

**Film Studies (FILM) 201 - Lecture 01**  
*Introduction to Film Studies*  
**ST 145**

**Fall 2010**

**Lecture: Thursday 17:00 - 19:50**

**Tutorials: B01 Fridays 09:00 - 09:50**

**B02 Fridays 10:00 - 10:50**

**B03 Fridays 11:00 - 11:50**

**B04 Fridays 12:00 - 12:50**

**Instructor:** Dr. Lee Carruthers

**Office Location:** SS 232

**Office Phone:** 210-8858

**E-Mail:** Lee.Carruthers@ucalgary.ca

**Course Web Page:** via Blackboard

**Office Hours:** TBA

**Teaching Assistants**

Angie Chiang (chiangangie@gmail.com)-- Tutorials B01 and B02

Theron Davis (twdavis@ucalgary.ca)-- Tutorials B03 and B04

**Additional Information**

Attendance at lectures, screenings and tutorials, and informed participation are essential components of this course and will help determine your final grade. Students must come to class prepared to discuss the required 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 will work together to accommodate your concerns.

**Course Description**

This course introduces students to the basic concepts of **film analysis** and explores these terms through a diverse range of filmic texts. Privileging questions of film technique and style, we also consider cinema as an institution that comprises an industrial system of production, social and aesthetic norms and codes, and particular modes of reception. Films discussed include works by Hitchcock, Welles, Eisenstein, Resnais, Warhol and others.

**Objectives of the Course**

This course provides foundational tools and concepts required for film analysis. Students will develop different ways of considering – and writing about – the formal, aesthetic, institutional, and cultural dimensions of the cinema. Intended to prepare students for

further work in film studies.

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

This course observes a **strict policy for laptop and cell phone use**. Laptops are for note-taking only. Anyone found using their laptop for email, unauthorized browsing, etc. will not be permitted to bring a laptop to subsequent lectures and tutorials and will jeopardize their participation grade. Likewise, texting and cell phone use is not permitted during class time: turn off these devices when you arrive at the classroom to avoid embarrassment, annoyance, and irreversible grade penalties.

### **Textbooks and Readings**

David Bordwell and Kristin Thompson's *Film Art: An Introduction*, 9th edition, McGraw- Hill Ryerson. Purchase at the campus book store.

**Additional readings** will be posted on Blackboard. These are designated on the weekly schedule below as '**B**'.

### **Assignments and Evaluation**

Lectures, readings, screenings and discussion are *essential* components of the 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 (MLB) for on-site viewing. Certain titles may be available at local video stores. Please note that these secondary resources are helpful but cannot be considered an adequate substitute for the scheduled screenings. You are expected to come to class every week prepared to discuss the films and readings. The course's writing requirements are listed below. Please note that in a course with this many students, **tests and in-class assignments cannot be rescheduled**: plan to complete all course tasks on the scheduled dates.

Participation (weekly):

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

Quiz Formal Terms + Films    **10%**

(Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> in tutorial: no alternate dates)

Shot-by-Shot Analysis    **15%**

(Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> in tutorial: no alternate dates)

Essay: selected topics    **25%**

(Due Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> in tutorial)

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

\*\* Concerning the **Blackboard Film Response** requirement: in order to fulfill this

requirement, you must post one response in the “Discussion Board” section of your tutorial’s Blackboard site EACH WEEK. These should be thoughtful and detailed reflections on the week’s film and/or reading. Responses should be in grammatical and in standard English (no point form or weblang please!), a paragraph or so in length (approx. 250 words), and posted no later than 10:00 PM the evening before your tutorial. Late posts will not receive credit. You are encouraged to respond (thoughtfully, respectfully) to your classmates’ posts, as appropriate.

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

**Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: YES**

### **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.

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act**

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). As one consequence, **students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number. Also you will be required to provide a piece of picture identification in order to pick up an assignment or look at a final exam from SS320 after classes have ended.**

For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.

### **Writing Skills Statement**

Department policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. For details see [www.comcul.ucalgary.ca/info](http://www.comcul.ucalgary.ca/info). Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc) but also general clarity and organization.

Research papers must be properly documented. **If you need help with your writing, it is strongly recommended that you use the Writing Centre. Visit the website for more details: [www.efwr.ucalgary.ca](http://www.efwr.ucalgary.ca)**

### **Grading System**

The following grading system is used in the Department of Communication and Culture: (Revised, effective September 2008)

#### Grading Scale

A+ 96-100

A 90-95.99

A - 85-89.99

B+ 80-84.99  
B 75-79.99  
B- 70-74.99  
C+ 65-69.99  
C 60-64.99  
C- 55-59.99  
D+ 53-54.99  
D 50-52.99  
F 0-49

Where a grade on a particular assignment is expressed as a letter grade, it will normally be converted to a number using the midpoint of the scale. That is, B+ would be converted to 87.5 for calculation purposes. F will be converted to zero.

### **Plagiarism**

Any conduct that violates the University's academic integrity standards will result in serious disciplinary action. 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. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources. **Please consult your instructor or the Writing Centre (MacEwan Student Centre 4<sup>th</sup> floor, [efwr.ucalgary.ca](http://efwr.ucalgary.ca)) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.**

### **Academic Misconduct**

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

### **Students with Disabilities**

If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation, it is your responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre (220-8237) and discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of the course.

### **Students' Union**

For details about the current Students' Union contacts for the Faculty of Arts see  
<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/governance/elections/home.html>

### **Student Ombudsman**

For details on the Student Ombudsman's Office see

<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

### **Emergency Evacuation and Assembly points**

For information on the emergency evacuation procedures and the assembly points see

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

### **"SAFEWALK" Program -- 220-5333**

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night -- call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot booths.

### **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

The Department of Communication and Culture Research Ethics site:

<http://www.comcul.ucalgary.ca/ethics>

or the University of Calgary Research Ethics site:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/cfreb>

**A COMPLETE LIST OF LECTURES, SCREENINGS AND READINGS  
WITH BE AVAILABLE ON BLACKBOARD WHEN CLASSES BEGIN.**