

Course: **DC 205**
Section: **501 – Winter 2015-2016**
Class Number: 22596
Meeting Time: MW 11:50 AM – 1:20 PM
Location: 14 East Jackson, Room 802 – Loop Campus

Syllabus Date: **12-26-2015**

Instructor: **Michael Flores**
Email: mflore70@cdm.depaul.edu
Office: 14 E. Jackson 200B (desk 5) – Loop Campus
Office Hours: Monday through Thursday – 11:00 AM to 11:45 AM (or by appointment)

DC 205: Foundations of Cinema for Non-Majors

Course Description:

This course will examine the craft, technology, and aesthetic principles of media production. Drawing heavily on a wide array of historical examples, the course will examine the many expressive strategies potentially usable in the creation of moving image art forms: the importance of story and controlling ideas, storytelling with images, the basics of composition and editing, and an examination of narrative, documentary, and experimental approaches. In addition to analyzing the works of others, students will also produce their own projects, thus putting theory into practice.

Prerequisites:

None

Textbook:

Understanding Movies, by Louis Giannetti (Pearson, Allyn & Bacon) 13th Edition **(Required)**

Course Management System:

D2L <https://d2l.depaul.edu>
COLTube Recordings <http://coltube.cdm.depaul.edu/ColTube/Video/SearchVideo>

Changes to Syllabus:

This syllabus is subject to change as necessary during the quarter.

Drop Dates:

Jan. 17, 2016 – Last day to drop classes with no penalty.
Jan. 18, 2016 – Grades of “W” assigned for classes dropped on or after this day.
Feb. 21, 2016 – Last day to withdraw from SQ2015 classes.

Course Schedule:

WEEK 1 – Jan. 4 and Jan. 6

Lecture (Jan. 4th): Class Overview and Introductions

Lecture (Jan. 6th): Assign Film Project

Movie: **La Jetée** (1962), directed by Chris Marker (No Journal Required for this Film)

Required Reading: *Understanding Movies, Chapter 1*

Week 2 – Jan. 11 and Jan. 13 – DUE: **1-Page Film Idea (A) & Film Journal (1)**

Lecture: Photography – Realism vs. Formalism

Movie: **Exit Through the Gift Shop** (2010), directed by Banksy

Required Reading: *Understanding Movies, Chapter 2*

Week 3 – **Jan. 18, No Class, and Jan. 20** – DUE: **1st Draft of Script (B) & Film Journal (2)**

Lecture: Mise En Scène

Movie: **TBA**

Required Reading: *Understanding Movies, Chapter 3*

Week 4 – Jan. 25 and Jan. 27 – DUE: **Film Journal (3)**

Lecture: Movement

Movie: **TBA**

Required Reading: *Understanding Movies, Chapter 4*

Week 5 – Feb. 1 and Feb. 3 – DUE: **Final Draft of Script (C) & Film Journal (4)**

Lecture: Editing

Movie: **TBA**

Required Reading: *Understanding Movies, Chapter 5*

Week 6 – Feb. 8 and Feb. 10 – DUE: **Storyboards (D) & Film Journal (5)**

Lecture: Sound

Movie: **TBA**

Required Reading: *Understanding Movies, Chapter 8*

Week 7 – Feb. 15 and Feb. 17 – DUE: **Film Project Update (½ Page) (E) & Film Journal (6)**

Lecture: Story

Movie: **TBA**

Required Reading: *Understanding Movies, Chapter 10*

Week 8 – Feb. 22 and Feb. 24 – DUE: **Film Project Update (½ Page) (F) & Film Journal (7)**

Lecture: Ideology

Movie: **TBA**

Required Reading: *Understanding Movies, Chapter 12*

Week 9 – Feb. 29 and Mar. 2 – DUE: **Film Project & Film Journal (8)**

Lecture: Analysis of Citizen Kane

Movie: **Citizen Kane** (1941), directed by Orson Welles

*Finished Film Project must be uploaded to the D2L Dropbox by 5 PM on Sunday, March 6th

Week 10 – Mar. 7 and Mar. 9

Lecture (Mar. 7th): Film Project Screenings

Lecture (Mar. 9th): Assign Take-Home Final

Finals Week (Monday, Mar. 14th – NO CLASS) – DUE: **Take-Home Final**

Take-Home Final must be uploaded to the D2L Dropbox by 11:30 AM on Monday, March 14th

Grading:

Film Journal 40%

Film Project and Related Assignments 40%

Take-Home Final 20%

A = 93-100 **A-** = 90-92

B+ = 87-89 **B** = 83-86 **B-** = 80-82

C+ = 77-79 **C** = 73-76 **C-** = 70-72

D+ = 67-69 **D** = 60-66

F = 0-59

Film Journal (160 points):

Students are required to write a critical analysis of each week's movie; however, no journal is required for Week 1. Each week's analysis must be at least 1 page in length and use ideas and concepts covered in lectures and the required readings. Each entry is worth 20 points. Entries that are less than 1 page in length and fail to use ideas and concepts covered in lectures and the required readings will have points deducted. Students will turn in a total of 8 journal entries: one for each film, with the exception of *La Jetée* (1962). Journal entries must be uploaded to the D2L Dropbox by 5 PM on the Sunday following the screening. Late entries will automatically lose 5 points.

Film Project and Related Assignments (160 points):

Students will incorporate course concepts to digitally tell a screen story. Your project can be in the form of a short 5-10 minute film or a series of digital stills that tell your whole story. You must use a minimum of 20 different camera angles. You must also use appropriate sounds and music. The Final Film is worth 100 points and the Related Project Assignments are worth 10 points each. The 6 Related Project Assignments are: (A) **1-Page Film Idea**, (B) **1st Draft of Script**, (C) **Final Draft of Script**, (D) **Storyboards**, and (E & F) two **Film Project Updates**. All Related Project Assignments must be uploaded to the D2L Dropbox by 5 PM on the Sunday of the week they are due – late entries will automatically lose 2.5 points. The Final Film Project must be uploaded to the D2L Dropbox by 5 PM on Sunday, March 6th – late entries will lose 10 points for every day that they are late.

Take-Home Final (80 points):

The Take-Home Final is due by 11:30 AM on Monday, March 14th. It is worth 20% of your final grade and will consist of 2 essay questions. ***Late entries will not be accepted.***

Participation/Attendance:

You are expected to be on time and to participate in class discussions. ***You will be allowed 3 absences for the quarter.*** Missing 4 classes will result in a reduction of your final grade by one letter grade. Missing 5 classes will result in a reduction of your final grade by two letter grades. Missing more than 5 classes will result in an "F" in the class. Excessive tardiness (more than 15 minutes late) and leaving class early will be counted as an absence. Being absent is not an excuse for failing to turn an assignment in on time. All assignments must be turned in by the established deadline, regardless of whether or not you missed a class.

Phones, Texting, Social Media, Email:

Phones should be set to silent or vibrate. Should you need to answer a call during class, please leave the room in an undistruptive manner. Emailing, texting, and social media are not allowed. If you must use a cell phone or electronic device for any reason, please leave the classroom.

University Policies

Online Course Evaluations:

Evaluations are a way for students to provide valuable feedback regarding their instructor and the course. Detailed feedback will enable the instructor to continuously tailor teaching methods and course content to meet the learning goals of the course and the academic needs of the students. They are a requirement of the course and are key to continue to provide you with the highest quality of teaching. The evaluations are anonymous; the instructor and administration do not track who entered what responses. A program is used to check if the student completed the evaluations, but the evaluation is completely separate from the student's identity. Since 100% participation is our goal, students are sent periodic reminders over three weeks. Students do not receive reminders once they complete the evaluation. Students complete the evaluation online in CampusConnect.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism:

This course will be subject to the university's academic integrity policy. More information can be found at <http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/>. If you have any questions be sure to consult with your professor.

Academic Policies:

All students are required to manage their class schedules each term in accordance with the deadlines for enrolling and withdrawing as indicated in the University Academic Calendar. Information on enrollment, withdrawal, grading and incompletes can be found at: cdm.depaul.edu/enrollment.

Students with Disabilities:

Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential.

To ensure that you receive the most appropriate accommodation based on your needs, contact the instructor as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of class), and make sure that you have contacted the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) at: csd@depaul.edu.

Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD)

Lewis Center 1420

25 East Jackson Blvd.

Phone number: (312) 362-8002

Fax: (312) 362-6544

TTY: (773) 325-7296