GROSSMONT COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

Curriculum Committee Approval: 11/30/2021

GCCCD Governing Board Approval: 12/14/2021

MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS 111 – INTRODUCTION TO FILM ANALYSIS

1. Course Number Course Title Semester Units

MCOM 111 Introduction to Film Analysis 3

Semester Hours

3 hours lecture: 48-54 hours 96-108 outside-of-class hours 144-162 total hours

2. Course Prerequisites

None

Corequisite

None

Recommended Preparation

None

3. Catalog Description

This course introduces the close analysis of film and television texts. It examines the broad questions of form and content, aesthetics and meaning, and history and culture. Students explore the diverse possibilities presented by the cinematic art form through an examination of a wide variety of productions, national cinemas, and film movements. Topics include modes of production, narrative and non-narrative forms, visual design, editing, sound, genre, ideology, and critical analysis.

4. Course Objectives

The student will be able to:

1. Critically analyze film and television as a technology, business, cultural artifact, entertainment medium, and art form.
2. Critically appraise, interpret, and write about film and electronic media using industry-specific language.
3. Apply analytical tools of categories, theories, and ideologies to understand cinematic arts’ complex role and function in society.
4. Recognize, describe, and analyze formal aesthetics elements of the cinematic artssuch as cinematography, editing, mise-en-scene, and sound.
5. Analyze the technical, aesthetic, and cultural aspects of the cinematic arts.

5. Instructional Facilities

a. Standard classroom.

b. Multi-function/format media players, projector and movie screen, and surround sound.

6. Special Materials Required of Student

Internet access.

7. Course Content

a. The technology of film production and the socio-cultural significance of film in society.

b. The motion picture film planning, production, editing, and presentation process.

c. Motion picture film viewing strategies, vocabulary, theories, and criticism.

d. Narrative elements, visual design, and sound design in motion picture films.

e. Film language such as cinematography, editing, mise-en-scene, sound, etc.

8. Method of Instruction

a. Lecture with extensive classroom discussion.

b. Classroom screenings of appropriate film, video, and computerized digital materials to promote critical thinking and analyze visual form and style.

9. Methods of Evaluating Student Performance

a. Quizzes, mid-term, and final comprehensive exams.

b. Term papers on film analyzing the principles of narrative structure in films and the aesthetic elements of motion picture film construction.

c. Journals of all class and homework screenings.

10. Outside Class Assignments

a. Viewing and critiquing of motion picture films in a theater setting including high drama, musicals, and animation, etc.

b. Reading assignments from the text.

c. Review of critical analysis by others on films(s) in literature and on the internet.

11. Representative Texts

a. Representative Texts:

1) Petrie, Dennis & Boggs, Joseph. *The Art of Watching Films* (10th ed.). McGraw-Hill, 2022.

2) Monahan, Dave. *Looking at Movies: An Introduction to Film* (6th ed.). Norton, 2019.

1. Supplementary texts and workbooks:

Current publications in the mass media including newspapers, magazines, and internet sources.

Addendum:Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, our students will be able to do the following:

1. Critically analyze film and television as a technology, business, cultural artifact, entertainment medium and art form.
2. Demonstrate the ability to critically appraise, interpret, and write about film and electronic media using industry-specific language.
3. Apply categories, theories and ideologies to understand the cinematic arts’ complex role and function in society.
4. Analyze the technical, aesthetic and cultural aspects of the cinematic arts.