

FILM 1

INTRODUCTION TO FILM STUDIES (#55215)

Reedley College – Fall 2023 8-9:15am TTH in FRM 1

Instructor: Ryan LaSalle contacts: ryan.lasalle@reedleycollege.edu 559-638-0300 (ext. 3125)

Final drop date: Friday, Oct. 6, 2023 **Final:** Thursday, Dec. 7 8am

For the love of film...

There is a difference between the casual movie going experience and taking a class in film studies. The “studies” denotes a certain level of examination and rigor that elevates “seeing a movie” to experiencing and understanding film on a completely different level. This class aims to expose students to a wide range of films in order to better understand techniques in direction, cinematography, sound, editing, and lighting. We will view and examine entire films (as well as scenes) in order to better understand historical and social context and genre development.

Upon successfully completing this class, a student should 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.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Demonstrate an understanding of some main issues of film theory and film criticism

Demonstrate an understanding of the varieties of filmic meaning

Recognize and explain the role of photography, editing, and sound in film narratives

*Student Learning Outcomes are statements about what the discipline faculty hope you will be able to do at the end of the course. This is NOT a guarantee: the ultimate responsibility for whether you will be able to do these things lies with you, the student. In addition, the assessment of Student Learning Outcomes is done by the department in order to evaluate the program as a whole, and not to evaluate individual faculty performance.

Textbooks: Anatomy of Film, 6th edition, Bernard F. Dick

Policies: 4 absences allowed without penalty. Subsequent absences result in a loss of participation points (however, further absences may be excused for medical/health reasons—contact instructor ASAP when requiring further excused absences). Late work will be accepted for partial credit with a 5% deduction for each week late. **Note: this does not apply to the final paper or the final test (no late final papers or final tests unless approved by instructor).** If a test/quiz is not taken by the due date, the test/quiz may be unlocked by contacting the instructor and requesting a makeup attempt. In the event of plagiarism (see Schedule of Courses for more information) the student will fail the assignment or the class at the discretion of the instructor (depending on the nature and severity of the offense).

Grading: Grading will be based on a point system.

90%A 80%B 70%C 60%D 50%F (of total points available in class)

(1)	1. Midterm essay	20 pts.
(1)	2. Final essay	40 pts.
(5-6)	3. Tests (includes a comprehensive final test)	20-40 pts.
(5-6)	4. Module quizzes	4-8 pts.
	5. Participation	20 pts.

*instructor reserves the right to make changes in this syllabus as deemed necessary or appropriate.

*Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

If you have special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), including alternate media requests, please notify me immediately. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your special needs.