ENGL 1485: Introduction to Film Studies

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3
Lecture Hours/Week: 3
Lab Hours/Week: *.*
OJT Hours/Week: *.*
Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None
MnTC Goals: Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

This course meets Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) goal area 6. This course has students viewing, analyzing, discussing, and writing about film on three levels: the narrative (how plot, character, theme, and more specific artistic techniques and devices like irony, symbolism, or allegory, for example, work together to constitute the narrative); the technical (how the director’s choices in visual design, cinematography, editing, color, music, sound effects, and acting combine to create a specific viewing experience), and interpretive (identifying specific elements such as formula conventions and adaptive interpretations).

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/24/2009 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Analyze film plot, mood, characterization, and conflict.
2. Analyze film style, texture, structure and direction.
3. Discuss film costume, makeup, and production design.
4. Discuss film use of lighting, color, sound, visual effects and music.
5. Identify film symbolism, irony, and theme.
6. Identify the influence of American culture in film.
7. Research and write critical analysis essays.
8. Research types and roles of actors and directors.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. The learner will be able to identify and evaluate the narrative aspects of a film.
2. The learner will be able to identify and evaluate the technical aspects of film.
3. The learner will be able to write an analysis which synthesizes and interprets the cultural artifact that is film.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
4. Engage in the creative process or interpretive performance.
5. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.
F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT
   As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION
   None noted