

## **FILM 101: Foundations of Cinema for Majors**

Winter 2022: January 3 – March 20, 2022

Tuesdays, 1:30pm – 4:45pm, 14 E. Jackson, Room 214

Instructor: Jimmy Boratyn

Office Hours: Online on Mondays 2pm-5pm or by apt.

Email: [jboratyn@depaul.edu](mailto:jboratyn@depaul.edu)

**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.

**Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes:** After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identifying the function of cinematic technique in the art of storytelling.
- Examine the relationship between theory and practice in the filmmaking process.
- Utilize the film language in the analysis of feature length media.

**Required Text** - *Available online through the library:*

Film Art: An Introduction

Bordwell, David ; Thompson, Kristin ; Smith, Jeff

2018 | 12<sup>th</sup> edition

Permalink: <https://i-share->

[dpu.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01CARLI\\_DPU/8tvalj/cdi\\_proquest\\_ebookcentral\\_EBC5972660](https://i-share-dpu.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01CARLI_DPU/8tvalj/cdi_proquest_ebookcentral_EBC5972660)

**D2L:** The course materials for this course, such as syllabus, announcements, course documents, and assignments will be available to you through D2L site at <https://d2l.depaul.edu/>. Please make sure to have access to D2L. You should be able to log into with your Campus Connect credentials.

## **Grading:**

Attendance and Participation: 10%

Screening Responses 40%

Script Exercise 10%

Composition Exercise: 10%

Final Paper: 30%

A= 100-93, A-=92-90, B+=89-88, B=87-83, B-=82-80, C+=79-78, C=77-73, C-=72-70,  
D+=69-68, D=67-63, D-=62-60, F=59-0

## **Class Schedule and Course Outline:**

### **- Week (1) (ONLINE)**

1/4 – Syllabus, Introductions, and The  
Filmmaking Process

**Reading Assignment:** (Read before 1/11  
class)

- **Required:** Chapter 1: Film as Art:  
Creativity, Technology, and Business.  
(Bordwell)
- **Supplemental:** Chapter 1 and 2 from  
Moving Pictures (Sherman) – On D2L

### **- Week (2) (ONLINE)**

1/11 – Cinema Production

**Screen in Class:**

- *Vertigo* (Alfred Hitchcock, 1958)

**Reading Assignment:**

(Read before class on 1/18)

- Required: Chapter 3 Narrative Form  
(Bordwell)
- **Recommended:** *Vertigo* Script - On  
D2L
- **Supplemental:** Chapter 4: Narrative  
from Moving Pictures-(Russell  
Sherman) – On D2L

### - Week (3)

1/18 – Story Structure/Screenplays

**Screen in Class:**

- *Sunset Boulevard* (Billy Wilder, 1950)

**Reading Assignment:**

(Read before class on 1/25)

- **Required:** Chapter 4: Mise-en-Scene (Bordwell)
- **Supplemental:** Chapter 3 (Sherman)  
– On D2L

**Response 1:** due 1:30PM on 1/25

**Script Exercise:** due 1:30PM on 2/1

### - Week (4)

1/25 – Mise-en-Scène/Production Design

**Screen in Class:** *The Fall* (Tarsem Singh, 2006)

**Reading Assignment:**

(Read before class on 2/1)

- **Required:** Chapter 5 The Shot: Cinematography (Bordwell)
- **Supplemental:** Moving Pictures Chapter 5: Cinematography (Sherman) – On D2L

**Script Exercise:** due 1:30PM on 2/1

### - Week (5)

2/1 – Cinematography

**Screen in Class:**

- *Ex Machina* (Alex Garland, 2015)

**Reading Assignment:**

(Read before class on 2/1)

- **Required:** Chapter 8 Summary: Style and Film Form (Bordwell)
- **Supplemental:** Moving Pictures by Russell Sharman (Chapter 8: Acting)  
– On D2L

**Response 2:** due 1:30PM on 2/8

**Composition Exercise:** due 1:30PM on 2/15

## - Week (6)

2/8– Producing/Directing

### **Screen in Class:**

- *Bicycle Thieves* (Vittorio De Sica, 1949)

### **Reading Assignment:**

(Read before class on 2/15)

- **Required:** Chapter 6: The Relation of Shot to Shot: Editing (Bordwell)
- **Supplemental:** Chapter 6: Editing (Sherman) – On D2L

**Composition Exercise:** due 1:30PM on 2/15

## - Week (7)

2/15 – Editing

### **Screen in Class:**

- *Metropolis* (Fritz Lang, 1927)

### **Reading Assignment:**

(Read before class on 2/21)

- **Required:** Chapter 7: Sound in Cinema (Bordwell)
- **Supplemental:** Chapter 7: Sound (Sherman) – On D2L

**Assignment/Response 3:** due 1:30PM on 2/22

## - Week (8)

2/22 – Sound Design and Music

### **Screen in Class:**

- *Whiplash*, (Damien Chazelle, 2014)

### **Reading Assignment:**

(Read before class on 2/21)

- **Required:** Chapter 10: Documentary, Experimental, and Animated Films (Bordwell)

**Assignment/Response 4:** due 1:30PM on 3/1

### **Assignment – Introduce Final Paper:**

- due by 4:45PM on 3/15

## **- Week (9)**

3/1 – Documentary

### **Screen in Class:**

- *Grizzly Man*, (Werner Herzog, 2005)

### **Reading Assignment:**

(Read before class on 2/21)

- **Required:** Chapter 9: Film Genres  
(Bordwell)

### **Assignment – Final Paper:**

- due by 4:45PM on 3/15

## **- Week (10)**

3/8 – Film Genres and Review

### **Screen in Class:**

- *Rashomon*, (Akira Kurosawa, 1951)

### **Assignment – Final Paper:**

- due by 4:45PM on 3/15

## **- Week (11)**

3/15 – **Final Papers Due by 4:45PM**

- (Delivery must be made through D2L)
- (Late finals will NOT be accepted)

## **CHANGES TO SYLLABUS**

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

**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).

## **Late submissions of assignments or (online) class participation notes:**

Assignments will lose one point per day late after the time listed on the submission page of D2L. Late final papers will not be accepted.

**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](http://cdm.depaul.edu/enrollment).

**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.

**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( <http://offices.depaul.edu/student-affairs/student-life/leadership-opportunities/Pages/socially-responsible-leadership.aspx> ). 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.

**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.

**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](http://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](mailto:csd@depaul.edu). Lewis Center 1420, 25 East Jackson Blvd. Phone number: (312)362-8002

**Incompletes** — Students can read about requesting or receiving an incomplete grade at <http://www.cdm.depaul.edu/Current%20Students/Pages/Grading-Policies.aspx>

**Excused absences** — Students can read about the procedures for getting an excused absence at <http://offices.depaul.edu/student-affairs/support-services/academic/Pages/absence-notification.aspx>

**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** - Plagiarism is dishonest behavior and therefore violates collegiality as well as University policy. Any cases of plagiarism will automatically receive a zero and be reported to departmental and University officials for disciplinary action. You should familiarize yourself with behavior that constitutes plagiarism by reviewing the University's policy regarding academic dishonesty at: <http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/Resources/Students/index.html>