Jinan University
Introduction to Film History

Lecturer: Patti R. Rose

Time: Monday through Friday (6/29/2015-7/31/2015)

Credit: 4

Location: Management School

Office: Management School 518

Office Hours: By Appointment

E-mail: prose@miami.edu

(First) Photo of the Moon, John W. Draper (1839)

Planet Musta far from “Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith”, George Lucas (2005)
Course Description:

This course is an introductory survey of film history. Looking at major developments, explains concepts, summarizes debates in film studies, defines technical terms, describes major periods and movements, and discusses historical situations. The emergence of new artistic media, subject matter, and strategies of making and viewing will be also discussed. Emphasis will be placed on the methods of interpreting the works, especially in relation to then-current social practices and cultural values.

Course Objectives:

To gain knowledge of major periods and movements in film history.

To develop skills in critical thinking.

Course Assignments:

5 Presentations - selected topics, working in groups, discussion (25%)

3 Quizzes - 5 slides (identify clip: who, what, where, when, then comment briefly about significance of each) and short essay-comparison (look at two images and, based on what you have learned in lecture and in readings, identify them and discuss briefly) (30%)

2 Exams - 5 slides (identify clip: who, what, where, when, then comment briefly about significance of each object) and longer essay (select one and discuss its importance on what you have learned in lectures and readings) (40%)

Participation (5%)

Required Text


Course Hours

The course has 25 sessions in total. Each class session is 100 minutes in length. The course meets from Monday to Friday. Friday section GSI.
Grading Policy

This course is worth 1000 points. Each student is responsible for demonstrating development and self-direction. Students are expected to attend all classes and complete all assigned work. Students are encouraged to set goals beyond those laid out in the syllabus. Absences beyond 2 class meetings will result in the course grade being lowered to the next lowest grade. For example a course grade of B will be lowered to B/C after two absences.

You will be given qualitative feedback in addition to your number score. Letter grades correspond to your number score according to the following scale:

93-100   A
89-92    AB
83-87    B
77-82    BC
72-76    C
63-71    D
<63     F

Course Schedule

I

1. Mon. June, 24 - Introduction
2. Tue. June, 25 - History of the moving image (first part)
3. Wed. June, 26 - Presentations, discuss readings/movies and discussion
4. Thu. June, 27 - Quizze/Movie
5. Fri. June, 28 - GSI section

II

1. Mon. July, 1 - History of the moving image (second part)
2. Tue. July, 2 - Key debates in theory and history
3. Wed. July, 3 - Presentations, discuss readings/movies and discussion
4. Thu. July, 4 - Quizze/Movie
5. Fri. July, 5 - GSI section

III
1. Mon. July, 8 - Film as art
2. Tue. July, 9 - Film as popular culture
3. Wed. July, 10 - Presentations, discuss readings/movies and discussion
4. Thu. July, 11 - Exam (mid-term)
5. Fri. July, 12 - GSI section

IV
2. Tue. July, 16 - Alternative modes: documentary
3. Wed. July, 17 - Presentations, discuss readings/movies and discussion
4. Thu. July, 18 - Quizze/Movie
5. Fri. July, 19 - GSI section

V
2. Tue. July, 23 - Conclusions
3. Wed. July, 24 - Presentations, discuss readings/movies and discussion

Academic Honesty

Jinan University defines academic misconduct as any act by a student that misrepresents the students’ own academic work or compromises the academic work of another. Scholastic misconduct includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing (i.e. misrepresenting as one’s own work any work done by another); submitting the same paper or substantially similar papers to meet the requirements of more than one course without the approval and consent of the instructors concerned; or sabotaging another’s work. Within these general definitions, however, instructors determine what constitutes academic misconduct in the courses they teach. Students found guilty of academic misconduct in any portion of the academic work will face penalties ranging from lowering of their course grade to awarding a grade of F for the entire course.