

DC 100 SUMMER 2017

6/5/17

**Introduction to Cinema: the Art of Making Movies**

Lincoln Park Student Center

Room 330

Mon & Wed 1:00 - 4:15 PM

Lecture

**Summer Session I Jun 12 - Jul 16**

INSTRUCTOR: Craig Erpelding

Office: STDCTR 332

Office Hours: Mon & Wed 12:15PM - 1:00PM or by appointment

Course Management via [d2l.depaul.edu](http://d2l.depaul.edu)

Phone: 312-362-5606

E-mail: [cerpeldi@cdm.depaul.edu](mailto:cerpeldi@cdm.depaul.edu)

Emails will be responded to within 24 hours

Syllabus (and Movies) subject to change, ample notice will be provided.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This lecture-based course will introduce students to the art of cinema, from the point of view of the filmmaker. Through screenings of contemporary and classic films, students will gain an appreciation of the various crafts involved in the making of movies, such as: acting, directing, producing, screenwriting, cinematography, production design, editing, sound, or visual effects.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES and LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

By the end of the course, students should be able to analyze and create discussion points on a high critical level regarding the various procedures for creating films in a range of genre. Students will also be able to apply lecture topics to analyze cinematic arts in terms of style, technique, process, and successful visual communication from the perspective of a filmmaker. Exhibition of comprehension of course topics will be produced by students through written assignments.

**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.

RECOMMENDED TEXT:

Making Movies, Lumet, Sidney (1995)

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS:

Access to a computer with internet connection

DROP DATES:

6/16 - last day to drop classes without penalty (a grade of W for dropping course after this date)

7/5 - last day to withdraw from classes

COURSE POLICIES:

**Attendance & Professionalism (A&P):** Students are expected to attend each class and to remain for the duration. Coming 15 minutes late or leaving 15 minutes early constitutes an absence for the student. *The overall grade for A&P drops one-third after any unexcused absence.* **Three absences for any reason, whether excused or not, may constitute failure for the course.**

-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, making lewd or inappropriate statements for a professional or collegiate classroom environment, 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.

-Cell Phones/On Call: If you bring a cell phone to class, it must be off or set to a silent mode. 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. If you are required to be on call as part of your job, please advise me at the start of the course.

#### **Assignments & Exercises:**

Assignments and production exercises must be completed by the date to which they are assigned per assignment sheets and D2L. Reasonable deadlines are given for completion for each assignment/exercise. Consequently **late work will not be accepted** without prior consent of the instructor.

*\*All assignments must follow MLA Formatting and Style Guidelines. Written work not following these guidelines will be graded for ½ credit.*

#### **Examinations:**

Students who do not take exams during the regularly scheduled time will receive a failing grade for exams unless they have contacted the instructor **in advance** to arrange for a make-up exam. Make-up exams will be administered by the College according to its make-up exam schedule.

#### **-Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism on assignments or cheating on tests are serious offenses and earn the student a failing grade for the class. There are no exceptions to this rule. If you are in doubt about the definitions of plagiarism, consult your student handbook.

#### **-Course Lectures/Reading Assignments:**

Lecture presentations will occur weekly. The readings offer an opportunity for independent learning that supplements the lecture presentations. The instructor will use both the classroom and the readings. Lectures may introduce additional material not available in the readings, and the readings may explore concepts not mentioned in class.

#### **-Vandalism:**

This one is extremely important. Handle all equipment with care. Do not abuse or vandalize any equipment in or out of class. Vandalism includes any intentional or unreasonable damage to the equipment or facilities available for the course. If you consistently or recklessly mishandle equipment or keep equipment overdue, you will receive a failing grade for the class and will be responsible for the cost of repairs or replacement. There are absolutely no exceptions to this rule.

#### **-Content Changes:**

Depending on time factors, the assignments projected for the term may require slight alteration or rescheduling.

-Sexual Harassment:

The policy as specified in the student handbook will be adhered to in this class.

GRADING:

Attendance & Professionalism*	20%
Weekly Reflection Writeups	20%
Midterm Quiz	25%
Final Quiz	35%

Quizzes administered online via d2l

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.

A indicates excellence, B indicates good work, C indicates satisfactory work, D work is unsatisfactory in some respect, F is substantially unsatisfactory work.

COURSE OUTLINE

WEEK ONE

Intro to Course and Requirements  
Intro to Film and Filmmaking  
Screening: Hearts of Darkness

Screenplays and the Hollywood Formula  
Screening: Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom

WEEK TWO

Cinematography and Visual Language  
Screening: There Will Be Blood

Editing and the "Editor"  
Screening: Bourne Ultimatum

WEEK THREE

Art direction, Symbolism, Metaphor  
Screening: Life Aquatic

Experimental Filmmaking  
Screening: The Tree of Life

Midterm Quiz

WEEK FOUR

Short film and Indie Filmmaking  
Screening: The Wrestler

Low budget, Dogme 95, and Guerilla Filmmaking  
Screening: Once

WEEK FIVE

Mumblecore and Improv Filmmaking  
Screening: Drinking Buddies

Documentary Filmmaking  
Screening: King of Kong a Fistful of Quarters

Final Quiz

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:  
<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

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