



FILM 125C - FILM GENRES: Drama Course Outline

Approval Date: 03/12/2020

Effective Date: 08/14/2020

SECTION A

Unique ID Number

Discipline(s) Film Studies
Theater Arts

Division Arts and Humanities

Subject Area Film Studies

Subject Code FILM

Course Number 125C

Course Title FILM GENRES: Drama

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

Total Contact Hours 0.00

Total Student Hours 108

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 drama film genre from the 1940s 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 dramas.

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

D. Demonstrate the ability to critically understand and analyze film dramas.

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

F. Understand the production of film drama in historical and sociological context.

G.

3. Course Content

A. Introduction to film studies, emphasizing the specific application of techniques, terminology and methodologies in film drama, 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 drama
 - 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 film drama
 - a. Early film
 - b. 1950s
 - c. 1960s
 - d. 1970s
 - e. 1980s
 - f. 1990s
 - g. Present
 - h.

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 drama. 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 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 drama 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.

1. Read Chapter 1, pages 1-22, discussing Martin Scorsese's discovery of film making
2. Read Chapter 6, pages 116-145, covering the artistic choices of location in the making of *The Last Temptation of Christ*.

B. Writing Assignments

Written evaluations of films viewed in class.

For example:

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

2. Topical essays expanding on course material.

For example: Write a three-page essay comparing war drama of the 1950s and 1980s.

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 drama 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: Ruth Doughty and Christine Etherington-Wright

Title: Understanding Film Theory

Publisher: Palgrave Macmillan

Date of Publication: 2018

Edition:

B. Other required materials/supplies.

- Various handouts and library reserve readings.