

COMM 2366 (3:3:3)

Syllabus for Introduction to Cinema

Radio, Television and Film Program

Communications Department

Division of Arts & Sciences

South Plains College

Levelland Campus

Fall 2017

Instructor:

Jay A. Hoes

## COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE: COMM 2366 – Introduction to Film  
INSTRUCTOR: Jay Hoes  
OFFICE LOCATION: CM 157-Levelland, RC822B-Reese  
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OFFICE HOURS: Posted at CM 157, other times by appointment

### GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

**Course Description:** An introduction to the analysis of both visual and aural aspects of motion pictures.

**Course Learning Outcomes:** At the conclusion of the class, students will have demonstrated a thorough knowledge and understanding of the following:

- The basic components of motion pictures
- The form and content of movies
- The principles of film form
- The different film genres
- The factors associated with film narrative
- Mise-en-Scene
- Cinematography
- Acting, directing and editing of motion pictures
- Sound, as used in motion pictures

This class contains elements that will teach 4 of the 6 Core Objectives outlined by the Undergraduate Education Advisory Committee of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, including:

Communication Skills

Critical Thinking Skills

Social Responsibility

Personal Responsibility

**Academic Integrity:** As stated in the General Catalog - "As it is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete *honesty* and a high standard of *integrity*. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own work which he or she has not *honestly* performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

Cheating: Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during the examination, obtaining information during an examination from a textbook 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.

Plagiarism: Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism; therefore, and student who fails to give credit for quotations or essentially identical expression of material taken from books, encyclopedias, magazines and other reference works, or from themes, reports or other writings of a fellow student, is guilty of plagiarism.

## SPECIFIC COURSE/INSTRUCTOR REQUIREMENTS

**A. Materials:** A required textbook is available at the SPC Bookstore. The text for this class is entitled "Looking at Movies" by Richard Barsam, Fifth Edition (green colored cover). Handouts and other written materials will be supplied to you as needed. Also bring paper and pens for taking notes. It will be your responsibility to take adequate notes.

**B. Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are

responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

A student may be dropped after 6 total unexcused absences. For an absence to be excused, you must present a note from your doctor or another instructor on appropriate stationery or letterhead. There will be no exceptions.

**C. Classroom Policy:** While in class, you are expected to adhere to acceptable behaviors. In the classroom, **no cell phones** will be allowed, unless they are being used to record audio of lectures. Phones should be set to silent and be kept out of sight. Pay attention while short films, video supplements and movies are being presented. Please be respectful of others' learning environment.

As of August 1, 2017, it is legal for anyone with a valid concealed carry permit to carry a firearm on all South Plains College campuses. The firearm must be kept on your person or in a purse or backpack and must be concealed at all times. Any violation will be reported to campus police.

**D. Assignment Policy:** There will be 2-3 written assignments during the semester. Each student will be required to watch motion pictures and provide a written analysis, using the methodology and terminology learned during the class.

**D. Grading Policy/Procedure and/or methods of evaluation:** The grade breakdown for the class is listed below, and is subject to change as a result of time constraints.

Instructor evaluation of attendance, punctuality, preparedness, attitude, and participation in classroom activities, discussions, and participation in team projects will also be considered in your final grade. Instructor evaluation is worth up to 100 points on your final grade.

The following grade breakdown represents a typical semester, but is subject to change.

- |                                   |              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| • 2 Written Evaluations (100 ea.) | 200          |
| • 4 Exams (200 ea.)               | 800          |
| • Quizzes (100 ea.)               | 200          |
| • Final Exam/Project              | 200          |
| • Instructor Evaluation           | <u>200</u>   |
| • TOTAL                           | 1,600 points |

Exam and final grades may be curved at the discretion of the instructor.

Final grades are based on the following scale:

90% and up	=	A
80-89%	=	B
70-79%	=	C
60-69%	=	D
59% and below	=	F

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office through the Guidance and Counseling Centers at Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4606, or Levelland (Student Services Building) 806-716-2577.