

Montgomery County Community College
COM 210
History of Film
3-2-2

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces students to the history, ideas, and vocabulary of modern cinema. Students learn about the various cinematic styles, genres, and techniques used in filmmaking as an art form. Students view, analyze, and critique films from the introduction of sound until the end of WW II. The goal of this course is to teach students how to think and write about early cinema from a historical, cultural, and aesthetic perspective.

REQUISITES:

Previous Course Requirements

- COM 111 Mass Media and Society with a minimum grade of “C”

Previous or Concurrent Course Requirements

- ENG 102 English Composition II

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Discuss key elements of the history of film after the introduction of sound until the end of WWII.	Lectures/Discussions Demonstrations and Practice Case Studies Student Presentations Peer to Peer Review Writing Assignments	Peer to Peer Review Portfolio
2. Employ the ideas and vocabulary necessary to evaluate the films made after the introduction of sound until the end of WWII.	Lectures/Discussions Demonstrations and Practice Case Studies Student Presentations Peer to Peer Review Writing Assignments	Peer to Peer Review Portfolio
3. Analyze cinema from the beginning of the film industry until the end of WWII from a historical, cultural, and aesthetic perspective.	Lectures/Discussions Demonstrations and Practice Case Studies Student Presentations Peer to Peer Review Writing Assignments	Peer to Peer Review Portfolio

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The

benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria.*

SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

1. Moving Pictures and the Birth of Sound
2. Cinematic Styles and Genres of early film
3. Films from the Period of Talkies and Film Sound
4. World Cinema and the preeminence of the Hollywood system
5. The Studio System
6. Cinema Before World War II
7. Cinema During World War II
8. Prelude to the Future

LEARNING MATERIALS:

Required:

Cook, David. A. (2004). *A History of Narrative Film*; 4th ed.; Norton.
ISBN 978-0-393-97868-1

Suggested:

Monaco, J. (2009). *How to Read a Film: Movies, Media, and Beyond*, 4th ed.; Oxford.
Bordwell, David. (2013). *Film Art: An Introduction*, 10th ed.; McGraw-Hill.

In addition, the instructor may provide students with handouts or access to selected Radio or Television programs or clips.

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared by: Morgan Betz, Allan Schear and Neil Goldstein	Date: 3/8/2007
Revised by: Neil Goldstein	Date: 5/15/2013
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 6/17/2013
Revised by Allan Schear and Gerald Collom	Date: 1/14/2016
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 06/01/2016

This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.