



## FILM 125B - FILM GENRES: Western Course Outline

Approval Date: 03/12/2020

Effective Date: 08/14/2020

### SECTION A

Unique ID Number CCC000522796

Discipline(s) Film Studies  
Theater Arts

Division Arts and Humanities

Subject Area Film Studies

Subject Code FILM

Course Number 125B

Course Title FILM GENRES: Western

TOP Code/SAM Code 1007.00 - Drama and Dramatics/Theatre Arts, General /  
E - Non-Occupational

Rationale for adding this course to  
the curriculum add distant education

Units 3

Cross List N/A

Typical Course Weeks 18

Total Instructional Hours

### Contact Hours

Lecture 54.00

Lab 0.00

Activity 0.00

Work Experience 0.00

Outside of Class Hours 108.00

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Total Contact Hours 54

Total Student Hours 162

Open Entry/Open Exit No

Maximum Enrollment

Grading Option Letter Grade or P/NP

**Distance Education Mode of Instruction** On-Campus  
Hybrid  
Entirely Online

## SECTION B

**General Education Information:**

## SECTION C

### Course Description

**Repeatability** May be repeated 0 times

**Catalog Description** This course covers the historical, social, and artistic development of the western film genre from 1903 to the present.

**Schedule Description**

## SECTION D

### Condition on Enrollment

1a. **Prerequisite(s):** *None*

1b. **Corequisite(s):** *None*

1c. **Recommended:** *None*

1d. **Limitation on Enrollment:** *None*

## SECTION E

### Course Outline Information

#### 1. Student Learning Outcomes:

A. Critically analyze the components of film production from major historical periods and genres.

#### 2. Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

A. Demonstrate knowledge of film terminology.

B. Identify major film westerns.

C. Recognize plot, story conventions, and visual design of the film western.

D. Demonstrate the ability to critically understand and analyze the western.

E. Demonstrate the ability to apply established critical film theory (auteur, feminist, historical, etc.) to the western.

F. Understand the production of the western in historical and sociological context.

G.

#### 3. Course Content

A. Introduction to film studies, emphasizing the specific application of techniques, terminology and methodologies in the film western, including:

a. Terminology and Film Techniques

a. close-up

b. continuity editing

c. cross-cutting

d. establishing shot

e. fade-out

f. long take

g. sound bridge

h. wide angle

b. Methodology

a. auteur

- b. feminist
  - c. historical
- B. Stylistic elements and components for the film Western
  - a. Lighting
  - b. Composition and visual framing
  - c. Audio Design
  - d. Music
  - e. Plot and story
  - f. Acting
  - g. Evolution and mutation over time
- C. Historic development and thematic interpretation of western movies
  - a. The Classical Western film
  - b. Spaghetti Westerns
  - c. Ostern
  - d. Revisionist Westerns
  - e. Contemporary Westerns
  - f. Famous artists of the film western
    - a. Director
    - b. Actors
    - c. Actresses
    - d. Singing Cowboys
    - e.

#### 4. Methods of Instruction:

**Activity:**

**Discussion:**

**Lecture:**

**Online Adaptation:** Activity, Directed Study, Discussion, Group Work, Individualized Instruction, Journal, Lecture

**7. Methods of Evaluation:** Describe the general types of evaluations for this course and provide at least two, specific examples.

#### Typical classroom assessment techniques

Quizzes --

Final Exam --

Mid Term --

Additional assessment information:

Final grade will be based upon:

Midterm and final. Midterms and finals may include both objective and essay style questions.

For example:

Final Exam Essay: Chose one film this semester. Identify the choices made about plot structure, design, lighting, cinematography, editing, acting, sound, and other intentional artistic components the finished film product that identifies it as a western. Essay will be evaluated on identification and discussion of the formal elements, discussion of apparent and symbolic content, and development and historical content. Thoroughness and competence of writing will also count towards final grade.

Quiz after each unit of study. Quizzes may include both objective and essay style questions.

Research paper or other writing projects the develop a related topic.

For example:

Students are to select a paper topic covering a critical analysis and evaluation of the artistic elements of the film western covered in the course this semester. This paper is designed as a research project and students are expected to go beyond the level of information found in the course textbook. Students must find a minimum of five sources for this paper. Of those five, no more than two may be periodical sources and no internet sources are allowed, except where students can demonstrate the academic verifiability and validity of a source. Paper will be in the MLA format using parenthetical citations. The body of the text must be a minimum of 7 pages and no more than 15. Work will be graded on a 50 point rubric that evaluates format; development of the body of the text including a thesis, relevant examples, integration of research, conclusion and merit of original premise; punctuation; grammar; bibliography; citations; and use of images.

Participation in class discussions.

Letter Grade or P/NP

**8. Assignments:** State the general types of assignments for this course under the following categories and provide at least two specific examples for each section.

A. Reading Assignments

Selected readings from textbook, periodicals or library collection covering and expanding on lecture.

For example: Read chapter 5 of the textbook, covering role of women in Red River.

For example: Read a supplemental handout about the development of the Revisionist Western.

B. Writing Assignments

Written evaluations of films viewed in class.

For example:

Write a three page, typewritten analysis of the Spaghetti Western of the 1960s and 70s. Pick one film from this period and write a portion of this essay outlining its historical context, the artists who made the film, and why it is considered to be a Spaghetti Western.

2. Topical essays expanding on course material.

For example: Write a three-page essay comparing classic and contemporary film westerns.

C. Other Assignments

Research paper or other writing project that develop a related topic.

For example:

Students are to select a paper topic covering a critical analysis and evaluation of the artistic elements of the film western covered in the course this semester. This paper is designed as a research project and students are expected to go beyond the level of information found in the course textbook. Students must find a minimum of five sources for this paper. Of those five, no more than two may be periodical sources and no internet sources are allowed, except where students can demonstrate the academic verifiability and validity of a source. Paper will be in the MLA format using parenthetical citations. The body of the text must be a minimum of 7 pages and no more than 15. Work will be graded on a 50 point rubric that evaluates format; development of the body of the text

including a thesis, relevant examples, integration of research, conclusion and merit of original premise; punctuation; grammar; bibliography; citations; and use of images.

**9. Required Materials**

**A. EXAMPLES of typical college-level textbooks (for degree-applicable courses) or other print materials.**

Book #1:

Author: Josh Garrett-Davis

Title: What Is a Western?: Region, Genre, Imagination

Publisher: University of Oklahoma Press

Date of Publication: 2019

Edition:

**B. Other required materials/supplies.**

- Various handouts and library reserve readings.