

Introduction to Cinema: The Art of Making Movies

Instructor: Camille DeBose, MA, MFA

Fall: 2017

Online: Asynchronous

Office hours: Monday, 6:30-8:30pm Virtual hours available Tuesday



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This course will be managed via: D2L

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## **Course Description**

This course will introduce students to the art of cinema. Through lectures, videos, screenings, discussions, and exploration of contemporary and classic films, students will gain an understanding of the various roles involved in the making of movies. This course covers direction, acting, producing, screenwriting, cinematography, production design, editing, sound, as well as the stages of production all introduced through the words of Sidney Lumet.

## **Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this course, students will be able to analyze and discuss the various stages and processes necessary for constructing great films in any genre. Students will also be able to apply lecture topics to analyze cinematic arts in terms of style, technique, and visual communication. Students will demonstrate comprehension through discussion, analysis, writing, and examination.

## **Learning Domain**

This course has Arts&Literature Liberal Studies Credit. Courses in the Arts and Literature domain ask students to extend their knowledge and experience of the arts while developing their critical and reflective abilities. In these courses, students interpret and analyze particular creative works, investigate the relations of form and meaning, and through critical and/or creative activity, come to better understand the original audience that witnessed a work of art and how its meaning and significance changes over time. These courses focus on works of art or literature, however the process of analysis may include social, cultural, and historical issues. Genres covered in this domain include literature, the visual arts, media arts, the performing arts, music, and theater. (you will find the full LSP outcomes and expectations below)

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## Required Text & Materials

Making Movies- Sidney Lumet (1995)

This course requires: A computer. Reliable access to high-speed internet. The ability to record audio and video (cell phone or video camera or webcam). Small cameras are also available for short term loan from the Digital Cinema Cage in the Loop.

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course

## Administrative/Drop Dates

Last day to add: 9/13

Last day to drop: 9/19

Last day to withdraw: 10/24

## Grading

Review essays:25%

Discussions: 25%

Quizzes: 10%

Film analysis: 20%

Final Exam: 20%

Final percentages are graded as:		
92.5% and above: A	82-80% B-	96-65% D+
90-92% A-	79-75% C+	64.5-62.5% D
89-85% B+	74.5-72.5% C	62-60% D-
84.5-82.5% B	72-70% C-	

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## Assignments/Discussions/Exams

All assignments for the this course are due Saturday night before 11:30pm. Your new week begins Sunday morning, while the week ends Saturday night. Exams, summaries, essays, and discussions all share the same due date and time.

**Late assignments:** Late assignments are not accepted in the course on a normal basis. Access to the various dropboxes, discussion boards, and exams will end Saturday evening at 11:30 during a given week.

While late assignments are not generally accepted throughout the quarter, special consideration is given during Week 8. **During week 8**, any missed Essay, Summary, or Exam may be turned in for full credit with no late penalty. Once Week 8 ends the opportunity to turn in missed work is over.

Course Outline:

### WEEK ONE

**Watch:** Module lectures and a feature length film of your choosing

**Read:** Chapter 1: Lumet book and the short article posted in module + Lecture PDF

**Discuss:** Respond to weekly discussion post (Photo submission)

**Complete:** Short review essay on Lumet chapter. Quiz

### WEEK TWO

**Watch:** Module lectures

**Read:** Chapter 2: Lumet book and screenplay posted in module + Lecture PDF

**Discuss:** Respond to weekly discussion post

**Complete:** Short review essay on Lumet chapter. Quiz.

### WEEK THREE

**Watch:** Module lectures and 15-20 movie trailers in various genres

**Read:** Chapter 3: Lumet book + Lecture PDF

**Discuss:** Respond to weekly discussion post

**Complete:** Short review essay on Lumet chapter. Quiz.

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## WEEK FOUR

**Watch:** Module lectures

**Read:** Chapter 4: Lumet book + Lecture PDF

**Discuss:** Respond to weekly discussion post

**Complete:** Short review essay on Lumet chapter. Quiz.

## WEEK FIVE

**Watch:** Module lectures and a feature length film of your choosing

**Read:** Chapter 5: Lumet book and the short article posted in module + Lecture PDF

**Discuss:** Respond to weekly discussion post

**Complete:** Short review essay on Lumet chapter. Quiz. Film analysis.

## WEEK SIX

**Watch:** Module lectures and a feature length film of your choosing

**Read:** Chapter 6: Lumet book and the short article posted in module + Lecture PDF

**Discuss:** Respond to weekly discussion post

**Complete:** Short review essay on Lumet chapter. Quiz.

## WEEK SEVEN

**Watch:** Module lectures and a feature length film of your choosing

**Read:** Chapter 7: Lumet book and the short article posted in module + Lecture PDF

**Discuss:** Respond to weekly discussion post

**Complete:** Short review essay on Lumet chapter. Quiz. Film analysis.

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WEEK EIGHT (All previous assignment boxes will open this week for an opportunity to turn in missed work)

**Watch:** Module lectures and a feature length film of your choosing

**Read:** Chapter 8 & 9: Lumet book and the short article posted in module + Lecture PDF

**Discuss:** Respond to weekly discussion post

**Complete:** Short review essay on Lumet chapter.

WEEK NINE

**Watch:** Module lectures

**Read:** Chapter 10 & 11: Lumet book the short article posted in module + Lecture PDF

**Discuss:** Respond to weekly discussion post

**Complete:** Short review essay on Lumet chapter. Film analysis.

WEEK TEN

**Watch:** Module lectures and a feature length film of your choosing

**Read:** Chapter 12 & 13: Lumet book the short article posted in module + Lecture PDF

**Discuss:** Respond to weekly discussion post

**Complete:** Preparation for final exam. Final Lumet review.

## Communication

Each module contains a special discussion board for Questions. Should you need any assistance during the week you can post your questions there and get a response most often within 24 hours unless you post during the weekend. You are also welcome to use e-mail.

All feedback for your assignments are posted in the text boxes of the individual assignment feedback forms. You will be able to access your feedback immediately upon an assignment

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being graded. I recommend getting closely acquainted with your rubrics for this course. Your grading and feedback are closely aligned to those rubrics. **Grading for each assignment will be completed within 10 days of submission. Shorter assignments like discussions are graded quickly, while more complex assignments like the film analysis my take closer to the ten day mark to ensure time for meaningful feedback for all students.**

### 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.

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Information on enrollment, withdrawal, grading and incompletes can be found at: <http://www.cdm.depaul.edu/Current%20Students/Pages/PoliciesandProcedures.aspx>

## **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](mailto:csd@depaul.edu).

Lewis Center 1420, 25 East Jackson Blvd. Phone number: (312)362-8002  
Fax: (312)362-6544  
TTY: (773)325.7296

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# *Liberal Studies* **Liberal Studies Program**

## **Learning Outcomes and Writing Expectations**

### **ARTS AND LITERATURE**

**Approved by the Liberal Studies Council, Winter 2012**

#### **Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students will be able to explain, in well-written prose, what a work of art is about and/or how it was produced (i.e. they should be able to articulate and explain the "content" of that work and/or its methodology of production).
2. Students will be able to comment on the relationship between form and content in a work. How does the 14-line sonnet both enable and inhibit its practitioner, for example? What are the generic expectations of a particular form? How does an artist complicate, enrich, or subvert such expectations?
3. Students will be able to assess the formal aspects of their subject and put those qualities into words, using, when appropriate, specialized vocabulary employed in class and readings.
4. Students will be able to contextualize a work of art. They will be able to do so with respect to other works of art in terms of defining its place within a broader style or genre. They will also be able to contextualize a work of art in terms of contemporaneous aesthetic, social, or political concerns, discussing how these might shape the work's reception and how that reception might differ amongst various peoples and historical periods.

#### **Writing Expectations:**

A minimum of 5-7 pages of writing for courses in the Arts and Literature domain (including studio courses) is required.

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