

Kaser

Film 1

Purpose: This course offers students a chance to enhance their ability to analyze films in a variety of genres and thus to increase their awareness and enjoyment of the art of the cinema. Films from several countries and decades will be studied with an eye toward gaining deeper understanding of the historical, technical, and contemporary social significance of this popular medium. In order to gain a more useful perspective on the originality and impact of important films, several entire films or individual scenes) will be studied in tandem, that is genre films of different decades will be compared and contrasted. In some cases the works of noted directors will be examined for their particular stylistic and technical innovation.

Films Reviews: Students will be asked to read contemporary reviews of films of their choice, to write brief summaries of these and to discuss their findings in class. In addition, there may be a chance to write one longer paper demonstrating research on the work and placement of a contemporary film or of more than one work of a director of their choice. This would be an extra credit assignment only. The review summaries and written responses count for approximately fifteen per cent of the course grade. All summary and responses finished and approved = A. One summary/responses missing = B. Two summaries/responses missing = C. Three summaries/responses missing = D. Four or more missing = F.

Film Tests: Throughout the semester there be will several identification/ short essay tests on the lecture materials and films reviewed. It is important to take detailed notes on class lectures and discussions as well as on films and scenes viewed in class. The instructor will supplement your note-taking with handouts related to the lectures and films seen and will provide pre-test lists of study materials. Each of these tests will count for approximately fifteen per cent of the course grade.

Final: The final will be objective, cumulative definition, identification, and may include brief essays. The instructor will provide pre-final handouts and reviews in class. The final will count for approximately twenty-five per cent of the course grade.

Attendance--Obviously, with the class meeting only once a week, attendance is very important. Although in some cases you may pre- of post-view the class films at home, you will miss lectures and class discussions if you miss class. When possible, please inform the instructor if you must miss a class. Get acquainted with another student in class so that you will have someone to take notes for you if you miss.

This semester's drop date (in order to take a W) is October 16th. The instructor will keep you informed of your course grade status.

Course Grade: The course grade will be calculated as follows.
Shorter Tests: Approximately 60% (10% each)
Review Summaries: 15%
Final Exam: 25%

The instructor's (Kaser) office is located at the Reedley College campus (A-2, ext. 3308) You may leave messages on this phone or at the RC switchboard (638-3641).
RC Class: 2-5 in the Forum, Wed. Evening 6-8:50, Thursday.
Final Exam Week: Dec. 14-18. (See schedule.)

REMEMBER: Students missing the equivalent of two weeks of class (two sessions for once-a-week class) will be dropped. When possible, contact the instructor if you must miss a class.