

Film Appreciation



DRAM-2366–001

Fall 16 Week 2026 Online 8/24/2026 - 12/10/2026

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Office Hours

- See Blackboard
- Virtual Office Hours
 - My student virtual drop-in hours are by appointment in our classroom zoom room.
 - Send me a Course Message and we will set up a time that works for us both.

Building/Room: Online

Days/Time: Online

Course Description

A survey and analysis of cinema, including history, film techniques, production procedures, selected motion pictures and cinema's impact on and reflection of society. (Cross-listed as COMM-2366) Semester Hours: 3
Lecture Hours: 3 Lab Hours: 0 Note: This course satisfies a 050 Creative Arts Core Curriculum requirement.

Instructional Materials

- On-Campus/School Computer or Personal Computer
 - Even though the Blackboard Mobile app and website work decently well:
 - Some assignments work better with a desktop or laptop computer.
- Crash Course (Youtube)
- Shotlist (Youtube)
- Notebook or other note taking supplies
- Other Streaming abilities (You should not have to pay for any service, but you can.)
- No textbook

Program Learning Outcomes

- Critical Thinking Skills - To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- Communication Skills - To include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.
- Teamwork - To include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.
- Social Responsibility - To include the intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Analyze film through written response.
- Demonstrate a basic knowledge of film history, form, and genre.
- Describe the collaborative nature of cinema and the many jobs required to develop a motion picture.
- Discuss/Describe the relationship of cinema to society as it relates to his/her perspective.

COURSE POLICIES

SUCCESSFUL "ATTENDANCE"

- This is an ONLINE COURSE:
 - Work for each week is DUE by Thursday @ 11:59pm.
 - The Final Week's due date may NOT fall on a Thursday.
 - Pay attention to the written due date.
 - EARLY is always EXCELLENT
- Stay up to date with your Blackboard Announcements, Forums, Emails and Weekly Assignments.
- If no work has been submitted by the census date, the student will be submitted as a "No Show" / FX for the course.
- If no work has been turn in for 2 consecutive weeks, the student will automatically receive a grade of FX (Failure due to excessive Absences) in the course- this equates to an F.

LATE WORK / MAKEUP WORK

- A PLAN FOR SUCCESS must be made before makeup work will be accepted.
- ***Work will not be accepted after 1 week past the due date.***
- There is a 30% deduction from the final grade per assignment.
- LATE IS BETTER THAN A "0".
- *FINAL will NOT be accepted late.*
 - The Final Week's due date may NOT fall on a Thursday.
 - Pay attention to the written due date.

EXTENSION:

- Any extension must be requested and responded to by me IN WRITING 24 hours BEFORE the due time.
 - If not requested, a late penalty will be assessed.

Respect in the Classroom:

- In this class you may be exposed to; strong language-graphic onscreen material- controversial ideas and points of view that may be at variance with your belief set.
 - Just keep repeating-it's only a movie/play.
 - I do try my best to choose content that is appropriate for all.

Dismissal Policy:

- A high standard of conduct is expected of all students.
 - It is assumed that obedience to the law, respect for property, integrity, and common sense will guide the actions of each member of the class.
 - If in the opinion of the instructor the conduct of a student is unacceptable, the student will be asked to leave the class or lab, counted absent, and not be allowed to re-enter without written permission from both the Dean of Students and the Dean of Instruction.
 - In a case of severe misconduct, the instructor may request the dismissal of the student from class permanently.

Plagiarism:

- All written material must be the student's original ideas unless specifically indicated otherwise.
 - Quotation marks should be used when the exact words of a person, a textbook, an article, or a webpage are used, and proper MLA credit should be given to that source.
 - Failure to do so is one form of plagiarism.
- Students should also remember that using quoted, paraphrased or summarized ideas or information from a person, written source, or online source without giving the source credit is also plagiarism.
- Students may not turn in duplicate work or work that expresses the same ideas in the same manner, which is also plagiarism.
- Students may not submit work that has been or will be turned in for another course.
- ALL FORMS OF PLAGIARISM WILL RESULT IN THE OFFENDING STUDENT RECEIVING AN AUTOMATIC F FOR THE COURSE, and the Dean of Students will be contacted.
- The instructor has the final say on what is and what isn't plagiarism.
- All student work will be submitted to Blackboard and checked for plagiarism.

AI Generative Tools Policy:

- "Within the Creative Arts, the individual artist's voice is cornerstones. Writings, opinions and all creative work must be of your own creation. All students enrolled in this course are not allowed to use advanced automated tools (artificial intelligence or machine learning tools such as ChatGPT or Dall-E 2) on any assignments unless priorly authorized by the professor. Any usage must be properly quoted and cited or it will constitute a violation of academic integrity. Substantive assistance from others, including automated tools, is prohibited."

Academic Integrity:

- According to the [Student Guide](#), “Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining information during an examination from the text- book or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in an office are examples of cheating. Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work. This applies to quizzes of what- ever length, as well as to, final examinations, to daily reports and to term papers.” (pgs. 14 & 15)
- At no time may a student be in possession of text or assessment materials without the instructor’s permission.
- Disciplinary action against all forms of cheating may include, but is not limited to, receiving a zero on the assignment and/or receiving an F in the course.
 - In some cases, the Dean of Students will also be contacted.

NETIQUETTE

- Students are expected to maintain an online environment conducive to learning, which includes “netiquette” (Internet etiquette).
- The following site includes basic rules for Online Discussion Netiquette. Ensure that your e-mail messages, discussion board postings, and other electronic communications are thoughtful.
- Diverse opinions are welcome in this course.
- The following are PROHIBITED:
 - making offensive remarks in e-mail or the discussion board or during class forums
 - spamming, hacking, phishing, trolling, gossiping over DM, discussion boards or class forums
 - screenshotting your fellow students'/Instructor's without permission
 - screenshotting your fellow students'/Instructor's work without permission
 - using SPC e-mail or discussion board for commercial purposes cyber-bullying or online harassment of any type

Institutional Policies

South Plains College policies concerning Disabilities, Non-discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy and Parenting Accommodations, CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation), Intellectual Exchange, Campus Concealed Carry, COVID-19, and AI (Artificial Intelligence) can be found here: [Syllabus Statements](#).

Language/Conduct Policy Statement:

- Students are expected to use respectful and professional language at all times in this course and as representatives of South Plains College Theatre.
 - The use of lewd, sexually explicit, vulgar, or profane language—including cursing—is strictly prohibited.
 - This policy applies in all class settings, including the classroom, the shop, and rehearsals, as well as during any events or appearances in the community or across the state where students are representing South Plains College Theatre.
- Maintaining a professional and respectful environment is essential to our creative and educational work.
 - Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action in accordance with college and departmental guidelines.

Tips and Tricks for Success:

- Keep in Contact. Please contact the instructor through Blackboard messenger.
- Grades will be posted each Friday.
- All class work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm.
 - I will check my Blackboard messages around 5:00pm on Thursdays and after that I will not receive your messages till Friday.
 - That being said, DON'T WAIT TILL THE LAST MOMENT!!!!
 - "Poor planning on your part does not necessitate an emergency on mine." – Bob Carter
- Each weeks viewing will be assigned on Fridays so you have an entire week to complete your work.
- Stay on top of Due Dates.
- IF YOU FALL BEHIND, CONTACT ME!!!! WE CAN MAKE A PLAN FOR YOUR SUCCESS!!!!
- BLACKBOARD, EMAIL/COURSE MESSENGER & PDFs
 - If you have not mastered the usage of computer and online apps you should visit me or the Student Development Center: <https://howardcollege.edu/students/tutoring/>
 - Resources can be provided that can help you learn and review the concepts online learning.
 - There are multiple "How to" Videos in your course Blackboard
 - If online work seems to be overwhelming, maybe an in person course would be best for your success. We can make that decision together.
- The student will develop and learn the purpose of Cinema; as an expression of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
 - The student will be expected to respond critically and articulate an informed personal reaction to Cinema as an Art.

Course Calendar

Fall 2026 Calendar

All work is due by class time on the assigned due date.

(Subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Any extension must be requested and responded to in writing 24 hours before the due time. If not requested, a late penalty will be assessed.)

- **Week 1 (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)**
 - **Course Intro**
 - **Syllabus & Course Procedures Notes & Quiz**
 - **Weekly Access Code/Password Assignment**
 - (Answer found in Recorded Lecture/Informational Video)
- **Week 2 (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)**
 - **Crash Course:**
 - The Screenplay (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TARsoxST0tQ>)
 - **Shotlist:**
 - **Shot Size** (<https://youtu.be/AyML8xuKfoc>)
 - **Film #1 Viewing (TBA)**

- **Week 3 (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)**
 - Instructional Video
 - Key Word Question
 - Crash Course:
 - [The Filmmaker's Army](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TpAHZjc5In0) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TpAHZjc5In0>)
 - Shotlist:
 - [Shot Framing](https://youtu.be/qQNiQzuXjoM) (<https://youtu.be/qQNiQzuXjoM>)
 - Weekly Short Project/Assignment
 - Dissecting the Screenplay #1 & Notes
 - Film #1 Quiz
- **Week 4 (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)**
 - Crash Course:
 - Producers (https://youtu.be/zU_1CIPIOAg)
 - Shotlist:
 - Gear (<https://youtu.be/heJ9hWNb10g>)
 - Weekly Short Project/Assignment
 - Dissecting the Screenplay (Part #2)
 - Film #2 Viewing
 - "My Screenplay" Step #1 (Intro)
- **Week 5 (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)**
 - Crash Course:
 - Dissecting the Camera (https://youtu.be/ivCBfJ1v_Qw)
 - Shotlist:
 - Movement (<https://youtu.be/liyBo-qLDeM>)
 - Weekly Short Project/Assignment
 - Dissecting the Screenplay (Part #3)
 - Film #2 Quiz
- **Week 6 (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)**
 - Crash Course:
 - The Cinematographer (https://youtu.be/vR_l1vTfaNk)
 - Shotlist:
 - Shot Angles (Shot List Notes: Shot Angles (<https://youtu.be/wLfZL9PZI9k>))
 - Weekly Short Project/Assignment
 - Screenplay Formatting
 - Film #3 Viewing (TBA)
 - "My Screenplay" Step #1 Due
- **Week 7 (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)**
 - Crash Course:
 - Watch & Complete
 - Shotlist:
 - Depth of Field (<https://youtu.be/ZG NUqNFfD8M>)
 - Weekly Short Project/Assignment
 - Film #3 Quiz (TBA)
 - "My Screenplay" Step #2a (Due)
- **Week 8 (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)**
 - Crash Course:
 - Watch & Complete
 - Shotlist:
 - Watch & Complete

- **Weekly Short Project/Assignment**
- **Film #4 Viewing (TBA)**
- **"My Screenplay" Step #3 (Intro)**
- **Week 9 (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)**
 - **Crash Course:**
 - **Watch & Complete**
 - **Shotlist:**
 - **Watch & Complete**
 - **Weekly Short Project/Assignment**
 - **Film #4 Quiz (TBA)**
 - **"My Screenplay" Step #3 (Due)**
- **Week 10 (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)**
 - **Crash Course:**
 - **Watch & Complete**
 - **Shotlist:**
 - **Watch & Complete**
 - **Weekly Short Project/Assignment**
 - **Film #5 Viewing (TBA)**
 - **"My Screenplay" Step #4(Intro)**
- **Week 11 (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)**
 - **Crash Course:**
 - **Watch & Complete**
 - **Shotlist:**
 - **Watch & Complete**
 - **Weekly Short Project/Assignment**
 - **Film #5 Quiz (TBA)**
 - **"My Screenplay" Step #4(Due)**
- **Week 12 (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)**
 - **Crash Course:**
 - **Watch & Complete**
 - **Shotlist:**
 - **Watch & Complete**
 - **Weekly Short Project/Assignment**
 - **Film #6 Viewing (TBA)**
 - **"My Screenplay" Step #5(Intro)**
- **Week 13 (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)**
 - **Crash Course:**
 - **Watch & Complete**
 - **Shotlist:**
 - **Watch & Complete**
 - **Weekly Short Project/Assignment**
 - **Film #6 Quiz (TBA)**
 - **"My Screenplay" Step #5(Due)**
- **Week 14 (All work is due by Thursday at 11:59pm)**
 - **Crash Course:**
 - **Watch & Complete**
 - **Shotlist:**

- Watch & Complete
 - Weekly Short Project/Assignment
 - Film #7 Viewing (TBA)
 - “My Screenplay” Step #6(Intro)
- Week 15 (4/29~5/3)
 - Crash Course:
 - Watch & Complete
 - Shotlist:
 - Watch & Complete
 - Weekly Short Project/Assignment
 - Film #7 Quiz (TBA)
 - “My Screenplay” Step #6 (Work)
- Finals Week:
 - My Screenplay” Step #6 (Due)

Class Assessments/Grading

Further details and due dates can be found on BlackBoard.

<u>Assignment Category</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
<u>Syllabus & Procedure Quiz</u>	<u>5%</u>
<u>Weekly Instructional Videos</u>	<u>10%</u>
<u>Shotlist Notes/Assignments</u>	<u>15%</u>
<u>Film Viewing & Quiz</u>	<u>25%</u>
<u>Crash Course</u>	<u>15%</u>
<u>My Screenplay Project</u>	<u>30%</u>

<u>90-100%</u>	<u>A</u>
<u>80-89%</u>	<u>B</u>
<u>70-79%</u>	<u>C</u>
<u>60-69%</u>	<u>D</u>
<u>59% and below</u>	<u>F</u>
<u>Failure to complete/attend</u>	<u>FX</u>

