

Film 101 – Foundations of Cinema for Majors – Fall 2021

Instructor: Lauren "Ms.Berry"

Pronouns: She/Her/Miss

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Office Hours: Monday (By Appointment Only) *Preferably via Zoom or before/after class*

Class Location & Time: LOOP – 1:30-4:45pm

**** This syllabus is subject to change as necessary during the quarter. If a change occurs, it will be thoroughly addressed during class, posted under Announcements in D2L and sent via email. ****

Course Description:

This course deals with visualization and cinema literacy skills. 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: image construction and manipulation, editing, composition, sound, narrative, and performance. An emphasis will be placed on story and storytelling. In addition to analyzing the works of others, students will also produce their own projects – putting theory into practice.

⇒ Prerequisite(s): NONE

Course Objectives:

The course is designed to take a practical approach and look at the cinematic form of filmmaking. By the end of course, students should have some basic understanding of cinematic language and be able to integrate structure, framed imagery, sound, and editing into their own creative works.

The following topics will be covered:

- ⇒ Expressing ideas/ The importance of the story
- ⇒ Film Genre(s)
 - Fictional "Narrative Films"
 - Documentaries
 - Experimental
- ⇒ Previsualization Documentation
 - Treatments, Storyboarding, Scripts, etc.
- ⇒ The Basics:
 - Image composition
 - Lighting
 - Sound Design
 - Editing
 - Color Correction etc.

****Please Note: This course teaches concepts, rather than technology. Filmmakers will take the concepts learned in FILM 101, and further develop these skills/ techniques in future courses. ****

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course students should be able to:

- ⇒ Utilize film terminology to - communicate, identify, and analyze the various cinematic techniques preformed in any given piece of visual art.
- ⇒ Implement the basic aesthetic principles of visual design, style, and film form in the creation of multiple projects.
- ⇒ Prepare written documentation in such formats as: treatments, scripts, storyboards, shot lists, breakdowns, overheads, call sheets, schedules, and releases.
- ⇒ Operate safely such basic film equipment such as: cameras, light kits, sound/field recording equipment, and postproduction software(s).

Required Supplies:

- ⇒ Personal Computer / Laptop
- ⇒ External drive
 - Suggested Format exFAT
- ⇒ Video/audio capable device
 - E.g. – smartphone (android, apple, etc.) and DSLRs
- ⇒ Computer Programs:
 - Editing Software:

- Adobe Premiere Pro or other editing software
- D2L
 - Assignments such as – Readings, Discussions, and Project Folders will be located here
- Word Processing Program
 - Adobe Acrobat
 - Microsoft Word
 - Microsoft PowerPoint

Recommended/Additional Supplies:

- ⇒ Textbook:
 - *Film Art: An Introduction by David Bordwell & Kristin Thompson (12th Edition or newer).*
 - Links to DePaul's E-Book Database [LINK 1](#) & [LINK 2](#)

Important Information:

- ⇒ The course materials for this course, such as syllabus, announcements, course documents, and assignments will be available to you through D2L site.
- ⇒ DePaul University is providing free licenses of Adobe CC (creative cloud) to students enrolled in any class in the Fall quarter that requires Adobe CC. One or more of your sections have been identified as requiring Adobe CC.
 - The following link includes the instructions to access Adobe CC: [LINK](#)
- ⇒ Drop Out/ Course Changes Dates: [LINK](#)
- ⇒ Last Day of In-Person Class: Nov 15th, 2021
 No in-person class on Nov 22nd, 2021

Grading:

- ⇒ Attendance: 7.5%
- ⇒ Discussion Posts: 7.5%
 - 1 posting and 2 replies = 100%
 - 1 posting and 1 reply = 75%
 - 1 posting and 0 replies = 50%
 - 0 posting and 0 replies = 0%
- ⇒ Readings: 7.5%
 - Coincide with the discussion posts.
- ⇒ Quizzes: 7.5%
 - Coincide with readings and assignments.
- ⇒ Projects/Assignments: 30%
- ⇒ Final Project: 40%

Exams:

- ⇒ On-campus during the scheduled final exam period, in person proctoring (online sections only), Examity (online sections only), or take home, should be included with a detailed description of the option.

Grading Scale:

- ⇒ A = 100 – 90% (excellent)
- ⇒ B = 89 – 80% (good work)
- ⇒ C = 79 – 70% (satisfactory work)
- ⇒ D = 69 – 60% (unsatisfactory work)
- ⇒ F = 59 – 0% (oof duhh)

***EXAMS and QUIZZES are simply the regurgitation of presented material(s); while PROJECTS and ASSIGNMENTS provide structured hands-on learning and information retention of a skill set. ***

***UNLESS discussed with the educational institution, instructor, and/or teachers assistant; LATE WORK will NOT be ACCEPTED... so look closely at your due dates. ***

Course Schedule:

A detailed document breaking down of the assignments, quizzes, and projects with their due dates is posted on D2L.

- ⇒ Week 1: Sept 13th
 - Introduction(s), Review of Syllabus, and History of Cinema
 - Assignment(s)/Quiz: Details will be posted on D2L
- ⇒ Week 2: Sept 20th
 - Terminology and Film Genres
 - Assignment(s)/Quiz: Details will be posted on D2L
- ⇒ Week 3: Sept 27th
 - Expressing One's Idea & Previsualization Documentation(s)
 - Assignment(s)/Quiz: Details will be posted on D2L
- ⇒ Week 4: Oct 4th
 - Cinematography and Lighting
 - Assignment(s)/Quiz: Details will be posted on D2L
- ⇒ Week 5: Oct 11th
 - Mis-en-Scene & Previsualization Documentation Cont.
 - Assignment(s)/Quiz: Details will be posted on D2L
- ⇒ Week 6: Oct 18th
 - Editing and Color Corrections
 - Assignment(s)/Quiz: Details will be posted on D2L
- ⇒ Week 7: Oct 25th
 - Sound and ADR
 - Assignment(s)/Quiz: Details will be posted on D2L
- ⇒ Week 8: Nov 1st
 - Pitch and Pre-production for Final Project
 - Assignment(s)/Quiz: Details will be posted on D2L
- ⇒ Week 9: Nov 8th
 - Production of Final Project
 - Details will be posted on D2L
- ⇒ Week 10: Nov 15th
 - Post-Production of Final Project
 - Details will be posted on D2L
- ⇒ Week 11: Nov 22nd
 - Screening of Final Project
 - Details will be Posted on D2L

Course Policies (as suggested by the Dean of Students Office):

COVID-19 Health and Safety Precautions

- ⇒ Keeping our DePaul community safe is of utmost importance in the pandemic. Students, faculty and staff are expected to (1) wear a mask as required at all times while indoors on campus; (2) refrain from eating and drinking in classrooms; (3) keep current with their COVID-19 vaccinations or exemptions; (4) stay home if sick; (5) participate in any required COVID-19 testing; (6) complete the online Health and Safety Guidelines for Returning to Campus training; and (7) abide by the City of Chicago Emergency Travel Advisory. By doing these things, we are Taking Care of DePaul, Together. The recommendations may change as local, state, and federal guidelines evolve. Students who do not abide by the mask requirement may be subject to the student conduct process and will be referred to the Dean of Students Office. Students who have a medical reason for not complying with any requirements should register with DePaul's Center for Student with Disabilities (CSD).

Respect for Diversity and Inclusion at DePaul University as aligned with our Vincentian Values:

- ⇒ At DePaul, our mission calls us to explore "what must be done" in order to respect the inherent dignity and identity of each human person. We value diversity because it is part of our history, our traditions and our future. We see diversity as an asset and a strength that adds to the richness of classroom learning. In my course, I strive to include diverse authors, perspectives and teaching pedagogies. I also encourage open dialogue and spaces

for students to express their unique identities and perspectives. I am open to having difficult conversations and I will strive to create an inclusive classroom that values all perspectives. If at any time, the classroom experience does not live up to this expectation, please feel free to contact me via email or during office hours.

Preferred Name & Gender Pronouns:

- ⇒ Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the quarter so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. Please also note that students may choose to identify within the University community with a preferred first name that differs from their legal name and may also update their gender. The preferred first name will appear in University related systems and documents except where the use of the legal name is necessitated or required by University business or legal need. For more information and instructions on how to do so, please see the Student Preferred Name and Gender Policy at [LINK](#)

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.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism:

- ⇒ This course will be subject to the university's academic integrity policy. All students are expected to abide by the University's Academic Integrity Policy which prohibits cheating and other misconduct in student coursework. Publicly sharing or posting online any prior or current materials from this course (including exam questions or answers), is considered to be providing unauthorized assistance prohibited by the policy. Both students who share/post and students who access or use such materials considered to be cheating under the Policy and will be subject to sanctions for violations of Academic Integrity.
- ⇒ Posting work on online sites, such as Hero
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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: [LINK](#)

Incomplete Grades/ Withdrawal:

- ⇒ An incomplete grade is a special, temporary grade that may be assigned by an instructor when unforeseeable circumstances prevent a student from completing course requirements by the end of the term and when otherwise the student had a record of satisfactory progress in the course. All incomplete requests must be approved by the instructor of the course and a CDM Associate Dean. Only exceptions cases will receive such approval. Information about the Incomplete Grades policy can be found at [LINK & LINK](#)

Students with Disabilities:

- ⇒ Students seeking disability-related accommodations are required to register with DePaul's Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) enabling them to access accommodations and support services to assist with their success. There are two office locations:
- ⇒ Loop Campus (312) 362-8002
- ⇒ Lincoln Park Campus (773) 325-1677

- ⇒ Email: csd@depaul.edu
- ⇒ Students who register with the Center for Students with Disabilities are also invited to contact Dr. Gregory Moorhead, Director of the Center, privately to discuss how he may assist in facilitating the accommodations to be used in a course. This is best done early in the term. The conversation will remain confidential to the extent possible. Please see [LINK](#) for Services and Contact Information.

Additional Course Policies:

Attendance:

- ⇒ Attendance is mandatory for all class periods. Anyone who misses 3 classes will automatically drop a whole letter grade. Anyone who misses 4 classes will automatically fail.
- ⇒ If you are more than 15 minutes late or if you leave more than 15 minutes before the end of class you will be considered absent. I take attendance at the beginning of every class, so if you come in late, please let me know after class otherwise you will be accidentally marked absent.
- ⇒ Each class consists of lecture, screenings, and discussion. Class time is most productive when everyone arrives promptly and comes prepared to discuss that week's reading and film screening. Clips and short films shown in class may not be available outside of class, and you are responsible for all of the class material. Therefore, it is important for you to attend the class sessions and screenings regularly. Absences will result in a major reduction of the participation grade.

Excused absences:

- ⇒ Students can read about the procedures for getting an excused absence at [LINK](#)

Illness:

- ⇒ If you are sick, please contact me by email prior to missing a class due to illness and continue to keep me posted until you return. As long as I am aware of your situation and you take an active role in catching up, absences may be excused, and extensions may be granted. Every situation will be handled according to individual circumstance at the instructor's discretion. Absolutely no consideration will be given for those who request special treatment without advanced notice, even with a doctor's note.

In-Class Screenings:

- ⇒ The screened films are required "texts" for the course, and as such, are not to be missed. If you miss a screening, you are responsible for seeking out the film on your own. Students should come to class prepared to discuss the screened films.

Class Discussion:

- ⇒ Student participation in class discussions will be measured in two ways. First, students are highly encouraged to ask questions and offer comments relevant to the day's topic. Participation allows the instructor to "hear" the student's voice when grading papers. Secondly, students will be called upon by the instructor to offer comments related to the reading assignments. Students must keep up with the reading to participate in class discussion.

Attitude:

- ⇒ A professional and academic attitude is expected throughout this course. Measurable examples of non-academic or unprofessional attitude include but are not limited to: talking to others when the instructor is speaking, mocking another's opinion, cell phones ringing, emailing, texting or using the internet whether on a phone or computer. If any issues arise a student may be asked to leave the classroom. The professor will work with the Dean of Students Office to navigate such student issues.

Civil Discourse:

- ⇒ DePaul University is a community that thrives on open discourse that challenges students, both intellectually and personally, to be Socially Responsible Leaders. It is the expectation that all dialogue in this course is civil and respectful of the dignity of each student. Any instances of disrespect or hostility can jeopardize a student's ability to be successful in the course. The professor will partner with the Dean of Students Office to assist in managing such issues. [LINK](#) for additional information.

Computer/Smart Phone Use:

- ⇒ Computers, cell phones, and tablets may NOT be used during class. If you have a documented learning need or disability that requires you to use a laptop, exceptions will be made. Otherwise, no screens in class. Computer or cell phone use will affect your participation grade.

- ⇒ All phones must be kept silent. Please do not have a phone that is constantly buzzing in your backpack.
- ⇒ I understand that emergencies happen and you may need to be available by phone. If that's the case, please tell me at the start of class if you know you may need to take a call. In any event, if you do need to use your phone during class please step outside quietly and answer your phone in the hallway. There is no such thing as a text message emergency. This course involves a mixture of lecture, discussion, as well as screenings and as such, it requires your full attention (we watch movies with our eyes, ears, and minds!). If you bring a phone to class it must be on silent mode or turned off. Should you need to answer a call during class, students must leave the room in an undistruptive manner. Out of respect to fellow students and the professor, texting is never allowable in class.

Reading Assignments:

- ⇒ Reading assignments are mandatory and will be assigned weekly. The textbook readings supplement and inform the lectures and discussions and will be crucial in a broad understanding of cinema. Lectures may introduce additional material not available in the readings, and the readings may explore concepts not mentioned in class. Supplemental readings will also be assigned & discussed in-class. They will be available on D2L.