

F/TV 1: INTRODUCTION TO CINEMATIC ARTS SPRING 2025

Instructor: Dr. Kristen Anderson

CRN: 00858

Dates: April 7 – June 27

Email: andersonkristen@fhda.edu

Canvas: <https://deanza.instructure.com/>

Expect email replies within 24 hours

Office hours: Mondays 11:00-12:00, or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the close analysis of film and television texts. The course will examine broad questions of form and content, aesthetics and meaning, and history and culture. Using a wide variety of media, filmmakers, and film movements, the course explores the diverse possibilities presented by the cinematic art form. Topics include modes of production, narrative and non-narrative forms, visual design, editing, sound, genre, ideology, and critical analysis.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Analyze critically film and television as a technology, business, cultural production/cultural artifact, entertainment medium and art form.
- Identify and appraise the constituent techniques of the cinematic arts, including producing, screenwriting, directing, acting, cinematography, visual and special effects, editing and sound design.
- Analyze the formal properties of the cinematic arts, including narrative and narrative systems, film language, and style as formal system.
- Analyze and interpret works of the cinematic arts through the application of analytical tools, critical and theoretical approaches, and film-specific language.

UPON COMPLETION OF THIS COURSE, THE STUDENT WILL BE ABLE TO:

- Demonstrate the ability to critically analyze, interpret, and write about film and electronic media using film -specific language.
- Demonstrate visual literacy through the application of the analytical tools of categories, theories, and ideologies to understand the complex role and function of the cinematic arts in society, including representations of class, race/ethnicity, gender, ability, and sexuality.
- Demonstrate the ability to critically analyze film and television as a technology, business, cultural production/cultural artifact, entertainment medium and art form.
- Demonstrate recognition, description and analysis of formal aesthetics elements of the cinematic arts (ie: narrative, mise-en-scène, cinematography, editing, sound).

MATERIALS

All readings will be provided on Canvas.

All films are available on Kanopy or Swank, which you can access through the De Anza Library website.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

FILM PROJECT/ESSAY

Due: June 8

Value: 100 points/25% of total grade

Choose a scene from a film, and, using your phone or a video camera, recreate it shot for shot. You'll need to replicate the framing, lighting, editing, and other stylistic elements as closely as possible. You will then upload your video to Canvas, with a 3-5 page essay describing how the filmmaker used mise-en-scène, cinematography, editing, and sound to convey meaning in the scene.

All work must be turned in on Canvas. Emailed work will not be accepted.

QUIZZES

Due: Weekly

Value: 10 points each/25% of total grade

There are quizzes posted on Canvas for each module. These are open book/open note quizzes, and you can retake them as many times as you want until you're happy with your grade.

Late/missed quiz policy: Quizzes will close one week past their due date. If you miss a quiz I can reopen it for you, up to three times per quarter. Reopened quizzes can only be taken one time each.

DISCUSSIONS

Due: Weekly

Value: 10 points each/30% of total grade

Each module includes a discussion, and you'll need to participate in 10 discussions over the course of the quarter. These are informal opportunities to share your thoughts about the films and modules with your classmates. Specific instructions for the discussions are posted on Canvas.

FINAL EXAM

Due: June 23-25

Value: 100 points/20% of total grade

The final exam will be available on Canvas and will cover topics from the modules and screenings for the entire quarter. A study guide will be posted on Canvas.

ATTENDANCE

In a face-to-face class, students can attend class, but still not participate. In an online class, however, attendance is determined by your participation. To be successful in this class, you will need to:

- log in on a regular basis
- interact in discussions and peer reviews
- take quizzes on time, and
- submit your assignments on time

Logging in alone does not constitute attendance. To attend means to be interactive with the content, your fellow students, and your instructor.

This is not a self-paced course. Each module contains assignments with staggered due dates, and you will be expected to meet these deadlines. Your regular and timely interactions are important to your and your peers' learning.

FILM CONTENT DISCLAIMER

We will be watching a variety of films this quarter which have been chosen based on their artistic merit, historical importance, and narrative and/or stylistic attributes. Some of the films contain adult content, including violence, nudity, adult language, and sexual situations. If you have strong objections to viewing this type of material this may not be the class for you. Approaching film as an art form includes subject material that may be uncomfortable, but is ultimately important to the study of film.

GRADE BREAKDOWN

Film project - 25%; Quizzes - 25%; Discussions - 30%; Final exam - 20%

A+ = 97% and above	A = 94-96%	A- = 90-93%
B+ = 87-89%	B = 84-86%	B- = 80-83%
C+ = 77-79%	C = 70-76%	
D+ = 67-69%	D = 64-66%	D- = 60-63%
F = 59% and below		

Late work will lose 5% for every week past the due date.

SCHEDULE

Please note that schedule changes may occur during the quarter. Any changes will be posted on Canvas.

DATE	MODULE	TOPIC	SCREENING
April 7	0	Introduction to the course	<i>Get Out</i> (Jordan Peele, 2017)
	1	Why study film?	
April 14	2	How is a film made?	Your choice
April 21	3	Narrative films	<i>Didi</i> (Sean Wang, 2024)
April 28	4	Mise-en-scène	<i>Sunset Boulevard</i> (Billy Wilder, 1950)
May 5	5	Cinematography	<i>Moonlight</i> (Barry Jenkins, 2016)
May 12	6	Performance and the star system	<i>Everything Everywhere All at Once</i> (Dan Kwan & Daniel Scheinert, 2022)
May 19	7	Editing	<i>Memento</i> (Christopher Nolan, 2000)
May 26	8	Sound	<i>Wall-E</i> (Andrew Stanton, 2008)

DATE	MODULE	TOPIC	SCREENING
June 2	9	Film genre	<i>A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night</i> (Ana Lily Amirpour, 2014)
June 8	Film projects due		
June 9	10	Documentary	<i>Stories We Tell</i> (Sarah Polley, 2012) or <i>I Am Not Your Negro</i> (Raoul Peck, 2017)
June 16	11	Experimental and animated films	Experimental and animated short films
June 23 – June 25	A 2-hour timed final exam will be available on Canvas from June 23 at 8:00 am until June 25 at 11:59 pm		

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SPECIAL NEEDS

De Anza College views disability as an important aspect of diversity and is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students.

Students who have a disability, either permanent or temporary, which might affect their ability to perform in this class, are encouraged to inform me at the start of the quarter. Adaptations of methods, materials or testing may be made as required to provide equitable participation. For additional assistance, please contact Disability Support Services (DSS).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic honesty is expected of all students. Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. This includes cheating on quizzes or exams as well as plagiarism. Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating defined as using as one's own, without proper citation, words and/or ideas expressed by others in public arenas such as (but not restricted to) print, electronic publications, and scholarly lectures. Plagiarism can involve buying a class paper online, copying another student's work, or copying material from other

sources, such as websites, encyclopedias, or textbooks. It is your responsibility to be knowledgeable about this topic.

Students who cheat, plagiarize, or fabricate sources will be given a failing grade on the assignment and will not be allowed to make up the assignment. In any one course, repeat offenders will be subject to further university disciplinary action. Students who cheat during a final examination will be given a failing grade on the exam and will be reported to the Student Development & EOPS Office for appropriate action which could include, but may not be limited to, failing the class or even being expelled from school, depending on the severity and/or number of times an issue of academic dishonesty has arisen during a student's coursework. Please refer to the Student Standard of Conduct for more information.

GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) POLICY

You may use AI programs (such as ChatGPT) to help generate ideas, check grammar and style, or help clarify your thoughts. However, you should keep in mind that the material generated by AI programs is often inaccurate, biased, incomplete, or otherwise problematic. Furthermore, the information derived from these tools is based on previously published materials. Therefore, using these tools without proper citation constitutes plagiarism. These programs can be used as a starting point, but should not be used to completely write your assignments.

You may not submit any work generated by an AI program as your own. If you include material generated by an AI program, it should be cited like any other reference material. If you use an AI tool to help write an assignment, you must indicate clearly what parts were written by AI and what parts were written by you. No more than 25% of an assignment should contain material generated by an AI tool.

Any work that utilizes AI-based tools must be clearly marked as such, including the specific tool(s) used. For example, if you use ChatGPT-3, you must cite "ChatGPT-3. (date of query). "Text of your query." Generated using OpenAI. <https://chat.openai.com/>" You can find more information about how to cite AI sources here: [How to cite ChatGPT](#)

If an assignment calls on you to give your own opinion or reflection you're expected to write your responses without the help of AI tools. Additionally, AI tools may not be used on exams.

Any assignment that is found to have been plagiarized or to have used AI tools without citation may receive a zero and/or be reported for academic misconduct.