

**Film Studies FILM 305.21 L02
Topics in Genre: The Spy Film
Winter 2014**

**Lectures: Thursdays 3.00-4.50pm
Film Screenings: Tuesdays 3.00-5.45pm**

Instructor: Glenn R. Wilkinson
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Office Hours: 2.00-2.50pm T/Th or by appointment

Course Description

This course will chart the style, narrative form, historical evolution and meaning of international spy films from their pre-WWI beginning (such as the filmic versions of Buchan's work) to the Cold War (the Bond films) and the modern era (like the Jason Bourne films). It will focus on the way that film reflects cultural fears of an enemy ('the other'), the expression of gender roles both masculine and feminine, the place of the state in espionage, the fear of national and social decline, and the meaning of the spy film as a genre. It will compare spy films across nations and through the decades by focusing on primarily European and American film, but it will open discussions on other important films.

Additional Information

You must attend both the lectures and the screenings and participate in meaningful ways in order to get full marks for class contribution. You must also come having completed the readings.

Objectives of the Course

The objective of this course is to communicate the meaning, purpose, and historical evolution of spy films. It is designed to facilitate written and verbal communication through written assignments and class discussions. Written components will encourage the use of academic as well as more practical, professional styles of writing, such as film reviews.

Internet and electronic communication device information

Computers, phones, and tablets may be used in class for writing notes but please ensure that ringers are turned off and that no inappropriate sites are visited. Please also do not make audio or video recordings of the lectures, discussions, or films without permission.

Textbooks and Readings:

Wesley Britton, *Beyond Bond: Spies in Fiction and Film*, Westport: Praeger, 2005.
Wesley Britton, *Onscreen and Undercover: The Ultimate Book of Movie Espionage*, Westport: Praeger, 2006.

Assignments and Evaluation

Film Reviews

Students will be asked to write three 800 word film reviews covering the time period and themes examined in class.

Due: February 6; March 6; and April 3

Weight: 10% each = 30%

Essay Proposal and Annotated Bibliography

This consists of a brief (300 word proposal) and lengthy annotated bibliography (3-4 pages) with each source given 2-3 lines of explanation as to its utility and place in your longer paper.

Due: February 13

Weight: 20%

Term Paper

Students are asked to write a term paper to be 10-12 pages in length analyzing a thematic aspect relating to the course.

Due: April 10

Weight: 40%

Class Contribution

Students are expected to contribute in meaningful and useful ways in class. Attendance is a necessary but not in and of itself a sufficient condition.

Due: Ongoing

Weight: 10%

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

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

Note: Please hand in your essays directly to your tutor or instructor if possible. 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: No

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 <http://comcul.ucalgary.ca/needtoknow>. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc) but also general clarity

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> and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

Grading System

The following grading system is used in the Department of Communication and Culture:

Grading Scale			
A+	96-100	C+	65-69.99
A	90-95.99	C	60-64.99
A -	85-89.99	C-	55-59.99
B+	80-84.99	D+	53-54.99
B	75-79.99	D	50-52.99
B-	70-74.99	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, A- would be converted to 87.5 for calculation purposes. F will be converted to zero.

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. 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 (3rd Floor Taylor Family Digital Library, <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>) 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 Student Accessibility Services (220-8237, <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>) 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.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

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/ethics/cfreb>