

University of Calgary  
Department of Communication, Media and Film

Film Studies FILM 201 - Lo1  
*Introduction to Film Studies*  
Winter 2016

Tuesday Jan. 12 – Tuesday April 12 2016  
(Feb. 14-21 excluded)

**Lecture + Screening**  
Tuesdays 5PM – 8:45PM

**Tutorials:**

To1 Fridays 11:00AM - 11:50AM  
To2 Fridays 12:00PM - 12:50PM  
To3 Fridays 12:00PM - 12:50PM  
To4 Fridays 1:00PM - 1:50PM  
To5 Fridays 1:00PM - 1:50PM  
To6 Fridays 2:00PM - 2:50PM

**Instructor:** Dr. Lee Carruthers  
**Office:** S 232  
**Office Phone:** 210-8858  
**E-Mail:** lee.carruthers@ucalgary.ca  
**Web Page:** via D2L  
**Office Hours:** Fridays 2-4PM

**Teaching Assistants** (office location SS 250)

- Amber Hedges-- Tutorials To1 and To2  
Office hours: Wed. 13:00 – 14:00, ahedges@ucalgary.ca)
- Sheena Manabat-- Tutorials To3 and To4  
Office hours: Thurs. 13:00 – 14:00, srmanaba@ucalgary.ca)
- Tina Thai-- Tutorials To5 and To6  
Office hours: Wed. 13:00 – 14:00, tina.thai@ucalgary.ca)

**Course Description**

An introduction to the foundational issues and vocabulary of film studies explored through a wide range of filmic texts. Privileging questions of film technique and style, the course also considers cinema as an institution that comprises an industrial system of production, social and aesthetic norms and codes, and particular modes of reception. Intended to prepare students for further work in film studies.

**Additional Information**

Attendance at lectures, screenings and tutorials, and informed participation are essential components of this course that will help to determine your final grade. Come to class prepared to discuss the assigned reading. Some of the materials and topics presented in class may

include explicit content (sex, violence or language). If these materials make you uncomfortable, you are encouraged to speak with the professor. You will not be exempt from any class assignments but we can work together to accommodate your concerns.

### **Objectives of the Course**

This course details the foundational concepts and tools of film analysis. Students will develop different ways of thinking and writing about the formal, aesthetic, institutional, and cultural dimensions of the cinema. The course is intended to prepare students for further work in film studies.

### **Textbooks and Readings**

- David Bordwell and Kristin Thompson, *Film Art*, 10<sup>th</sup> ed., available at the Campus Bookstore.
- Additional required readings will be available on **D2L**. See the schedule for details.

### **Internet and electronic communication device information**

This course observes a strict laptop and cell phone policy, as follows:

- During lectures, laptops are for note taking only. Laptop use for email and unauthorized browsing during class time is not permitted, and will jeopardize your course grade.
- During the screenings, laptop use is not permitted.
- During tutorials, laptop use is not permitted. Instead, participate in discussion and take hand-written notes as necessary.
- Likewise, texting and cellphone use is not permitted during lectures, screenings, or tutorials: turn off these devices when you arrive at the classroom to avoid irreversible grade penalties.

### **Assignments and Evaluation**

Lectures, readings, screenings and discussion are essential components of this course. You must see *all* of the films at least once. For make-up screenings and close analyses, the films are available at the Media Library, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the TFDL for on-site viewing. You are expected to come to class every week, prepared to discuss the films and readings: course notes will not be posted online. The course's writing requirements are listed below: plan to complete all course tasks on the scheduled dates.

#### **Participation** (weekly):

Tutorials & D2L Film Responses\*\* **15%**

**Quiz:** Formal Terms + Films **10%**  
(WEEK 6 FEB 26<sup>th</sup> in tutorial)

**Shot-by-Shot Analysis** **15%**  
(Analytical exercise with film clip: WEEK 9 MARCH 18<sup>th</sup> in tutorial)

**Essay:** selected topics, 1500 words **25%**  
(WEEK 12 APRIL 8<sup>th</sup> in tutorial)

**Final Exam** (Scheduled by Registrar) **35%**

**\*\* Concerning the D2L Film Response requirement:** in order to fulfill this requirement, you must post one response in the "Discussion Board" thread designated for your tutorial EACH WEEK. These posts should be thoughtful and detailed reflections on the week's film and/or reading. Responses should be in grammatical and in standard English, a paragraph or so in length (approx. 250 words), and posted no later than 11:00 PM the evening before your tutorial. Late posts will not receive credit; missing posts cannot be made up at the end of the semester. You are encouraged to respond (thoughtfully, respectfully) to your classmates' posts, as appropriate. All posts will be reviewed by your TA and the course instructor.

### **Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: YES**

Note: If your class is held in the evening, the Registrar's Office will attempt to schedule the final exam during the evening; however, there is NO guarantee that the exam will NOT be scheduled during the day.

All assignments and exams must be completed or a course grade of F may be assigned at the discretion of the instructor.

**Submission of Assignments:** Please hand in your essays directly to your tutor or instructor. If it is not possible to do so, a daytime drop box is available in SS320; a date stamp is provided for your use. A night drop box is also available for after-hours submission. Assignments will be removed the following morning, stamped with the previous day's date, and placed in the instructor's mailbox. Include your name and ID number on all assignments, and be prepared to provide picture ID to pick up assignments or look at final exams in SS 320 after classes have ended. Personal information is collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act*. For more information, see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

**Note:** It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment.

### **Policy for Late Assignments**

Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.

### **Student Accommodations**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy\\_o.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_o.pdf).

Please note:

1. Students seeking accommodations for transient illnesses (e.g., the flu) should contact their instructors directly. Whenever possible, students should advise their instructors in advance if they will be missing quizzes, presentations, in-class assignments, or group meetings.

2. When accommodations are granted, they may take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test.
3. For information on Deferrals of Final Exams and Term Work, see sections G.6 and G.7 of the *University Calendar* at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html> and <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html>

### Writing Skills Statement

Department policy directs that all written assignments (including, to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. For details see <http://comcul.ucalgary.ca/needtoknow>. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc) but also general clarity and organization. Sources used in research papers must be properly documented. If you need help with your writing, you may use the Writing Centre. Visit the website for more details: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>

### Grading & Grade Scale of the Department of Communication, Media and Film

Final grades are reported as letter grades. However, assignments, exams, and other work in this course will be graded using

- letter grades
- percentage grades
- x raw scores** (e.g., a score out of 15 for an assignment worth 15 /100 of the final grade)
- GPA values (using any value on the 0 to 4.0 scale, including, e.g., 3.2 or 2.8)
- a combination of the above.

The following grade scale percentage equivalents are used in the Department. If letter grades are used for an assignment or other course component, the percentage equivalent in the final column will be used for calculating the final grade:

Grade Point Value	Description	Grade	Department grade scale equivalents	Letter grade % equivalent for calculations
4.00	Outstanding	A+	96 - 100%	98.0%
4.00	Excellent—superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.	A	90 - 95.99%	93.0%
3.70		A -	85 - 89.99%	87.5%
3.30		B+	80 - 84.99%	82.5%
3.00	Good--clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.	B	75 - 79.99%	77.5%
2.70		B-	70 - 74.99%	72.5%
2.30		C+	65 - 69.99%	67.5%
2.00	Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter.	C	60 - 64.99%	62.5%
1.70		C-	55 - 59.99%	57.5%

1.30	Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject	D+	53 - 54.99%	54.0%
1.00		D	50 - 52.99%	51.5%
0.00	Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.	F	00 - 49.99%	0%

## Plagiarism

**Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense.**

Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university. **You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text.** A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. In-text citations must be provided, and readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people’s words and ideas begin. Wording taken directly from a source must be enclosed within quotation marks (or, for long quotations, presented in the format prescribed by the documentation style you are using). Paraphrased information must not follow the original wording and sentence structure with only slight word substitutions here and there. **These requirements apply to all assignments and sources, including those in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media.**

For information on citation and documentation styles (including APA, Chicago, IEEE, MLA, and others), visit the links provided at <https://ucalgary.ca/ssc/resources/writing-support/436> . If you have questions about how to document sources, please consult your instructor or the Writing Centre (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor TFDL, <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>).

## Academic Misconduct

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

## Research Ethics

Whenever you perform research with human participants (i.e. surveys, interviews, observation) as part of your university studies, you are responsible for following university research ethics guidelines. Your instructor must review and approve of your research plans and supervise your research. For more information about your research ethics responsibilities, see

<http://arts.ucalgary.ca/research/resources/ethics>

## Important information, services, and contacts for students

For information about . . .	Visit or contact . . .
ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING (ASC)	SS 102 403-220-3580 <a href="mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca">artsads@ucalgary.ca</a>
CAMPUS SECURITY	<a href="http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/">http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/</a> 403-220-5333
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calgary Police Service</li> <li>• Emergency Text Messaging</li> </ul>	403-266-1234      Emergency: call 911  <a href="http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/textmessage">http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/textmessage</a>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency Evacuation &amp; Assembly</li> <li>• Safewalk Program</li> </ul>	<a href="http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints">http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints</a>  If you feel uncomfortable walking alone at any time, call Campus Security for an escort ( <b>220-5333</b> ). For more information, see <a href="http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/">http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/</a>
<b>DESIRE2LEARN (D2L) Support</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IT help line</li> </ul>	<a href="http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/home/students">http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/home/students</a>  403-220-5555 or <a href="mailto:itsupport@ucalgary.ca">itsupport@ucalgary.ca</a>
<b>STUDENT SUCCESS CENTRE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing Support Services</li> <li>• Student Services Mobile App</li> </ul>	<a href="http://ucalgary.ca/ssc">http://ucalgary.ca/ssc</a>  <a href="http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support">http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support</a>  <a href="http://ucalgary.ca/currentstudents">http://ucalgary.ca/currentstudents</a>
<b>STUDENTS' UNION CONTACTS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faculty of Arts Reps</li> <li>• Student Ombudsman</li> </ul>	<a href="https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/about/who-we-are/elected-officials/">https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/about/who-we-are/elected-officials/</a>  <a href="http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds">http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds</a>
<b>SU WELLNESS CENTRE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Counselling Services</li> <li>• Health Services</li> <li>• Distress centre 24/7 CRISIS LINE</li> <li>• Online resources and tips</li> </ul>	<b>403-210-9355</b> (MSC 370), M-F, 9:00–4:30 pm  <a href="http://ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/counselling">http://ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/counselling</a>  <a href="http://ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/health">http://ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/health</a>  <b>403-266-HELP (4357)</b>  <a href="http://ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/healthycampus">http://ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/healthycampus</a>  If you're concerned about a friend or your own well-being, it is important to seek help early. Call or visit the SU Wellness Centre or the 24-hour crisis line.

### Schedule of Lectures and Readings

*The complete schedule of films, lectures, and readings will be available when classes begin.*