

MINNESOTA WEST COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

DEPT. THTR

COURSE NUMBER: 2122

NUMBER OF CREDITS: 3

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 OJT: 0

Course Title:
Introduction to Film

Catalog Description:
Introduction to Film reviews the technical, historical, dramatic, and ethical elements of modern film.

Prerequisites or Necessary Entry Skills/Knowledge:
None

FULFILLS MN TRANSFER CURRICULUM AREA(S) (*Leave blank if not applicable*)

☒ Goal 6: The Humanities and Fine Arts: By meeting the following competencies:

- Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
- Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.
- Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
- Engage in the creative process or interpretive performance.
- Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

Topics to be Covered
Mise-en-scene
Cinematography
Editing
Sound Design
Narrative
Screenplay
Filmmakers
Performance
Genre
Special Effects
Film Culture

Student Learning Outcomes

Explain how and why everything within a film shot (*mise-en-scene*) contributes to manipulating the mind and emotion of the audience (MnTC 6.a) in terms of

- the shot
- cinematography (cameras, lenses, and lighting),
- camera movement,
- performance,
- sound,
- special effects,
- and genre.

Evaluate story (MnTC 6.c) in terms of

- describing the primary characters' yearning/desire/misconception;
- distinguishing between the film's story and plot;
- dividing a film into its three-act structure (screenplay);
- explaining how genre affects story structure and *mise-en-scene*;
- articulating how *caméra stylo* (the camera as the director's pen) reveals the authorship and voice of the director

Connect *mise-en-scene* and *narrative* by describing how different reproductions of the same story results in a different and unique artistic experience (MnTC 6.b).

Explore or journal on how films reveal humanity's search for meaning (MnTC 6.b & e) as it relates to

- hopes and horrors,
- purpose and belonging,
- current and historical biases,
- isms,
- stereotypes,
- and heroes.

Journal on how and why a good film helps guide (MnTC 6.e) the audience to

- understand themselves and others;
- emphasize with diverse populations;
- enjoy, value, and cherish life (our natural world);
- heal from past traumas;
- and learn to love.

Create learning agendas (or plans) for film/Hollywood related processes; may include but is not limited to (MnTC 6.d):

- Class organizes Oscars event (host, dress, awards, presentation)
- Creating a movie pitch to studio executives
- Create a film preproduction plan: find talent, create talent contracts, secure locations, create a budget, etc.
- Writing a film review
- Writing a film critique as a movie executive to the director of a film
- Creating a marketing plan for a new movie
- Creating a movie poster
- Creating a *Public Relations Campaign* after an adverse event such as a pandemic, an actor's death, an accidental prop shooting, sexual harassment charge, or public outcry after a scandal hits a soon-to-be-released movie.

- Creating a lawsuit for an actor suing a studio or bringing a harassment charge against a director/coworker.

Is this course part of a transfer pathway: Yes ☐ No ☒

Revised Date: 2/3/2022