

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: MEDIA 41      Title: INTRO TO FILM HISTORY  
Full Title: Introduction to Film History  
Last Reviewed: 3/13/2000

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	4.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	70.00
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	8	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	4.00		Contact Total	70.00
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 140.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 210.00

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable  
Grading: Grade or P/NP  
Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP  
Also Listed As:  
Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**  
A survey of film history from 1895 to the present, with emphasis upon D.W. Griffith, German Expressionism, Soviet Montage, Hollywood Studio System, New Wave, and international trends through screenings, lecture, and discussion.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**

**Recommended Preparation:**  
Eligibility for Engl 1A or equivalent.

**Limits on Enrollment:**

**Schedule of Classes Information:**  
Description: History of film from 1895 to the present, with screenings, lecture, and discussion. (Grade or P/NP)  
Prerequisites/Corequisites:  
Recommended: Eligibility for Engl 1A or equivalent.  
Limits on Enrollment:  
Transfer Credit:

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>		Effective:	Inactive:
	E	Humanities	Fall 1981	Summer 2012
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>		Effective:	Inactive:
	C1	Arts	Fall 1981	Summer 2012
<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>		Effective:	Inactive:
	3A	Arts	Fall 1981	Summer 2012
<b>CSU Transfer:</b>		Effective:	Inactive:	
<b>UC Transfer:</b>		Effective:	Inactive:	

### **CID:**

#### **Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Both Certificate and Major Applicable

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Outcomes and Objectives:**

The student will:

1. Grasp the basic course of film history from 1895 to the present
2. Identify the technological, economic, and aesthetic changes which have occurred.
3. Evaluate the impact of above changes on contemporary international film.
4. Recognize and evaluate the contribution of significant historical movements and film-makers in shaping the history of motion pictures.

### **Topics and Scope:**

#### **A. The Birth of Motion Pictures**

1. Technological inventions and evolution
2. Rise of studio system and industry
3. Aesthetic evolution from documentary to fictional film

#### **B. Development of Film Grammar**

1. Beginnings of film narrative
2. Use of separate shots, camera angles
3. Story-telling without sound.

#### **C. International Contributions to Early Film History**

1. French -- Lumiere Brothers, Georges Melies: reality vs. fantasy
2. D.W. Griffith -- maturing technique and narrative

#### **D. Early U.S. Film Industry**

1. Star system
2. Feature film
3. Business Practices
4. Evolution as entertainment and cultural force

#### **E. German Expressionism/Soviet Montage**

1. German mis-en-scene
  - a. influence on American art film, horror, film noir
2. Soviet experiments in montage: Kuleshov, Pudhovin, Eisenstein
  - a. Cinema as propaganda
- F. Hollywood in the 30's and 40's
  1. Major/minor studios
  2. Genres
  3. Star system evolution
  4. Importance of production technique
  5. Coming of sound -- technology and aesthetics
- G. French New Wave
  1. Auteur theory
  2. Camera - stylo
  3. Impact on U.S. theory and criticism
- H. Hollywood in the 50's and 60's
  1. HUAC
  2. Supreme Court rulings -- Paramount Decrees
  3. Impact of TV
  4. Impact of wide-screen, color
  5. Rating System
- I. International Film
  1. Japanese Cinema
  2. Italian Neo-Realism
  3. Emergence of Third World Cinema
  4. Australian - Commonwealth Cinema
- J. New Hollywood
  1. U.S. domination of world cinema
  2. Economic changes in studio system
  3. Blockbusters, sequels, franchises, marketing
  4. Impact of new technologies on film

### Assignment:

Assignments will include readings and viewing of historically relevant films used as the basis of lectures, discussions, term papers and examinations.

### Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Written homework, Essay exams, Term papers
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Writing 5 - 75%
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**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None
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Problem solving 0 - 0%
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**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations  
0 - 0%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Multiple choice, True/false, Matching items, Completion

Exams  
20 - 30%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

CLASS ATTENDANCE, PARTICIPATION

Other Category  
10 - 30%

**Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

A Short History of the Movies, Gerald Mast, 7th ed., Allyn & Bacon, Boston  
c. 1996

Movie History: A Survey, Douglas Gomery, International Thomson, c. 1991