**FILM 1**

**INTRODUCTION TO FILM STUDIES**

**Reedley College – Spring 2020**

**T/TH 8:00-9:15 FRM 1**

**Instructor: Kate Watts**

**Email: Canvas**

**Phone: 559-638-3641 (ext. 3406)**

**Office: HUM 52**

**Office hours: M 9-10:30, T 12-1, W 9-10:30, Th 12-1, F 2-3 (via email) and by appointment**

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**Class Description**:

 The purpose of this course is to provide you with important analytical tools for viewing film. In acquiring these tools you will discover that developing a more sophisticated, analytical eye and mind enhances rather than detracts from the pleasure of watching films. First, we will examine various components of filmmaking, the choices filmmakers can make in telling a story in visual and aural terms, with a concentration on shot analysis. Then, we will focus on the knowledge and application of film theory.

**Student Learning Outcomes**:

 Upon successfully completing this class, a student will be able to observe and analyze various elements of a film, critique films through discussion and writing with regard to social and historical context, and demonstrate a basic knowledge and application of various film theories.

**Required Texts and Materials:**

Bernard Dick*. Anatomy of Film 6th Edition.*

An Amazon and/or Netflix account is useful but not required. All films will be on reserve in the library, but not until the class has completed the viewing. Films can be rented or purchased for very little. Multiple viewings will be a major contribution to your success in this class.

**Communication:**

Please always make sure to check both our course site and your district email for announcements as well as other essential course information. All emails should be sent through Canvas email only. All emails should indicate both your purpose and class section in the subject line and begin with “Dear Mrs. Watts….” Or “Dear Professor Watts…” The language used in emails should be the same kind of language that you would use in an essay.

**Decorum & Policies:**

This is not a movie theater- it is a classroom. Do not come late to class. Do not bring loud or messy food-power bar and water are ok, chips and giant drinks are not. Do not leave early through the back door. If this time does not work for you, drop the class. If there is any talking, or other behavior that is rude to your instructor and your classmates, you will be asked to leave. If you miss a film, it is your responsibility to view the film on your own.Four absences within the first 9 weeks of class will cause the student to be dropped from the class. After the roster is finalized, there will be a seating chart.

**Talking Points:**

Talking points will be assigned once our roster is finalized. Talking points are observations and/or questions made by each student throughout the semester after a viewing. Students will be assigned talking points in alphabetical order. If you are absent for your assigned talking point, you will be docked 5 points. Students who are not prepared for their talking point or whose talking point demonstrates they have not done the reading or watched the film will be docked 5 points. Once the roster is finalized, we will practice talking points as a class before formally beginning the practice. Once we begin the practice, students will be added in alphabetical order to the class unit schedule. This schedule is always available on the Canvas Home page.

**Quick Writes:**

Quick Writes are quizzes on the reading. We will practice quick writes before one will be assigned. They are worth 5 points. There will be a quick write every week unless there is a test or paper scheduled.

**Worksheets:**

Worksheets are assignments designed to prepare you for the essay. They are worth 20 points.

**Essays & Tests**:

There are the major assignments in the class. Please note, if you fail to write one of the required essays, it will be mathematically impossible for you to pass the class.

**Late Essay Policy**:

 You will be docked one letter grade for every day your essay is late. After the third day, I will no longer accept your work. Weekends count as days. Note: this does not apply to the final project and its components or the final exam. NO MAKE UPS for Quick Writes, quizzes or tests-please do not ask.

**Grading**:

 Grading will be based on a point system. (90-100 A) (80-89 B) (70-79 C) 60-69 D) (0-59 F) Students must receive a 70% or better in order to receive credit for the class. Tests, quick write and worksheet grades are available in one to two days. Essay grades are available in 10 days to two weeks.

1. Midterm essay 100

3. Final essay 100

4. Tests/Worksheets 300

5. Quick Writes 50

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:**

The Reedley College English department has a zero-tolerance policy regarding plagiarism. All of the writing done in this class must be your own. This includes all worksheets, tests, quick writes and essays. You cannot use work from another class in this class. Additionally, if, instead of making your own decisions about how to revise, you have someone revise or edit an essay for you, the piece you submit is no longer your own work, and you are plagiarizing. If I determine you have committed plagiarism, I will refer you to the Dean of Humanities office for disciplinary action. You will receive zero credit for the assignment. This will result in a failing grade for the semester.

**Accommodations:**

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e. Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me **as soon as possible.** This is extremely important. Your need for accommodation MUST be verified by DSPS. If you produce verification of this information in the beginning of the semester any need for extra time etc. will not be available to you retroactively.

\*The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this material at any time.