

Englit 0530  
Spring 2020  
Bishop, E.

**Film Analysis**  
12170 0530  
Tuesday 6-9:50 pm  
Lwrn 207  
Dr. Ellen Bishop  
438 CL  
[ebishop@pitt.edu](mailto:ebishop@pitt.edu)

### **Course Description**

This course is designed for beginning film students. It is a basic introduction to the vocabulary and methods of contemporary film analysis. We will screen at least one film a week, most of them acknowledged classics (not all of them American or from Hollywood), and discuss their styles and forms in the terms the assigned text (see below) lays out for us. Students will be expected to master the vocabulary of film terms used and defined in the text and to demonstrate their ability to use those terms in their own discussion and writing, and on exams. We will also, generally, be reading the films in terms of their cultural significance, although the emphasis will be on film style and form rather than types of critical theory.

### **Text**

*Film Art: An Introduction* 7<sup>th</sup> edition David Bordwell and Kristin Thompson  
(used copies are available)

### **Student Responsibilities**

Students are expected to attend class all the time and to be on time. Absences are generally not tolerated and will negatively affect your grade. I expect to hear from you (by email) if you are absent. If you do miss a class you will still be responsible for the material and film(s) covered that day.

I will usually have some opening remarks about the readings and the film(s) at the beginning of class, then we will screen the film(s) and afterwards have a discussion in which students are expected to participate.

### **Exams and Grades**

There will be 4 in class tests and 1 take home final question(s). These factors along with class participation will determine your grade. Each will be worth approximately 18--20%. The quizzes will be predominantly objective covering vocabulary and concepts covered in lecture and the assigned readings as applied to the films we screen. There will be some short answer essay type questions as well. The take home final question will be a short essay.

### **Schedule**

**Classic Hollywood Narrative Cinema**  
readings: chap.3, pg. 415-418

1/10/06 *His Girl Friday* Howard Hawks 1940  
1/17/06 *Shadow of a Doubt* Alfred Hitchcock 1942

#### Variations on CHNC

readings: chap. 2

1/24/06 *The Lady in the Lake* Robert Montgomery 1946 \*\*\*\*Quiz  
1/31/06 *Baraka* Ron Fricke 1992 *Last Year at Marienbad* Alain Renais 1961  
2/7/06 *My Uncle* Jacques Tati 1959  
2/14/06 *Mulholland Drive* David Lynch 2001

#### Documentary

readings: chap.5

2/21/06 *The Celluloid Closet* Epstein and Friedman 1995 \*\*\*\*Quiz  
2/28/06 *I Am Cuba* Mikhail Kalatozov 1964

#### Mise-en-scene

readings: chap.6

3/14/06 *Angels and Insects* Phillip Haas 1995

#### Cinematography

readings: chap.7

3/21/06 *Kundun* Martin Scorsese

#### Editing

readings: chap. 8

3/28/06 *Requiem for a Dream* Darren Aronofsky 2000 \*\*\*\*Quiz

Camera movement (mobile framing)

4/4/06 *Grand Illusion* Jean Renoir 1937

Camera Angle and Blocking

4/11/06 *The Sixth Sense* M. Night Shmalayan 2000

#### Sound

readings: chap. 9

4/18/06 *The Conversation* Francis Ford Coppola 1974 \*\*\*\*Quiz

The final essay will be due the Friday of finals week by noon (or anytime before) at my office in 438 CL.

#### Academic Integrity

Students in this course will be expected to comply with the University of Pittsburgh's Policy on Academic Integrity. Any student suspected of violating this obligation for any reason during the semester will be required to participate in the procedural process, initiated at the instructor level, as outlined in the University Guidelines on Academic Integrity. This may include, but is not limited to, the confiscation of the examination of any individual suspected of violating University Policy. Furthermore, no student may bring any unauthorized materials to an exam, including dictionaries and programmable calculators.

#### Disabilities

If you have a disability that requires special testing accommodations or other classroom modifications, you need to notify both the instructor and the Disability Resources and Services no later than the 2nd week of the term. You may be asked to provide documentation of your disability to determine the appropriateness of accommodations. To notify Disability Resources and Services, call 648-7890 (Voice or TTD) to schedule an appointment. The Office is located in 216 William Pitt Union.