

WB '03

Chaminade University of Honolulu
Winter 2003 Evening Session (on-line)
January 13 - March 26, 2003
<http://acad.chaminade.edu:8080/~dr201>

Course: DRAMA 20190 - - Introduction to Motion Pictures & Television
Instructor: Dr. Justina T. Mattos
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Course Description and 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 10-15 page screenplay or movie analysis.

Reading:

Required text: Giannetti, Louis. *Understanding Movies*. 9th edition.

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

- the play *Hamlet* 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:

- 25% participation in on-line discussions
- 10% midterm quiz
- 25% written project
- 40% Final Exam (in person)
- 100% total

Participation on-line:

On-line we will discuss readings from the text, and compare what we have read to assigned videotapes or television programs that you will be required to watch on your own time. If you do not own the required videos, you will need to borrow them from friends/family/library or rent them. Your active participation is required in these on-line discussions each week. You are expected not only to answer the discussion questions posted by the instructor, but also to respond to the posts of your fellow classmates, actively engaging in discussion and debate about the topics that we will be covering.

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

screenplay - write a 10-15 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. (Chapter 12 provides a good example of the depth & detail that you should strive for in your analysis.)

Grading System:

- A..... (90-100) Outstanding scholarship and intellectual initiative.
 B..... (80-89) Superior work done in a consistent and intelligent manner.
 C..... (70-79) Average grade indicating a competent grasp of the subject matter
 D..... (60-69) Work of below average quality, but still passing.
 F..... (59 and below) 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 reporting 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.

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:

week #	Required Reading:	Required Viewing:
week 1	Course Introduction Photography and Mise en Scène (chapters 1 & 2)	The Legend of Sleepy Hollow (with Johnny Depp) OR Oh Brother, Where Art Thou? (with George Clooney)
week 2	Movement and Sound (chapters 3 & 5)	The Matrix (with Keanu Reeves) AND Music of the Heart (with Meryl Streep)
week 3	Editing (chapter 4)	Forrest Gump (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 only)	Legends of the Fall (with Brad Pitt) or O (with Julia Stiles)
week 6	Writing (chapter 9) Hamlet, or The Green Mile, or How the Grinch Stole Christmas, or Gunga Din	Hamlet 2000 (with Ethan Hawke) or The Green Mile (with Tom Hanks) or The Grinch (with Jim Carey) or Gunga Din (with Cary Grant)
week 7	Acting (chapter 6)	Tootsie (with Dustin Hoffman)
week 8	Ideology (chapter 10)	Castaway (with Tom Hanks), or Contact (with Jodie Foster)
week 9	Theory (chapter 11) DEADLINE TO TURN IN WRITTEN PROJECTS	TV show Boston Public, or Men in Black (with Will Smith)
week 10	FINAL EXAM (you MUST show up in-person to take this written exam.)	Citizen Kane (with Orson Welles)