

MJS-1310: FILM APPRECIATION

Cuyahoga Community College

Viewing: MJS-1310 : Film Appreciation

Board of Trustees:

May 2017

Academic Term:

Fall 2021

Subject Code

MJS - Media and Journalism Studies

Course Number:

1310

Title:

Film Appreciation

Catalog Description:

Introduction to cinema studies including: film genres, narrative story telling, directing, acting, cinematography, editing, and sound in films. Includes survey of world film history and criticism. Class views motion picture masterpieces from a number of countries.

Credit Hour(s):

3

Lecture Hour(s):

3

Lab Hour(s):

0

Other Hour(s):

0

Requisites

Prerequisite and Corequisite

None.

Outcomes

Course Outcome(s):

Examine and analyze motion pictures, in regards to major technical and narrative elements, such as: writing, cinematography, directing and editing.

Objective(s):

1. Recognize narrative techniques in visual storytelling.
2. Describe characters and the plot.
3. Critique cinematographic styles.
4. Examine directors' artistic visions.
5. Write quality film reviews.

Course Outcome(s):

Differentiate between genres and producing methods in order to recognize film's production value and artistic achievement.

Objective(s):

1. Discuss film history and major film genres.
2. Discuss film producing business and its origins.
3. Recognize the difference between studio financed movies and independent films.
4. Differentiate between original content and adapted stories in film.

Methods of Evaluation:

1. Examinations
2. Short essay writing (film reviews and criticism).

Course Content Outline:

1. Looking at Cinema
 - a. Defining cinematic language
 - b. Implicit and explicit meaning in films
 - c. Formal analysis and alternative approaches to analysis
2. Film Form
 - a. Use of light to create emotion
 - b. Illusion of movement on the screen
 - c. Space and time manipulation
 - d. Realism and Antirealism within cinematic language
3. Types of films
 - a. Narrative fiction versus experimental fiction
 - b. Documentary narrative
 - c. Experimental and hybrid
 - d. Major genres/subgenres in mainstream cinema
4. Narrative and Writing for Film
 - a. Creating characters and structure
 - b. Elements of narrative
 - c. Story and plot definitions
 - d. The rules and methods of screenwriting
5. Mise-en-Scene (Staging)
 - a. Set design for movies
 - b. Production designer as creative role in production
 - c. Elements: Setting, décor, properties, costumes
6. Cinematography
 - a. Who is Director of Photography?
 - b. Cinematographic properties of the shot
 - c. Major elements: Stock, Lenses, Camera types
 - d. Visual rules: framing and composition
7. Acting
 - a. Evolution of screen acting
 - b. Casting for motion picture projects
 - c. Types of actors (based on acting techniques)
 - d. Major stars
8. Editing
 - a. The Film Editor's role in production
 - b. Major approaches to film editing
 - c. Editing techniques for continuity
 - d. History of editing in world cinema
9. Sound and Music in Films
 - a. Sound design in postproduction
 - b. Sources and types of film sound
 - c. Alteration of reality with film sound
10. Film History
 - a. Basic approaches to studying film history
 - b. Overview of film history
 - c. Major movements and "revolutions"
11. Film Production
 - a. Filmmaking process from A to Z
 - b. Preproduction, Production, Postproduction
 - c. The studio system vs. independent system
 - d. Financing, marketing, and distribution methods

Resources

Bernard, Dick F. *Anatomy of Film*. 6th ed. St. Martin's Press, 2009.

Boggs, Joseph M. *The Art of Watching Films*. 8th ed. Mayfield, 2012.

Giannetti, Louis. *Understanding Movies*. 13th ed. Prentice-Hall, 2013.

Thompson, Kristin, and David Bordwell. *Film History: An Introduction*. 3rd ed. McGraw Hill, 2009.

Barsam, R. (2015) *Looking at Movies*, W. W. Norton Company.

Instructional Services

OAN Number:

Ohio Transfer 36 TMAH

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Key: 2619