

COURSE SYLLABUS - COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

January 19 – May 10

I. COURSE INFORMATION

SEMESTER: Spring YEAR: 2016

COURSE NAME: Film 1390-004 - Intro - Art of Motion Pictures

CRN: 25483

CLASSROOM: Quinn Hall 206 – Thurs. 6:00 PM to 8:50 PM

TEXT: Prince, S. (2010). *Movies and Meaning: An Introduction to Film* (6th Edition). NY: Pearson

II. INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

NAME: Harry W. Martin (Marty Martin)

OFFICE LOCATION: In classroom unless otherwise specified

OFFICE HOURS: Before class from 5:00 – 6:00 PM or after class from 8:50 PM – 10:00 PM and by appointment.

PHONE: 755-2830

CELL PHONE: Text only 799-6278 (include your full name)

EMAIL: hmartin@elp.rr.com

III. COURSE CONTENT

- A. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Understanding and appreciating film as a unique medium for communication and artistic expression. Introduces students to a broad range of types of film. Basic theory presented in class. Films viewed in class and on campus and discussed in class.
- B. **COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Students will study a variety of motion pictures in terms of becoming an informed viewer. Emphasis will be placed on aspects of social relevancies, techniques, and themes used in films. The coursework combines lectures and readings covering technical and theoretical information that can be applied to the films shown in class and to other realms such as academic disciplines, media, and social settings. In addition, students will be introduced to film practices and terms to broaden their appreciation and understanding of motion picture as an art and industry.

C. **LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Students will develop a broadly interdisciplinary approach to understanding film and its role in society, will be conversant in the history of cinema and able to provide context for other works they encounter, competent in employing theoretical and disciplinary tools in the analysis and assessment of films, and capable of developing critical responses to aesthetic or cultural values of cinematic work.

D. **METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:** lectures, film screenings, group discussion, and written analyses.

E. **ASSIGNED READINGS:** 1 textbook chapter per class.

E. **ASSIGNMENTS:** Students will write one 2 page essay worth 10 points of their grade according to the following scale based on course assignments:

1. Midterm Examination 40 points
2. Final Examination 40 points
3. Essay assignment 10 points
4. Participation and extra credit 10 points

Total 100 points

G. **GRADING SCALE:**

1. 90 - 100 A
2. 80 - 89 B
3. 70 - 79 C
4. 60 - 69 D
5. 0 - 59 F

IV. **RULES, CLASSROOM POLICIES/ ETC.**

ATTENDANCE: recorded each day however students will not be dropped from the class because of absences. It will be the responsibility of the students to drop the class themselves if they do not intend to complete the course. Any unexcused absence will reduce the student's grade by 5%. If you arrive late you will be considered absent. Students who are being disruptive will be asked to leave and counted absent for the day.

LATE WORK: will receive a grade of zero unless arrangements have been made with the Instructor prior to the assignment's due date.

It is imperative that you keep up with the reading assignments and come to class prepared and on time for film and discussions.

Stay in touch with your Instructor.

All cell phones will be turned off prior to commencement of class. No exceptions. Any student using a cell phone during class for any reason will be asked to leave for the remainder of the day and counted absent.

Students will not have earphones in their ears during class and laptops can only be used in class with permission from the Instructor.

All students are required to attend class on the day and time of the institution's scheduled final.

V. ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

The University of Texas El Paso prides itself on its standards of academic excellence and students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity. Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, submitting work for credit that is attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, and any act that gives or attempts to give unfair advantage.

VI. CASS POLICY

If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu. Or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass. CASS' Staff are the only individuals who can validate and if need be, authorize accommodations for students with disabilities.

VII. COURSE CALENDAR

Jan 21 Lecture, Film

Assignments: Write essay and

Read *Movies and Meaning: An Intro to Film*

Chapter 01: Film Structure

Jan 28 Lecture, Film

Assignment: Read *Movies and Meaning: An Intro to Film*

Chapter 02: Cinematography

Feb 4 Lecture, Film

Assignment: Read *Movies and Meaning: An Intro to Film*

Chapter 03: Production Design

Feb 11 Lecture, Film

Assignment: Read *Movies and Meaning: An Intro to Film*

Chapter 04: Acting

Feb 18 Lecture, Film

Assignment: Read *Movies and Meaning: An Intro to Film*

Chapter 05: Editing: Making the Cut

Feb 25 Lecture, Film

Review and study for midterm exam

Mar 3 REVIEW FOR MIDTERM EXAM, Film

Mar 10 Spring Break

Mar 17 MIDTERM EXAM

Mar 24 Lecture, Film

Assignment: Read *Movies and Meaning: An Intro to Film*

Chapter 06: Principles of Sound Design

Mar 31 Lecture, Film

Assignment: Read *Movies and Meaning: An Intro to Film*

Chapter 07: The Nature of Narrative Film

Apr 7 Lecture, Film

Assignment: Read *Movies and Meaning: An Intro to Film*

Chapter 08: Modes of Screen Reality

Apr 14 Lecture, Film

Assignment: Read *Movies and Meaning: An Intro to Film*

Chapter 09: Hollywood International

Apr 21 Lecture, Film

Assignment: Read *Movies and Meaning: An Intro to Film*

Chapter 10: Film Criticism and Interpretation

Apr 28 Lecture, Film

Assignment: Read *Movies and Meaning: An Intro to Film*

Chapter 11: Models of Film Theory

May 5 REVIEW FOR FINAL EXAM, Film

May 12 FINAL EXAM

**THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE
NECESSARY CHANGES IN THE SCHEDULE/CALENDAR/
ASSIGNMENTS, DEPENDING ON THE NEEDS OF THE CLASS.**