

Missed exams cannot be made up without a documented medical or family emergency.

Plan your schedule now to avoid conflicts on the exam dates. Work, jobs, employment, working on a film project, travel plans, etc. are not acceptable excuses to miss an exam.

DISCUSSION POSTS – Grade value is 7 (seven) points per module.

Each discussion post is worth up to 7 points depending on its quality and length and illustrations/examples from the film. Writing less than 250 words will result in an automatic loss of points. There will be a serious loss of points if you do not support your statements and observations with specific examples from the films that should include characters, scenes, themes, and events. General comments will receive no credit because it indicates that you did not see the film.

1) A minimum of two hundred fifty (250) words per question, reflecting your insights and observations. Loss of two to four points for less than 250 words.

2) Posts must be supported with specific illustrations and examples from the film. Loss of three to four points if there are no specific examples.

3) The content of the posts include your thoughts and observations and must include specific examples from the film itself. There will be a serious loss of points if you do not support your statements and observations with specific examples from the films that should include characters, scenes, themes, and events. General comments will receive no credit because it indicates that you did not see the film.

4) Original content only. Do not cite or quote outside sources. Do not copy or paraphrase from the posts of other students.

5) There will be a loss of one to two points for each the following:

   A) Listing production details about the film, such as directors, actors, producers year of release, box office, awards, critical acclaim, etc.

   B) Summarizing the plot.

   C) Writing less than 250 words per question. (four point loss)

   D) Spelling, syntax, and grammar mistakes.
Each discussion post is worth up to 7 points depending on its quality and length and illustrations/examples from the film itself.

Discussion posts are a written version of an in-class oral discussion. Turning in your post on the last day of the module defeats the purpose of the exchange of ideas and thoughts among your classmates.

Discussion posts are due on the last day of each module.

No credit will be received for late discussion posts. The final course grade will drop one full grade for every 3 (three) discussion posts not turned in. For example, if your final course grade is a B and you missed 3 discussion posts, then your final course grade will be a C.

The final course grade is determined by dividing your point total by 266 for the percentage. For example, if your point total is 200, then divided 200 by 266 for a percentage of 75%.

A  92.1 - 100 %
A-  90.0 - 92.0 %
B+  88.1 - 89.9 %
B   82.1 - 88.0 %
B-  80.0 - 82.0 %
C+  78.0 - 79.9 %
C   72.0 - 77.9 %
C-  70.0 - 71.9 %
D+  68.0 - 69.9 %
D   62.0 - 67.9 %
D-  60.0 - 61.9 %

DISCUSSION POSTS DUE DATES

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EXTRA CREDIT This raises the question of fairness to all students. If one student is given the privilege of extra credit, then in fairness to all students, everyone should have that option. Therefore there is no extra credit.

DUE DATES are your responsibility. Mark your calendar. Refer to the Syllabus, the ‘Announcements’ and the Course Schedule.

Missed exams cannot be made up without a documented medical or family emergency excuse. This is film department policy. Any other excuse is not acceptable. Exam dates are listed in the syllabus and the ‘Announcement’ section of this class.

Plan your schedule now to avoid conflicts on the exam dates. Work, travel plans, etc. are not acceptable excuses to miss an exam.

Identity Verification in Online Courses
All UNLV students must use their Campus-issued ACE ID and password to log in to WebCampus. UNLV students enrolled in online or hybrid courses are expected to read and adhere to the Student Public Health Directives

Face coverings are mandatory for all faculty and students in the classroom. Students must follow all active UNLV public health directives while enrolled in this class. UNLV public health directives are found at https://www.unlv.edu/coronavirus/health-requirements. Students who do not comply with these directives may be asked to leave the classroom. Refusal to follow the guidelines may result in further disciplinary action according to the UNLV Code of Student Conduct, https://www.unlv.edu/sites/default/files/page_files/27/StudentConduct-Code.pdf, including being administratively withdrawn from the course.

Public Health Directives

Academic Misconduct
Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the University community. We all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility, and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, and are encouraged to always take the ethical path whenever faced with choices. Students enrolling at UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV’s educational mission. An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another person, from the Internet or any other source without proper citation of the source(s). See the Student Conduct Code, https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct.

Auditing Classes
Auditing a course allows a student to continue attending the lectures and/or laboratories and discussion sessions associated with the course, but the student will not earn a grade for any component of the course. Students who audit a course receive the same educational experience as students taking the course for a grade, but will be excused from exams, assessments, and other evaluative measures that serve the primary purpose of assigning a grade.
Classroom Conduct
Students have a responsibility to conduct themselves in class and in the libraries in ways that do not interfere with the rights of other students to learn, or of instructors to teach. Use of electronic devices such as pagers, cellular phones, or recording devices, or potentially disruptive devices or activities are only permitted with the prior explicit consent of the instructor. The instructor may rescind permission at any time during the class. If a student does not comply with established requirements or obstructs the functioning of the class, the instructor may initiate an administrative withdrawal of the student from the course.

Copyright
The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves with, and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The University will neither protect nor defend you, nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional copyright policy information is available at https://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright.

Disability Resource Center (DRC)
The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A, Room 143, https://www.unlv.edu/drc, telephone 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. Students who believe that they may need academic accommodations due to injury, disability, or due to pregnancy should contact the DRC as early as possible in the academic term. A Disabilities Specialist will discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours, so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

Final Examinations
The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur on the date and at the time specified in the Final Exam schedule. The Final Exam schedule is typically available at the start of the semester, and the classroom locations are available approximately one month before the end of the semester. See the Final Exam Schedule, https://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars.

Identity Verification in Online Courses
All UNLV students must use their Campus-issued ACE ID and password to log in to WebCampus-Canvas.

UNLV students enrolled in online or hybrid courses are expected to read and adhere to the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/misconduct/policy, which states that “acting or attempting to act as a substitute for another, or using or attempting to use a substitute, in any academic evaluation or assignment” is a form of academic misconduct. Intentionally sharing ACE login credentials with another person may be considered an attempt to use a substitute, and could result in investigation and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Academic Misconduct Policy.

UNLV students enrolled in online courses are also expected to read and adhere to the Acceptable Use of Computing and Information Technology Resources Policy, https://www.it.unlv.edu/policies/acceptable-use-computing-and-information-technology-resources-policy, which prohibits sharing university accounts with other persons without authorization.

To the greatest extent possible, all graded assignments and assessments in UNLV online courses should be hosted in WebCampus-Canvas or another UNLV-managed platform that requires ACE login credentials for access.

Incomplete Grades
The grade of “I” (Incomplete) may be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of
course work for that semester/session, but cannot complete the last part of the course for reason(s) beyond
the student’s control and acceptable to the instructor, and the instructor believes that the student can finish
the course without repeating it. For undergraduate courses, the incomplete work must be made up before the
end of the following regular semester. Graduate students receiving “I” grades in 500-, 600-, or 700-level
courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course
requirements are not completed within the period indicated, a grade of “F” will be recorded, and the
student’s GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete grade do not register
for the course, but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the “I” grade.

Library Resources
Librarians are available to consult with students on research needs, including developing research topics,
finding information, and evaluating sources. To make an appointment with a subject expert for this class,
please visit the Libraries’ Research Consultation website, https://guides.library.unlv.edu/appointments/librarian. You can also ask the library staff questions via chat
and text message at https://ask.library.unlv.edu/.

Missed Classwork
Any student missing class, quizzes, examinations, or any other class or laboratory work because of
observance of religious holidays will be given an opportunity during that semester to make up the missed
work. The make-up opportunity will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It is the responsibility of the
student to notify the instructor within the first 14 calendar days of the course for Fall and Spring courses
(except for modular courses), or within the first 7 calendar days of the course for Summer and modular
courses, of their intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of
class recess. For additional information, please visit the Missed Work policy, under Registration Policies, on

In accordance with the policy approved by the Faculty Senate regarding missed class time and assignments,
students who represent UNLV in any official extracurricular activity will also have the opportunity to make
up assignments, provided that the student provides official written notification to the instructor no less than
one week prior to the missed class(es).

The spirit and intent of the policy for missed classwork is to offer fair and equitable assessment opportunities
to all students, including those representing the University in extracurricular activities. Instructors should
consider, for example, that in courses which offer a “Drop one” option for the lowest assignment, quiz, or
exam, assigning the student a grade of zero for an excused absence for extracurricular activity is both
contrary to the intent of the Faculty Senate’s policy, and an infringement on the student’s right to complete
all work for the course.

This policy will not apply in the event that completing the assignment or administering the examination at an
alternate time would impose an undue hardship on the instructor or the University that could be reasonably
avoided. There should be a good faith effort by both the instructor and the student to agree to a reasonable
resolution. When disagreements regarding this policy arise, decisions can be appealed to the Department
Chair/School Director, College/School Dean, and/or the Faculty Senate Academic Standards Committee.

For purposes of definition, extracurricular activities may include, but are not limited to: academic
recruitment activities, competitive intercollegiate athletics, fine arts activities, liberal arts competitions,
science and engineering competitions, and any other event or activity sanctioned by a College/School Dean,
and/or by the Executive Vice President and Provost.

Rebelmail
Rebelmail is UNLV’s official email system for students and by University policy, instructors and staff
should only send emails to students’ Rebelmail accounts. Rebelmail is one of the primary ways in which
students receive official University communications, information about deadlines, major Campus events,
and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the
University. Emailing within WebCampus-Canvas is also acceptable.
**Tutoring and Coaching**
The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring, academic success coaching, and other academic assistance for all UNLV undergraduate students. For information regarding tutoring subjects, tutoring times, and other ASC programs and services, please visit the ASC website, https://www.unlv.edu/asc, or call 702-895-3177. The ASC building is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Academic success coaching is located on the second floor of SSC A, Room 254. Drop-in tutoring is located on the second floor of the Lied Library, and on the second floor of the College of Engineering building (TBE A 207).

**UNLV Writing Center**
One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, https://writingcenter.unlv.edu/, located in the Central Desert Complex, Building 3, Room 301 (CDC 3–301). Walk-in consultations are sometimes available, but students with appointments receive priority assistance. Students may make appointments in person or by calling the Center, telephone 702-895-3908. Students are requested to bring to their appointments their Rebel ID Card, a copy of the instructions for their assignment, and two copies of any writing they have completed on their assignment.

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*Optional statement for inclusion in syllabi.*

**Diversity Statement**
As an institution of higher learning, UNLV represents a rich diversity of human beings among its faculty, staff, and students, and is committed to aspiring to maintain a Campus environment that values that diversity. Accordingly, the University supports understanding and appreciation of all members of its community, regardless of race, sex, age, color, national origin, ethnicity, creed, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, marital status, pregnancy, genetic information, veteran status, or political affiliation. Please see University Statements and Compliance, https://www.unlv.edu/about/statements-compliance.

A successful learning experience requires mutual respect and trust between the students and the instructor. Accordingly, the instructor asks that students be willing to listen to one another’s points of view, acknowledging that there may be disagreements, keep discussion and comments on topic, and use first person, positive language when expressing their perspectives.

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**Missed Classwork**

Any student missing class, quizzes, examinations, or any other class or laboratory work because of observance of religious holidays will be given an opportunity during that semester to make up the missed work. The make-up opportunity will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor within the first 14 calendar days of the course for Fall and Spring courses (except for modular courses), or within the first 7 calendar days of the course for Summer and modular courses, of their intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit the Policy for Missed Work, under Registration Policies, on the Academic Policies webpage, https://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?coid=6&amp;navoid=531.

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