

Chaminade University  
DRAMA 201 - - Introduction to Motion Pictures & Television  
Fall Evening Session 2001  
**<http://acad.chaminade.edu:8080/~dr201>**

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**Course Objectives:**

**This** course provides a study of the aesthetic and technical aspects of motion pictures and television, with emphasis on the film making elements. Students will view and critique films, and apply what they have **learned** to write their own short **screenplay** or movie analysis.

**Reading:**

Required text: Giannetti, Louis. *Understanding Movies*. 8th edition.

You will also be expected to read one of the following for week #6:

the play *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William **Shakespeare**  
the novel *The Green Mile* by Stephen King  
the children's book *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* by Dr. Seuss  
the poem *Gunga Din* by Rudyard Kipling

**Requirements and Grading:**

The final grade consists of these elements:	participation in weekly discussions	25
	midterm quiz	10%
	written <b>project</b>	25
	Final Exam (in person)	<b>40%</b>
		total =100%

Participation on-line:

On-line we will discuss readings from the text, and **compare** what we have read to videotapes or television programs that you will be **required** to watch on your own time. Your active participation is expected in these on-line discussions each week.

Written Project:

You will be required to turn in a written project, 10 to 15 pages in length. This can be either a screenplay or a movie analysis project.

screenplay - write a 10 minute script (up to 15 pages in length) utilizing what you have learned about screen-writing in class and **from** the text.

movie analysis - 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. The style and format you will use will be explained in class. Your work should be neat and turned in on *time*.

### Extra Credit Options For Written Projects:

for the screenplay -

Extra credit will be given to students who have the initiative to apply what they have learned about the technical and aesthetic aspects of film-making to a script written for class. In other words, if you make a movie out of one of the short scripts from class, you can raise your final grade by up to a full letter. Movies can be mailed to the instructor on videotape and/or made available on-line for the entire class to see.

for the movie analysis -

Extra credit will be given if you include a complete story board of the scene. This can be snail-mailed to the instructor (P.O. Box 10815 Hilo, HI 96721) or submitted on-line.

### Course Outline/Schedule:

wee #	Required Reading:	Required Viewing:
Week 1	Course Introduction <i>Photography</i> and <i>Mise en Scene</i> ( <u>chapters 1 &amp; 2</u> )	The Legend o Sleepy Hollow (with Johnny Depp)
week 2	Movement and Sound (chapters 3 & 5)	The Matrix (with Keanu Reeves) Music of the Heart (with M l S )
week 3	<u>Editing (chapter 4)</u>	Forrest Gum (with Tom Hanks)
week 4	Drama (chapter 7)	What Dreams May Come (with Robin Williams)
week 5	Story (chapter 8) MIDTERM QUIZ (covers Ch. 8 <u>only</u> )	Legends of the Fall (with Brad Pitt)
week 6	Writing (chapter 9) A Midsummer Night's Dream, or The Green Mile, or How the Grinch Stole Christmas, or Gun a Din	A Midsummer Night's Dream (with Calista Flockhart & Michelle Pfeiffer) or The Green Mile (with Tom Hanks) or The Grinch (with Jim Carey) or Gun a Din (with C Grant)
week 7	Actin ( <u>chapter 6</u> )	Tootsie (with Dustin Ho an)
week 8	Ideology (chapter 10)	It's a Wonderful Life, or Contact (with Jodie Foster)
week 9	Theory (chapter 11) DEADLINE TO TURN IN WRITTEN PROJECTS	TV show Ally McBeal, or TV show Boston Public, or Charlie's Angels (with Luc Liu et. al.)
week 10	FINAL EXAM (you MUST show up <u>in-person to take this written exam.</u> )	Citizen Kane,(with Orson Welles)

Your final grade will be one of the following:

A..... Outstanding scholarship and intellectual initiative.

B ..... Superior work done in a consistent and intelligent manner.

C..... Average grade **indicating** a competent grasp of the subject matter

D..... Work of below average quality, but still passing.

F..... Failure to grasp the minimum of the subject material; no credit given. This grade is also given for failure to withdraw officially from the course.

W ..... Official withdrawal from the course.

I..... Incomplete. Student has been unable, for a valid reason, to complete the course work according to the assigned schedule. The issuance of an "I" grade is not automatic. Prior to reporting of grades a contract must be made between the student and the **instructor** for the completion of the course. **Sufficient** time must be allowed to permit completion of the work, evaluation, and rep ing of the final grade within 90 days after the end of the term. This limit may not be extended. If a new grade is not submitted by the instructor prior to the deadline, the **alternate grade** (indicated in the **contract**) will be recorded.