

FILM 1390 – Intro—Art of Motion Picture
CRN# 16867, Chemistry Computer Science Building 1.0202
University of Texas at El Paso,
Fall 2014

Instructor Information

Instructor: Keri Moe **Email:** KLMOE@utep.edu **Phone:** 915-373-5096

(Note: In email, phone or text messages, please state your first and last name and which class you are in. And, don't forget to let me know how I can return your message.)

The quickest way to contact me is via email or text message. I check email regularly during the day M-F and sometimes during weekends. Students can expect a response within 24 hours during the week (M-F) and within 48 hours over the weekend (F-S). Though, often, responses are much quicker than that. If you have not heard from me in that timeframe, please contact me again as I probably didn't get your message.

Office Hours: R before and after class and by appointment

Texts & Materials:

- **REQUIRED:** Lewis, J. (2014) Essential Cinema: An Introduction to Film Analysis. Boston: Wadsworth
- **RECOMMENED:** Corrigan, T. (2007) A Short Guide to Writing About Film. Boston: Allyn & Bacon
- **ADDITIONAL READINGS:** Instructor may provide additional readings via email, Blackboard or hard copy
- **BLACKBOARD:** Some discussions, assignments or exams may be completed in Blackboard.

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.

Course Objectives:

This course will predominantly focus on teaching students to recognize and analyze the narrative, visual, and aural elements of film. The class will examine film theory, film analysis, film and culture and will also teach student to critically evaluate and interpret various elements of film. Students will be exposed to a variety of film styles and genres including Classical Hollywood, realism, expressionism, short films and documentaries over the course of the semester. Students will analyze these films for content, composition as well as for how external forces—economics, politics, culture, technology, etc.—shape film aesthetics and perception. Students will also engage in critical discussion of film both verbally and in writing.

Learning Outcomes:

- Identify the narrative, visual and aural elements of film.
- Analyze how these elements can contribute to a film's aesthetic and thematic concerns.
- Identify the narrative, visual and aural characteristics of Classical Hollywood cinema, documentaries and avant-garde cinema.
- Recognize alternatives to the Classical Hollywood aesthetic, including Art Cinema, Neorealism, and Third Cinema.
- Proficiency in oral communication skills in interpersonal, group, organizational and public contexts.
- Competence in research methods used in communication contexts related to film theory and analysis.
- Competence in understanding and applying communication (film) theories in interpersonal, organizational and public contexts.

Assessment:** A=900-1,000 points; B=800-899 points; C=700-799 points; D=600-699; F=599 & below

Attendance/Participation/Small Group Discussion/Quizzes/HW	375 points
Chapter Exams* -- 3 at 100 points each, based on text: <i>*lowest exam is dropped (there are no make-up exams)</i>	200 points
Final Exam (<i>no make-ups/can't be dropped</i>)	200 points
Film Critique/Review	75 points
Theory & Film Paper Proposal, 1-2 pages + Works Cited	50 points
Theory & Film Paper, 8-10 pages + Works Cited	100 points

**All assignments and exams will be announced in advance and specific guidelines will be explained and distributed in class.

It is the student's responsibility to be informed of changes by attending class or by contacting the instructor in case of extenuating circumstances.