

Introduction to Motion Pictures

Course Number: PAR201

Course Title: Introduction to Motion Pictures

Department Name: Performing Arts

College/School/Division Name: School of Humanities, Arts & Design

Term: Fall 2026

Course Credits: 3

Class Meeting Days: Online and Asynchronous

Class Meeting Hours: Online and Asynchronous

Class Location: Online and Asynchronous

Instructor Name:

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Office Location: Henry Hall

Office Hours: By Appointment

Instructor Website: N/A

University Course Catalog Description

A study of the aesthetic and technical aspects of motion pictures, with emphasis on film making elements. Includes viewing, scriptwriting, and critiquing. The course satisfies the Fine Arts/Performing Arts general education requirement. Offered annually.

Course Overview

The course aims to develop an appreciation of film, its rich traditions and history. With an emphasis on the conceptual, thematic, technical and visual areas as well as various genres of film, the course will offer balanced measures of appreciation of film as art, film criticism, and the collaboration of film artists. The Performing Arts will be examined in a social and historical context because all art forms rise on the shoulders of previous aesthetic conventions. This course will expand your appreciation of the performing arts and give you a chance to express your own creativity – even if you didn't know you had any of your own!

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

Within our course we will explore films, manuscripts, and historical information that inspire thought, and opportunities for service, justice and peace. Film is not purely entertainment. It is a product of its culture and reflects the human condition. It is a medium where we can gain a deeper understanding of who God made us to be and how we can better serve one another in justice and peace. By the end of the course it is our goal to formulate quality educated opinions about the works we are exploring.

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 'Olelo No'eau (Hawaiian proverbs) and Marianist core beliefs:

1. Educate for Formation in Faith (Mana) E ola au i ke akua ('Olelo 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 ('Olelo 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 kanohana 'ohana ('Olelo 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 ('Olelo 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 ('Olelo No'eau 203) All knowledge is not taught in the same school

Learning Outcomes

By the end of our course, students will be able to:

1. Provide fundamental knowledge of the development of film as an art form. (PLO1# and #2)
2. Provide fundamental knowledge of the cinematic arts of production, direction, editing, design and acting. (PLO#4)
3. Understand and competently use the terminology and vocabulary of the film industry. (PLO#2 and #4)
4. To become more focused and informed as an audience. (PLO#3 and #4)
5. Develop the ability to evaluate films (PLO#3 and #4)
6. Develop the ability to recognize the structure, technical expertise, theme and focus of film through study of scripting and film production. (PLO#1 and #3)
7. Study and appreciate a range of film art representing different cultures and traditions of acting. (PLO#1 and #3)
8. Respond actively and imaginatively in the classroom by engaging in, discussion, interpreting, analyzing and critical thinking and writing about film as an art. (PLO#2)

Course Prerequisites

There are no course prerequisites.

Required Learning Materials

The required textbook for this course is Motion Pictures "The Art of Watching Films" 10th Edition; Petrie/Boggs; McGraw Hill; ISBN: 1264177704/978-1264177707

Technical Assistance for Canvas Users:

- Search for help on specific topics at instructure.com Links to an external site.
- Chat live with Canvas Support 24/7/365 (Links to an external site.)
- Watch this video to get you started (Links to an external site.) with online guides and tutorials
- Contact the Chaminade IT Helpdesk for technical issues: helpdesk@chaminade.edu, or call (808) 735-4855

Assessment:

- Students are required to take a series of quizzes throughout the semester.
- Students are required to view movies selected by the instructor, author a series of film critiques, and participate in group discussions on those films.
- Students are required to author an analysis of a director of their choice, a film critic of their choice, and a film of their choice.

Lecture and Posting Assignments:

There are several modules and they must be completed sequentially. New assignments for the week will be posted on FRIDAY and will be due the following FRIDAY.

In most modules there is one quiz, and a series of questions. You are also responsible for a number of movie viewing and writing assignments, typically every other module (please see schedule for more details).

The quizzes are a follow up to the lectures and can be at least 5 questions and no more than 12. The discussion questions are a follow up to the readings and your posts should be substantial and at least a paragraph.

Grading Scale

Letter grades are given in all courses except those conducted on a credit/no credit basis. Grades are calculated from the student's daily work, class participation, quizzes, tests, term papers, reports and the final examination.

They are interpreted as follows:

- 90% - 100% 'A' Outstanding scholarship and an unusual degree of intellectual initiative

- 80% - 89%. 'B' Superior work done in a consistent and intellectual manner
- 70% - 79%. 'C' Average grade indicating competent grasp of subject matter
- 60% - 69% 'D' Inferior work of the lowest passing grade, not satisfactory for fulfillment of prerequisite course work.
- 0% - 59% 'F' Failed to grasp minimum subject matter, no credit given

Course Policies

Late Work Policy

All assignments are due on the date and time specified in Canvas. Late papers will be assessed a one grade reduction for each day the assignment is late

Grades of "Incomplete"

Please refer to the student handbook for "incomplete" work.

Writing Policy

All writing assignments should be in MLA format. For more information please visit the following website:

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_general_format.html (Links to an external site.)

Instructor and Student Communication

Questions for this course can be emailed to the instructor at anna.hamaguchi@chaminade.edu. Online, in-person and phone conferences can be arranged. Response time will take place up to two days.

Cell phones, tablets, and laptops

Out of consideration for your classmates, please set your cell phone to silent mode during class. Students are encouraged to bring laptops or tablets to class as the instructor will assign online activities and readings that will require the use of a laptop or tablet. Laptops and tablets should not be misused, such as checking distracting websites. Use your best judgment and respect your classmates and instructor.

Disability Access

If you need individual accommodations to meet course outcomes because of a documented disability, please speak with me to discuss your needs as soon as possible so that we can ensure your full participation in class and fair assessment of your work. Students with special needs who meet criteria for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provisions must provide written

documentation of the need for accommodations from the Counseling Center by the end of week three of the class, in order for instructors to plan accordingly. If a student would like to determine if they meet the criteria for accommodations, they should contact the Counseling Center at (808) 735-4845 for further information.

Title IX Compliance

Chaminade University of Honolulu recognizes the inherent dignity of all individuals and promotes respect for all people. Sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse will NOT be tolerated at CUH. If you have been the victim of sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, we encourage you to report this matter promptly. As a faculty member, I am interested in promoting a safe and healthy environment, and should I learn of any sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, I must report the matter to the Title IX Coordinator. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources by visiting Campus Ministry, the Dean of Students Office, the Counseling Center, or the Office for Compliance and Personnel Services.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all courses for which they are registered. Student should notify their instructors when illness or other extenuating circumstances prevents them from attending class and make arrangements to complete missed assignments. Notification may be done by emailing the instructor's Chaminade email address, calling the instructor's campus extension, or by leaving a message with the instructor's division office. It is the instructor's prerogative to modify deadlines of course requirements accordingly. Any student who stops attending a course without officially withdrawing may receive a failing grade.

Unexcused absences equivalent to more than a week of classes may lead to a grade reduction for the course. Any unexcused absence of two consecutive weeks or more may result in being withdrawn from the course by the instructor, although the instructor is not required to withdraw students in that scenario. Repeated absences put students at risk of failing grades.

Students with disabilities who have obtained accommodations from the Chaminade University of Honolulu ADA Coordinator may be considered for an exception when the accommodation does not materially alter the attainment of the learning outcomes. Federal regulations require continued attendance for continuing payment of financial aid. When illness or personal reasons necessitate continued absence, the student should communicate first with the instructor to review the options. Anyone who stops attending a course without official withdrawal may receive a failing grade or be withdrawn by the instructor at the instructor's discretion.

Academic Conduct Policy

Any community must have a set of rules and standards of conduct by which it operates. At Chaminade, these standards are outlined so as to reflect both the Catholic, Marianist values of the institution and to honor and respect students as responsible adults. All alleged violations of the community standards are handled through an established student conduct process, outlined in the Student Handbook, and operated within the guidelines set to honor both students' rights and campus values.

Students should conduct themselves in a manner that reflects the ideals of the University. This includes knowing and respecting the intent of rules, regulations, and/or policies presented in the Student Handbook, and realizing that students are subject to the University's jurisdiction from the time of their admission until their enrollment has been formally terminated. Please refer to the Student Handbook for more details. A copy of the Student Handbook is available on the Chaminade website.

Schedule

Refer to Course Outline and Canvas