

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU



Drama 201 Introduction to Motion Pictures/Television

PEARL HARBOR FALL EVENING 1998

Instructor: Achilles S.C. Gacis MA, [S.A.G.](#)

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Classes: Wednesdays, 1645-2050

FADE IN:

CATALOGUE COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A study of the aesthetic and technical aspects with emphasis on the film making elements. Includes viewing, script writing, and critiquing.

⇒ This course will provide the student with opportunities to explore the many facets of film and television production. We will examine the process of screen writing and how it is the most crucial of elements when making a visual piece ("if it ain't on the page, it ain't on the stage"-old Hollywood saying...). We will see the world as if through the eyes of the cinematographer-often frame by frame. We will examine the process of critiquing a film and see that there is more than "thumbs up" or "thumbs down."

We will study what makes a film "good" versus "bad" with an OPEN mind!

TEXTBOOK Giannetti, Louis. Understanding movies. Seventh Edition.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING:

You will choose your favorite movie from whatever genre you like (action, romance, comedy, horror animation, etc.) and analyze one scene in complete detail as outlined in your text. A complete story board of the scene will also be required. The style and format you will use will be explained in detail in class.

Each class session may have one (or two) films of a particular genre that we will collectively analyze following a viewing. You will write up a mini review/response/analysis for each film viewed in class (18 total).

At the end of the course, each student will present(in front of the class)an encapsulated version of their film analysis(what you found out to be interesting/different from what you previously thought about the piece, the dialogue, the cinematography, the action, the setup, the conflict, the resolution, the editing, the color themes used to portray the moods, etc.)consisting of a detailed examination of *one scene* from their movie. Following the verbal presentation, the student will show the cued scene from a videotape.

Grading: Attendance is mandatory and will be taken. 1) Film responses.2) Film analysis. 3)Class presentation. Average of three grades determines course grade.

CONTINUED

COURSE OUTLINE

MORE:

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|------|----|---|
| Oct | 07 | Introduction. Course explanation. job descriptions, on set protocol, production, etc. <i>Film: The Art of the Impossible</i> <i>America at the Movies</i> |
| | 14 | <i>The Director</i> <i>Hearts of Darkness: A film maker's Apocalypse</i> |
| | 21 | Citizen Kane (analysis) <i>Visions of Light</i> Cinematography ... the DP. <i>The Edited Image</i> <i>Citizen Kane</i> |
| | 28 | Screenwriting. Type, format, and formula. Linear, non-linear. <i>Casablanca</i> |
| Nov. | 04 | <i>Breathless</i> Goddard and the French new wave cinema (the free camera). |
| | 11 | <i>Zorba the Greek</i> Character study. What is "Black & white?" |
| | 18 | Stunts and action. <i>How to become a Hollywood Stuntman</i> <i>The Idol ,Dar Robinson: The Ultimate Stuntman</i> <i>Great Hollywood Chase Scenes</i> <i>Making of Raiders of the Lost Ark</i> |
| | 25 | <i>Hawaii Now: Hawaii 5-O</i> <i>Hawaii 5-O Surprise</i> |
| Dec. | 02 | <i>Making of "Escape from Atlantis"</i> <i>Escape from Atlantis</i> |
| | 09 | P R E S E N T A T I O N S |
| | 16 | Wrap up... |

NOTE: Films subject to change additions/substitutions may occur with ample notice.

FADE OUT

The End.