**Film History: 1960 to Present ~ Spring 2024**

**Course Code: 53315**

**Instructor: K. Watts**

**Email: Contact through Canvas Inbox**

**Class Meets Monday and Wednesday 3:30-4:45 Forum Hall**

**Office Hours:** Monday Forum 8 2-3 pm; Tuesday Forum 8 10-12 am; Wednesday Forum 8 2-3 pm; Thursday Forum 8 10-11 am; Friday 2-3 pm via Zoom, and by appointment

**Office Hour Zoom Link:** [**https://scccd.zoom.us/j/94160419991**](https://scccd.zoom.us/j/94160419991)

**Course Description:**

This course is a survey of significant films and advances in the creation, reception, and influence of cinema from 1960 to the present. We will examine the international reach and commercial success of the film industry, the domination, and influence of Western films around the world during this period.    We will also examine filmic conventions and advancements of narrative and documentary film and how film is used as a political argument or as indoctrination. Analyses will include varying film criticisms from feminist to Marxist to reception theory, among others.

**Course Schedule:**

I post schedules for each unit one at a time. We spend approximately four weeks on each unit. I reserve the right to make any changes to the schedule. If any changes are made, you will be notified immediately.

**Expectations:**

For assignments in this class, I expect you to be familiar with MLA conventions-this includes formatting, the use and integration of quotation, and the assembly of both an annotated bibliography and a works cited page. Assistance is also available through the Reading and Writing Center, or students can reference sites, such as Purdue OWL ([https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue\_owl.html (Links to an external site.)](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html)) for information regarding MLA and standard writing practices required for this course.

**Technology:**

Always use Chrome as your browser. While your phone can show you some materials, many materials will NOT be available to you on your phone or in another browser. All uploaded documents MUST be in Microsoft Word. I will not accept Google docs or any other format.

Please review the “How To” videos posted in the Week 1 module for valuable information including how to download a free version of Word.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

SL01: Identify significant films in the development of cinematic techniques and appeal since the 1960s.

SL02: Recognize film's broad reach.

SL03: Identify editing techniques such as montage or flashback, and film angles, common genres such as the Western or science fiction; and basic Hollywood-type conventions.

SLO4: Analyze parody and revision of genres with respect to a film's commercial and social context.

SLO5: Demonstrate through personal analysis of assigned films the fundamental elements of film form and style.

SLO6: Report in chronological order the main currents film history from 1960 to present.

SLO7: Analyze films and filmic techniques from diverse interpretative angles such as Marxist, feminist, mythopoetic or deconstructionist, and artistic value vs. commercial viability.

SLO8: Chart an overview of political tensions both in the production and dissemination of foreign and domestic films.

**Required Texts and Materials:**

All materials for this course will be provided; however, personal streaming of some films may be necessary during the semester. I am recording with a mediocre laptop, so seeking out these films is suggested. Most are available on Amazon. (I will be working on refining my recordings, but this is a work in progress.)

**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 using the Canvas email function. All emails should indicate both your purpose and class section in the subject line and begin with “Dear Ms. Watts….” Or “Hi Ms. Watts……” I will respond to your emails as soon as possible; however, if you email me late in the evening during the week (and sometimes after 8 is late for me!), don’t expect to hear back from me until the following day. Feel free to email any time of the day or night- I do not get email notifications, so you will not be waking me up if you email late at night. I will be available over the weekends, but not in the evenings. If you do not hear back from me within 24 hours, please resend your email as that would indicate a problem with your first transmission.  Please review the video "Using Proper and Professional Etiquette" presented by the Reading and Writing Center:

**Course Requirements and Grading:**

There are six major assignments in this class: four tests and two essays. Multiple choice quizzes or tests will be given approximately every two weeks and forum assignments are due weekly. If forum posts indicate the student has not watched the film or any other required materials, there will be no credit given for the post.

**Talking Points:**

Talking points are a requirement of this class. Once our roster is finalized, students will be assigned talking points for each class. Students will ask a question or present an argument about our current film and then the class discusses the issue. If you are absent from class or if you are not prepared for your talking point, you will be docked five points. I am happy to reschedule your talking point if you contact me BEFORE class. Talking points will be assigned in alphabetical order. We will practice talking points before they begin so students are comfortable with this assignment.

**Forums:** (Worth approx. 150 Points)Forum posts are due midnight Sunday.

**Tests and Worksheets:** (Worth 300 points)

**Midterm Essay:** (Worth 100 points)

**Final Essay:** (Worth 100 points)

**Final Exam:** (Worth 50 points) Multiple choice exam.

Grading will be based on a point system. Students must receive a 70% or better in order to receive credit for the class.

**Grading Scale: 90% = A; 80% = B; 70% = C; 60% = D, 50% = F**

**Tutoring and the Reading and Writing Center**

The Reading and Writing Center is accessible virtually through their Canvas Course Site: students must enroll (open enrollment at no cost) in this course to access the free resources and book appointments with peer tutors. Use this link to self-enroll in the Reading and Writing Center course now: [https://scccd.instructure.com/enroll/LN9B8C](/enroll/LN9B8C)

For more information about available services at the Reading and Writing Center or how to book an appointment with a peer tutor, please watch the two tutorial videos located at the top of the Helpful How-To Videos page located in the Student Resources module.

**Course Policies**

**Attendance:**

Students will be dropped after four absences.

**Phones:**

Phones must be out of view throughout the entire class. A significant body of research demonstrates that when students engage in off-task behavior on their devices, it hurts the learning of the peers sitting near them. In one study, students who were not using a device in a class lecture, but were seated within view of a peer with a device, performed 17% worse on an exam based on that lecture material than students who were not within view of someone else’s device. Hence the first purpose of this policy is to ensure that your devices are not harming the learning of your peers and interfering with their viewing.

**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. I do not accept late work for the quizzes, tests, worksheets, or forums. All assignments, except for the essays, are locked at midnight on the due date.

If for some reason you cannot access Canvas to post an assignment, wait a few minutes and try again. If Canvas is down for a substantial length of time, you may email the assignment to [kate.watts@reedleycollege.edu](mailto:kate.watts@reedleycollege.edu). I will record that you submitted the assignment on time; however, I will require you to submit the assignment to Canvas again as soon as it is available.

**Lack of Effort Statement:**

Your instructors at Reedley College want you to be successful in your classes and therefore expect you to submit your best work. Successful students in reading and writing classes make sure that they carefully address the prompt, proofread their writing, and follow MLA guidelines. Please note that an instructor may choose to read only the first page or less of an assignment and return it to you with little or no feedback if the paper demonstrates poor effort in areas such as, but not limited, following directions, meeting the minimum requirements, and basic skills; this paper will receive a failing grade.  Successful students do the following: follow their instructor’s instructions, pay attention to the appropriate syllabus and rubric requirements, attend class regularly, seek assistance from the Reading and Writing Center, ask their instructor for guidance during his/her office hours DAYS BEFORE their paper is due.

**Extra Credit:**

One point of extra credit will be given to the student who first detects any error on my part throughout the semester and emails me to point out the error. This includes typos. There may also be extra credit opportunities throughout the semester, such as special events or live readings, which will be announced as they become available. Instructions on how to earn the extra credit for these opportunities will be given when they are announced.

**Academic Honesty:**

The Reedley College English department has a zero-tolerance policy regarding plagiarism. Plagiarism is defined on page 48 of the Reedley College Catalog as follows:

“Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating: the use of another’s words or ideas without identifying them as such or giving credit to the source. Plagiarism may include, but is not limited to, failing to provide complete citations and references for all work that draws on the ideas, words, or work of others, failing to identify the contributors to work done in collaboration, submitting duplicate work to be evaluated in different courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors involved, or failing to observe computer security systems and software copyrights. Incidents of cheating and plagiarism may result in any of a variety of sanctions and penalties, which may range from a failing grade on the particular examination, paper, project, or assignment in question to a failing grade in the course, at the discretion of the instructor and depending on the severity and frequency of the incidents.”

If I determine you have plagiarized, I will refer you to the Dean of Humanities office for disciplinary action. Until you meet with the Dean once he has received the report, your account with the District will be frozen. You will receive zero credit for the assignment. This could result in a failing grade for the semester.

\*\*\*Please note ANY use of AI is cheating and will be addressed using the policies listed above.

**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 at the beginning of the semester any need for the extra time etc. will not be available to you retroactively.

**Canvas:**

All course announcements, the course schedule, assignments, and your grades are available on our Canvas course site. It is the student's responsibility to stay engaged and up to date with the course.

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