

PAR-201-90—Introduction to Motion Pictures **ONLINE**

Chaminade University Fall Day 2026



Chaminade
University
OF HONOLULU



School of Humanities, Art and Design

Dr. Allison E. Francis Email: Allison.francis@chaminade.edu

Office: 206E Henry Hall **Phone:** 808 735 4863

Office hours: MW: 10:30-1PM, on Zoom, and by appointment

Course Description Texts & Required Assignments

Required Texts:

Dennis Petrie & Joseph Boggs *The Art of Watching Films* (10th edition)

Classic and Modern Film Selections (DVD Rentals & Streaming will be expected for viewings)

Mandatory Weekly Discussions

2 Short Film Critiques (2-4 pages)

1 Director's Map (Group Project)

Quizzes

1 Final Exam

Introduction to Motion Pictures is a film-viewing and discussion-based survey course designed to introduce students to the “aesthetic and technical aspects of motion pictures, with emphasis on film-making elements that include viewing, scripting and critiquing. The class will examine various classic and modern film genres, and have an opportunity to create multi-media critiques on one, or two films. This is a fluid course that may shift to reflect current events and class interests. Through class discussions and critical analysis, we will explore how film and the performing arts continues to inform, reflect and transform modern societies.

This three-credit hour course requires a minimum of **135** clock hours of student engagement, per the official CUH Credit Hour Policy. Students enrolled in this course are expected to spend about **37.5** hours in the **online class** (includes reading lecture notes, quizzes, discussion prompts, and posting reflections and responses) which averages about **2.5** hours per week. **Please note that Canvas monitors your online activity.** You will spend **24.5** hours writing and revising two short critiques (12.25 hours each), and another **15** hours working on your director's map. The final exam will take **40** hours of studying, preparing for, and taking the final. There will be an additional **18** hours of work required beyond what is listed here (includes course readings, and homework assignments). This additional work will average about **1.2** hours per week.

Learning Outcomes

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs) By the end of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate fundamental knowledge and recognition of the cinematic arts of production, direction, editing, design and acting.
2. Evaluate films through written critiques, using industry-standard terminology
3. Respond actively and imaginatively in classroom by engaging in, discussion, interpreting, analyzing and critical thinking and writing about film as an art.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (PLOs) Upon completion of the Performing Arts minor, students will be able to:

1. Develop a written critique of a live performance that demonstrates application of the rules for criticism in the performing arts.
2. Define and apply terminology and techniques used in the performing arts in a written or oral presentation.
3. Interpret and articulate the history and development of the performing arts, particularly development of specific art forms, styles, and genres.

MARIANIST VALUES

This class represents one component of your education at Chaminade University of Honolulu. An education in the Marianist Tradition is marked by five principles and you should take every opportunity possible to reflect upon the role of these characteristics in your education and development:

1. Education for formation in faith
2. Provide an integral, quality education
3. Educate in family spirit
4. Educate for service, justice and peace
5. Educate for adaptation and change

NATIVE HAWAIIAN VALUES

Education is an integral value in both Marianist and Native Hawaiian culture. Both recognize the transformative effect of a well-rounded, value-centered education on society, particularly in seeking justice for the marginalized, the forgotten, and the oppressed, always with an eye toward God (Ke Akua). This is reflected in the 'Ōlelo No'eau (Hawaiian proverbs) and Marianist core beliefs:

1. Educate for Formation in Faith (Mana) E ola au i ke akua ('Ōlelo No'eau 364) May I live by God
2. Provide an Integral, Quality Education (Na'auao) Lawe i ka ma'alea a kū'ono'ono ('Ōlelo No'eau 1957) Acquire skill and make it deep
3. Educate in Family Spirit ('Ohana) 'Ike aku, 'ike mai, kōkua aku kōkua mai; pela iho la ka nohana 'ohana ('Ōlelo No'eau 1200) Recognize others, be recognized, help others, be helped; such is a family relationship
4. Educate for Service, Justice and Peace (Aloha) Ka lama kū o ka no'eau ('Ōlelo No'eau 1430) Education is the standing torch of wisdom
5. Educate for Adaptation and Change (Aina) 'A'ohe pau ka 'ike i ka hālau ho'okahi ('Ōlelo No'eau 203) All knowledge is not taught in the same school

Alignment of Course Learning Outcomes

PAR	CLO 1	CLO 2	CLO 3
Marianist Values	4,5	4,5	4
PLOs	2	1.2	2
Native Hawaiian Values	4,5	4,5	4,5

Participation, Regular & Substantive Interaction (RSI)

Student Participation Expectations

This asynchronous course requires consistent, meaningful engagement with content, peers, and the instructor each week. Logging in without completing activities does not count as participation.

Students are expected to:

Complete assigned readings, lectures, and activities within designated timeframes. Log in regularly to review module instructions, announcements, deadlines, feedback, and grades.

Contribute substantively to discussions — post original responses and engage thoughtfully with peers within the required window.

Demonstrate preparation, reflection, and critical thinking in all interactive components.

Meet established deadlines to support collaborative learning and remain on track with the weekly sequence.

Weekly Discussions: discussions are crucial to your **class participation** grade; therefore, **online attendance is MANDATORY**. Canvas monitors your online activity. **Students are required to post at least TWICE** to each discussion (unless directed otherwise). Remember to post most responses before Thursday, to allow for lively discussions on the various topics we will examine.

The deadline for discussion posts will be 11PM on the day assigned.

If you post responses less than twice a week, your final grade will be lowered.

If you do not post at least two responses to each discussion topic on a weekly basis, your weekly and final scores will be lowered.

Regular and Substantive Interaction (RSI) — Instructor Commitments:

- **Weekly Communication:** Weekly announcements and/or module overviews clarifying objectives, key concepts, and assignment expectations.
- **Substantive Engagement:** Instructor-facilitated discussion engagement — prompting analysis, clarifying misunderstandings, connecting posts to course concepts, summarizing takeaways.
- **Timely Feedback:** within five days, or less for discussion posts, and two weeks or less, for other assignments
- **Monitoring & Outreach:** Active monitoring of Canvas engagement with proactive outreach and referrals for students who miss deadlines or fall behind.

Technical Assistance for Canvas Users:

- Search for help on specific topics or get tips in [Canvas Students](#)
- [Live chat with Canvas Support for students](#)
- Canvas Support Hotline for students: +1-833-209-6111
- Watch this [video to get you started](#)
- [Online tutorials](#): click on “Students” role to access tutorials
- Contact the Chaminade Helpdesk for technical issues: helpdesk@chaminade.edu or call (808) 735-4855

Film Critiques & Director’s Map Project

Film Critique: Your first critique must be created by you alone and turned in on time. Your second critique can be AI-assisted. All critiques must come from two of the films listed below:

Film List* for Critiques:

<i>The Birth of a Nation</i> (Black & White, 1915)	<i>Parasite</i> (South Korea, 2019)
<i>Within Our Gates</i> (B&W, 1920)	<i>La La Land</i> (Musical, 2016)
<i>Pulp Fiction</i> (Drama, 1994)	<i>Howl’s Moving Castle</i> (Anime, 2005)
<i>Sunset Boulevard</i> (Drama, 1950)	<i>Moana 1-2</i> (Anime, 2016, 2025)
<i>Mean Girls</i> (Comedy, 2004)	<i>Wild Robot</i> (Anime, 2024)
<i>White Chicks</i> (Comedy, 2004)	<i>Emilia Perez</i> (LGBTQ+, 2024)
<i>Furiosa: Mad Max</i> (Action, 2024)	
Stanley Kubrick, <i>The Shining</i> (Horror, 1980)	Brett Sullivan, <i>Hadestown: The Musical</i> (2026)
P. Lord & C. Miller, <i>Project Hail Mary</i> (Sci Fi, 2026)	

Critiques must be typed and double-spaced and contain your name, the course number, your professor’s name, and the date. When requested, your papers will be turned in on time via Canvas. Late papers will not be accepted after the due date! Papers turned in a day late will not be graded. Please remember to save all your assignments under accessible folders and labels: **[yourlastname.PAR201.crit1.](#)**

Director’s Map Project: Everyone will participate in a group project, which requires analyzing a director from one of the films we view. The map will provide a brief biography of the director and the cinematic elements she/he/they use(s) in film-making. Students will be divided up into small groups, and prepare discussion questions for the class. You will post your presentation on our discussion board using PowerPoint, Keynote, Canva, or another app/tool. Your actual presentation should be imaginative and creative as you critically approach these directors.

Film List* for Director’s Map:

Michael Curtiz <i>Casablanca</i> (1943)	Ryan Coogler, <i>Sinners</i> (2025)
Baltasar Kormákur, <i>Adrift</i> (2018)	Jon Chu, <i>Wicked; Wicked for Good</i> (2024, 2025)
Spike Lee, <i>Do the Right Thing</i> (1989)	Jude Weng, <i>Finding ‘Ohana</i> (2021)
Stephen Chbosky, <i>The Perks of Being a Wallflower</i> (2012)	

***Please recognize that some films contain adult subject matter, sex, violence and strong language. Please contact me if you encounter any issues.**

Quizzes, Final Exam & Personal Conferences

Quizzes: When necessary, you will take timed quizzes or submit reflection paragraphs to ensure you are reading and reviewing the assigned films. Keeping current with your film viewing and regular postings on the discussion board will assist you in achieving higher quiz scores.

Quizzes are only available on the day they are assigned. If quizzes are administered online, they may be assigned from 8AM-11PM. Therefore, if you miss the quiz, **there are no make-up quizzes available.**

Final Exam: The final is in a multiple choice, true/false, and/or short answer format which will be administered online the last day of instruction. A study guide will be available on Canvas. Review films viewed, discussion posts and quizzes to prepare for this final.

THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP FINAL EXAMS FOR ANY REASON.

Personal Conferences: Personal conferences, whether face-to-face, or on Zoom, offer you an opportunity to discuss your progress in this course with me. Our first **MANDATORY** conference is a brief Meet & Greet—either in-person, or online (2-4 minutes). Please feel free to schedule other conferences with me to discuss your status, assignments or any concerns that might arise.

Please exercise confidentiality regarding honesty and integrity when posting and replying online (See *Student Handbook*).

AI (Artificial Intelligence) Statement

Chaminade University recognizes the increasing role of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies in academic and professional environments. AI encompasses, but is not limited to, generative AI platforms, automated writing or content generation software, coding assistants, and similar tools. Students must ensure all submitted work genuinely reflects their knowledge and effort. Using AI to produce or significantly complete graded assignments, exams or other academic tasks – defined as use that substitutes for or substantially replaces a student's own analysis, reasoning or written expression – without explicit instructor approval is considered academic misconduct and will be dealt with according to the University's Academic Honesty Policy. If an instructor has reasonable grounds to question whether submitted work genuinely reflects a student's own knowledge, authorship, or mastery of course material — or whether it meets the course's expectations for AI use — the instructor may require the student to provide additional or alternative evidence of authorship and content mastery. Such evidence may include drafts, notes, revision history, source materials, process explanations, oral discussion, in class work, or completion of an alternative assessment. A student's refusal or inability to provide such evidence may be considered, along with other available information, in evaluating whether the work meets course requirements and stated learning outcomes. Instructors will not rely solely on AI detection software or other automated tools in making grading or academic integrity determinations. Such determinations will be based on the totality of the available information and handled in accordance with applicable University policies and procedures. See the catalog section *Student Use of Artificial Intelligence in Academic Work* for further information.

Remember, all your work must be your own, unless indicated otherwise! Any plagiarized papers or assignments (papers copied from someone else, a text, AI, or the Internet) will receive an 'F' grade, and you could fail the course.

Grading Scale: (*Student Handbook*)

A	90% and above
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	59% and below, or failure to submit all graded work without pre-approved excuse

W Withdrawal before published deadlines

I The issuance of an 'I' grade is not automatic. At the discretion of the faculty member, a Grade of "I" may be assigned to a student who has successfully completed [i.e., with at least a passing grade] a majority of the work of the course and who has an unavoidable and compelling reason why the remainder of the work cannot be completed on schedule.

WITHDRAWALS/ INCOMPLETES

Chaminade students have the option of withdrawing from this, or any course, provided they do either before or by the deadline. Your professor is not responsible for providing you with the appropriate forms to apply for a "W," nor are we able to extend the date if you miss the deadline. Please speak to me as soon as possible if you believe you should withdraw from this course. According to Chaminade University's general catalog, an incomplete is only issued if a student "Did not complete a small portion of the work or final examination due to circumstances beyond the student's control... Prior to reporting of grades a contract must be made between the student and the instructor for the completion of the course." Incompletes are neither automatically rendered nor encouraged for minor issues.

Assessed Work for PAR201 online*:**

Weekly Discussion Posts/Quizzes:	20% (of final mark)
2 Short Critiques:	30% (of final mark)
Director's Map:	20% (of final mark)
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>30% (of final mark)</u>
	100%

The passing grade for this class is a "C."

Please note: Scores and percentages on Canvas do not reflect all the assessed work.

Quality and merit of written work will be prioritized over percentages

****Percentages on Canvas are incomplete projections of final grades****

Meet and Greet Your Professor During Temporary Office Hours Week 1 (206E Henry Hall): Tuesday 11:30AM-1PM, or Wednesday 10:30AM-1PM. Please just drop in, or reserve a time online for a Zoom appointment. Arriving in groups is encouraged. We will meet briefly for 2-4 minutes to ensure you have online access and understand the guidelines. Zoom schedule available on Canvas.

PAR 201.90 Schedule (subject to changes) Dr. Francis		
Week	Assignment	Dr. Francis
Wk 1—Aug 17 MEET & GREET YOUR PROFESSOR!	Orientation: Discussion Board Introductions Introductions and Familiarity with Canvas platform Meet & Greet your professor this week! Drop in to 206E Henry Hall Tuesday 11:30AM-1:00PM, or Wednesday 10:30AM-1PM. Group meetings are encouraged. Zoom appointments available. Read <i>Watching Films</i> : Ch 1 “The Art of Watching Films”; Ch 4 7778 Watch <i>Train, Trip to the Moon</i> & short clips on Canvas	
Wk 2—Aug 24	Elements of Film Read <i>Watching Films</i> : Ch 2 19-30 Identifying Theme, Plot Character, Structure and Ideas Watch <i>Casablanca</i> (1943) Assign Groups for Director’s Map Add/Drop period ends Tuesday!	
Wk 3—Aug 31	Elements of Film Read <i>Watching Films</i> : Ch 3 35-47 Examining Genre, Story, Dramatic Structure Complete viewing <i>Casablanca</i>	
Wk 4—Sep 7 LABOR DAY: 7 Sept	Characters and Conflict Read <i>Watching Films</i> : Ch 3 48-58; Ch 10 291-97 Examining Character Development & Acting Watch <i>Adrift</i> (2018) Take Quiz I on Friday!	
Wk 5—Sep 14 DEADLINE TO WITHDRAW: 18 Sept	Characters and Conflict Read <i>Watching Films</i> : Ch 10 291-97 Complete viewing <i>Adrift</i> (2018) 1st Director’s Map on <i>Casablanca</i>, or <i>Adrift</i> due!	

Wk 6—Sep 21	Visual Design & Movie Magic Read <i>Watching Films</i>: Ch 5 107-112; 136-143 Watch <i>Do the Right Thing</i> (1989) First Short Critique due Friday! Submit on Canvas!
Wk 7—Sep 28	Cinematography & F/X in Anime Read <i>Watching Films</i>: Ch 5 144-51 Clips i.e. <i>Blade Runner</i> & <i>Beowulf</i> on Canvas Complete <i>Do the Right Thing</i> 2nd Director's Map on <i>Do the Right Thing</i> due!
Wk 8—Oct 5	Mise-en-Scene Read <i>Watching Films</i>: Ch 4 85-99 Identify setting, composition, lighting & editing Examine makeup, costumes, props, & staging Watch Clips from <i>Citizen Kane</i> (1941); Begin <i>Sinners</i> (2025) Take Quiz II on Friday!
Wk 9—Oct 12	Editing Begin <i>Watching Films</i>: Ch 6 161-184; Ch 11 338-341; 347-59 SPECIAL SCREENING OF <i>SINNERS</i> ON CAMPUS DURING WELLNESS WEEK! DAY/TIME TBA!
Wk 10—Oct 19	Editing Complete <i>Watching Films</i>: Ch 6 161-184; Ch 11 338-341; 347-59 Complete <i>Sinners</i> 3rd Director's Map on <i>The Sinners</i> due!

Wk 11—Oct 26	Dialogue & Sound Read <i>Watching Films</i>: Ch 8 228-35; 224-251 Watch Jon Chu, <i>Wicked</i>, or <i>Wicked for Good</i> (2024, 2025) Second, AI-assisted Critique due on Friday! Submit on Canvas!
Wk 12—Nov 2	Music & Musical Scores Read <i>Watching Films</i>: Ch 9 “The Musical Score” 262-81 Complete <i>Wicked</i>, or <i>Wicked for Good</i> (2024, 2025) 4th Director’s Map on <i>Wicked</i> due!
Wk 13—Nov 9 VETERAN’S DAY: 11 Nov	Films in Hawaii Read “Pacific Islanders Increase Visibility in the Film Industry in Hawaii” And “Beyond Paradise: Six Visionaries Shaping The Hawai’i Filmmaking Scene” Friday Quiz: Elements of Film III Begin Watching <i>Finding ‘Ohana</i> (2021) Take Quiz III on Friday!
Wk 14—Nov 16	Films in Hawaii Read “Hawai’i’s Film Feast is Now a Famine. What Happened?” Complete <i>Finding ‘Ohana</i> 5th Director’s Map on <i>Finding ‘Ohana</i> due!
Wk 15—Nov 23 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY: 26-27 Nov	Final Exam Review Review study guide, lecture notes and discussion posts for Final
Wk 16—Nov 30-Dec 4 FINAL EXAM: 4 DEC!	Final Exam Review study guide, lecture notes and discussion posts for Final THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP FINAL EXAMS FOR ANY REASON! Final exam available last day of classes: 4 Dec!

Important Information

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty is an essential aspect of all learning, scholarship, and research. It is one of the values regarded most highly by academic communities throughout the world. Violations of the principle of academic honesty are extremely serious and will not be tolerated.

Students are responsible for promoting academic honesty at Chaminade by not participating in any act of dishonesty and by reporting any incidence of academic dishonesty to an instructor or to an University official. Academic dishonesty may include theft of records or examinations, alteration of grades, plagiarism, **and unauthorized and/or undisclosed AI usage**, in addition to more obvious dishonesty. See catalog section *Student Use of Artificial Intelligence in Academic Work* for further information.

Questions of academic dishonesty in a particular class are first reviewed by the instructor, who must make a report with recommendations to the Director of the Academic College. Punishment for academic dishonesty will be determined by the instructor, Director, and the Dean of Academic College and may include an “F” grade for the work in question, an “F” grade for the course, academic notice, or dismissal from the University.

Title IX and Nondiscrimination

Chaminade University of Honolulu is committed to providing a learning, working and living environment that promotes the dignity of all people, inclusivity and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. As a member of the University faculty, I am required to immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator. **For pregnant and parenting students, I am also obligated to provide you with similar resources for support and protections available to you. My goal is to make sure that you are aware of the range of options available to you and have access to the resources and support you need.**

Nondiscrimination and Notice of Nondiscrimination

The university is committed to comply with all State and Federal statutes, rules, and regulations which prohibit discrimination. The university is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of race, sex, gender identity and expression, age, religion, color, national origin (including shared ancestry and ethnic characteristics), ancestry, citizenship, disability, genetic information, marital status, breastfeeding, arrest and court record (except as permissible under State law), sexual orientation, or status as a covered veteran. Inquiries about Title IX or general Civil Rights concerns may be referred to the University’s Title IX Coordinator, the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights, or both and contact information may be found [HERE](#). *On-campus Confidential Resources may also be found here at [CAMPUS CONFIDENTIAL RESOURCES](#).* The University’s Nondiscrimination Policy and Grievance Procedures can be located on the University webpage at: <https://chaminade.edu/compliance/title-ix-nondiscrimination-policies-procedures/>.

To report information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination or make a complaint of sex discrimination under Title IX, please refer to the [Campus Incident Report form](#). Chaminade

University of Honolulu prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates.

The NOTICE of NONDISCRIMINATION can be found here: [Notice of Nondiscrimination](#).

Student with Disabilities Statement- Kōkua ‘Ike

Accessibility Services recognizes disability as a valued aspect of diversity and ensures equal access to the educational environment in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act; the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended; and the principles and professional standards of the Association on Higher Education and Disability. Access is supported through reasonable accommodations and referrals to campus and community resources. Appointments with the Accessibility Services Coordinator are available through Stellic at <https://chaminade.stellic.com> and may be held virtually or in person. Drop-in appointments are also welcome.

Students seeking support must meet with the Accessibility Services Coordinator as early as possible, even if they are unsure whether they have appropriate documentation of their disability or its impacts. The Accessibility Services Coordinator prioritizes listening to students’ experiences and will discuss any documentation needs during the initial intake meeting. Students may seek support at any time.

Learn more at <https://chaminade.edu/ada-accommodations>

Campus Resources and Support Services

The following resources are available to all Chaminade students. Reach out early — these services exist to support your success.

Resource	Description	Contact / Website
Accessibility Services (Kōkua ‘Ike)	Accommodations under Section 504 and ADA. Contact early — appointments via Stellic, virtual or in person.	ada@chaminade.edu chaminade.edu/ada-accommodations
Tutoring & Academic Coaching (Kōkua ‘Ike)	Tutoring and Academic Coaching Services support students’ progression toward their academic, personal, and professional goals with clarity and intention. Services include individualized support in English, math, nursing, sciences, and social sciences, as well as guidance in developing goals and study strategies.	chaminade.edu/tutoring-academic-coaching-services
Career Services	Career Services supports students throughout their career journeys. Services include individualized job search strategy coaching, resume reviews, job interview coaching, and access to career-related resources and opportunities.	chaminade.edu/career-services
Basic Needs Resources	Support for food insecurity, housing instability, and other basic needs.	chaminade.edu/basic-needs/

Resource	Description	Contact / Website
Title IX / Nondiscrimination	Reporting and support for sex discrimination and gender-based violence. Campus Incident Report Form available online.	chaminade.edu/titleix/resources-and-support/
Hazing Prevention	Confidential support, crisis intervention, and reporting for any type of abuse including hazing.	hazingpreventionnetwork.org/athletic-helpline/
Campus Safety / SafeSwords	Security escort service for anyone who feels unsafe walking alone on campus at any time of day. Call security and a professional will escort you to your destination.	chaminade.edu/student-life/security/campus-safeswords-program/
CUH Alert Emergency Notification	Emergency text system. Register your cell number via the Chaminade portal and confirm the text to complete enrollment.	chaminade.edu