

Washtenaw Community College Comprehensive Report

HUM 160 American Film Effective Term: Fall 2011

Course Cover

Division: Humanities and Social Science

Department: Humanities

Discipline: Humanities

Course Number: 160

Org Number: 11530

Full Course Title: American Film

Transcript Title: American Film

Is Consultation with other department(s) required: No

Publish in the Following: College Catalog , Time Schedule , Web Page

Reason for Submission: Three Year Review / Assessment Report

Change Information:

Course description

Pre-requisite, co-requisite, or enrollment restrictions

Outcomes/Assessment

Objectives/Evaluation

Rationale: Regular three-year review

Proposed Start Semester: Fall 2011

Course Description:

The development of American cinema from its beginnings in 1891 to the present is studied. The films, viewed in class, are discussed in terms of technique as well as in terms of content. The course relates American cinema to themes in American culture.

Course Credit Hours

Variable hours: No

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: Instructor: 45 **Student:** 45

Lab: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0

Clinical: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0

Total Contact Hours: Instructor: 45 **Student:** 45

Repeatable for Credit: NO

Grading Methods: Letter Grades

Audit

Are lectures, labs, or clinicals offered as separate sections?: NO (same sections)

College-Level Reading and Writing

College-level Reading & Writing

College-Level Math

Requisites

General Education

MACRAO

MACRAO Humanities

General Education Area 6 - Arts and Humanities

Assoc in Applied Sci - Area 6

Request Course Transfer

Proposed For:

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify historical changes in American film industries' style, technology and content.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Multiple-choice and short answer tests.

Assessment Date: Fall 2013

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: All sections.

Number students to be assessed: All students who take the final exam.

How the assessment will be scored: Tests are scored using an answer key.

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of the students will score 70% or higher.

Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty and course instructor(s) will score and analyze the data.

2. Identify the contributions of the pioneers of early American film.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Multiple-choice and short answer tests.

Assessment Date: Fall 2013

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: All sections.

Number students to be assessed: All students who take the final exam.

How the assessment will be scored: Tests are scored using an answer key.

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of the students will score 70% or higher.

Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty and course instructor(s) will score and analyze the data.

3. Recognize the influence of American culture on film and film's influence on American culture.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Multiple-choice and short answer tests.

Assessment Date: Fall 2013

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: All sections.

Number students to be assessed: All students who take the final exam.

How the assessment will be scored: Tests are scored using an answer key.

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of the students will score 70% or higher.

Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty and course instructor(s) will score and analyze the data.

4. Identify the factors that cause the American film industry to become the dominant film producers.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Multiple-choice and short answer tests.

Assessment Date: Fall 2013

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: All sections.

Number students to be assessed: All students who take the final exam.

How the assessment will be scored: Tests are scored using an answer key.
Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of the students will score 70% or higher.

Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty and course instructor(s) will score and analyze the data.

5. Identify the factors that coalesced to create specific film genres.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Multiple-choice and short answer tests.

Assessment Date: Fall 2013

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: All sections.

Number students to be assessed: All students who take the final exam.

How the assessment will be scored: Tests are scored using an answer key.

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of the students will score 70% or higher.

Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty and course instructor(s) will score and analyze the data.

Course Objectives

1. Discuss the pervasive influence film has had within our society and how society influences film.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

2. Discuss the film industry as a business, cultural product and commodity, as well as the machinery of film making.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

3. State the background and variety of events, circumstances and individuals which coalesced into the birth and early years of film, including advancements in photography, and the efforts of Edison, Eastman and the Lumiere Brothers.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

4. Discuss the natural phenomenon, "phi" effect, or persistence of vision which makes film viewing possible.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

5. Discuss the eventual expansion into film narratives and commercial endeavors as well as emerging competitors.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

6. Recognize the advancement in production techniques through film viewing.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

7. Recognize the worldwide effect of D. W. Griffith upon cinema, citing the influence of Griffith's background in his film content. Identify and analyze the scope and production techniques used in The Birth of a Nation and describe the controversy surrounding the making of the film.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

8. Analyze and describe the movies' second decade (1908-1919), outlining the effect of WWI on the film industry.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

9. Discuss the downfall of the Trust Companies as well as screen credits and how it affected the film industry.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

10. Recognize the creation of sound for the movies.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

11. Identify the effect that newly created publicity departments had upon film content.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

12. Describe the early film censorship and the creation of the Hays office.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

13. Recognize the background of Charlie Chaplin/Mack Sennett and discuss the differences between Sennett's purely physical comedy and Chaplin's more subtle style.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

14. Describe the way in which films effectively distill many of the urges and values of American society as a whole in the 1920s.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

15. Describe the content of films during the American Studio Years and describe the events leading up to the huge studios.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

16. Describe the studio system of production and the tension between film art and film business.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

17. Define film cycles and cinematic conventions.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

18. Describe John Ford's traditional and sentimental values and his influence on American film.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

19. Identify and analyze the film Citizen Kane, its technical innovations, structural complexity and its complicated handling of the narrative point-of-view.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

20. Describe the years following WWII and recognize the effect of the court decision U.S. vs. Paramount Pictures, 1948.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

21. Identify the devastating effect that television has on the film industry and what Hollywood

does to fight back.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

22. Describe how the various studios are affected, as well as the creation of Screen Gems, the first television division from a film studio.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

23. Analyze the collapse of the studio system.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

24. Identify the Supreme Court decision of 1951 declaring movies a part of the nation's "press" and analyze its ramifications.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

25. Identify how films of the 50's are analyzed and the differences between the clear values on their narrative surfaces and the more complicated social questions beneath them are discussed.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

26. Describe the emergence of the Film Noir genre.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

27. Define H.U.A.C. and its effect on the film industry, film content, as well as individuals within the film business.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

28. Identify and discuss the specific genres of the 1950's as well as outline Hollywood's desperate search to increase revenue throughout the 1950's.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

29. Discuss the influence of foreign film makers on Hollywood films.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

30. Describe the differences within the foreign films and how they affected the movie public.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

31. Identify specific target audiences that Hollywood eventually found.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

32. Recognize the events and circumstances which brought about the renaissance of Hollywood.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

33. Discuss the change in the audience, influence from Europe, the Underground Cinema and the discovery of the elitism of the new film audience are all analyzed in order to understand the radical shift in American film.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

34. Identify and describe many specific production techniques as well as changes in soundtracks.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

35. Analyze the creation of the director's cinema.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

36. Compare and discuss directors such as Woody Allen, Stanley Kubrick, Robert Altman, Francis Ford Coppola, Martin Scorsese and Brian DePalma.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

37. Identify specific style and production techniques for each director shown.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

38. Describe the three conflicting critical attitudes concerning the independent American cinema as well as the shift in American Film content after the late 70's.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

39. Identify the criteria marking the transition from one American film era to another.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

40. Describe changes in the system of marketing and selling films to the public.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

41. Identify changes and emerging technologies.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

42. Describe dominant cultural values and attitudinal changes within the industry.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

43. Outline new trends within the industry.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

44. Address the influence that cable television, video rental and emerging technologies are having on the industry.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise

Matched Outcomes

45. Summarize the main points and significant events in American Film.

Methods of Evaluation

Activity or Exercise
Matched Outcomes

New Resources for Course

Course Textbooks/Resources

Textbooks
Manuals
Periodicals
Software

Equipment/Facilities

Reviewer

Faculty Preparer:

Department Chair/Area Director:

Dena Blair

Dean: *Bill Abernethy*

Vice President for Instruction: *Stuart
Blacklaw*

Action

Faculty Preparer

Recommend Approval

Recommend Approval

Approve

Date

Mar 10, 2011

Mar 14, 2011

Mar 15, 2011

Apr 07, 2011