



Course Title: Introduction to Cinema

Course Number: ENGL 2140

Credit Hours: 3

Catalog Course Description: (should match the course description in your institution's current catalog) An introduction to the basic elements of cinema. Topics include elements of classic films, techniques of analysis, and cinematic production techniques.

How Program Site will be incorporated into the course: First, we will explore variations of perhaps what is the most famous Scottish tale ever written, staged, or adapted to film: Macbeth. In service of film studies, we will be evaluating the impact of Macbeth across many cultures; however, ultimately, we will also be investigating the very real impact of Scottish history on the great playwright, Shakespeare, and how the essence of Scotland has been distilled through the tale, ending with the most recent version of Macbeth, which features the Scottish highlands heavily.

Following up on the use of Scottish landscape in Macbeth, we will then use various aspects of film analysis to examine one of Scotland's greatest impact of cinema as a whole: landscape. Touching on key Hollywood films such as Skyfall, Harry Potter, Rob Roy, Stone of Destiny, and the recent mini-series Stag. Each of these films use different locations filming locations recognizable throughout Scotland, including Glasgow University.

Last, but not least, we will be looking at films that are to their core Scottish tales: Filth, Trainspotting, The Angels' Share, and, of course, Brave. Alternatively, given the time and opportunity, we will use films selected from Edinburgh's International Film Festival in place of some of the third section of films.

Prerequisites: ENGL 1010 and ENGL 1020

Textbook(s) and Other Course Materials: Looking at Movies: An Introduction to Film Fifth ed. by Richard Barsam and Dave Monahan.

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I. Week/Unit/Topic Basis: modify for number of weeks

WEEK / UNIT #	TOPIC
Week One, Unit One: Shades of the Scottish Play	Chapter 1: Looking at Movies Throne of Blood Chapter 2: Principles of Film Form A Performance of Macbeth

Week One, Unit One: Shades of the Scottish Play	Chapter 3: Types of Movies Scotland, PA Macbeth (2015)
Week Two, Unit Two: Scotland: The Essential Highlands	Chapter 5: Mise-en-scene; Chapter 8: Editing: Skyfall Rob Roy Harry Potter
Week Two, Unit Two: Scotland: The Essential Highlands	Chapter 4: Elements of Narrative; Chapter 9: Sound: Stone of Destiny Stag
Week Three, Unit Three: The Scottish Character	Chapter 6: Cinematography; Chapter 7: Acting: Filth The Angels' Share OR: International Film Festival
Week Three, Unit Three: The Scottish Character	Chapter 10: Film History Trainspotting Brave OR: International Film Festival

II. Course Goals:

The course will:

- A. Analyze significant cinematic works as forms of cultural and creative expression
- B. Understand and identify cinematic production techniques.
- C. Apply elements of cinema in analysis of classic and contemporary films.
- D. Develop an interpretation of a film based on the concepts of film production and film theory presented in the course.
- E. Develop a sensitivity to cultural differences and their importance.
- F. Foster a deeper understanding of cultural conventions, cinematic importance of place, and the ability to respond to both in an insightful and critical manner

III. Expected Student Learning Outcomes*

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- A. Identify, define, and write about key elements of cinema. B, C
- B. Analyze and define the evolution of cinema from classic cinema to modern cinema. A, C, D.

- C. Write six, concise, and sufficiently developed reviews of assigned cinematic works. A, B, C, D.
- D. Quote, paraphrase, and summarize effectively from the prescribed works in writing assignments. A, D, E.
- E. Recognize the different inspirations for cinematic elements, especially prose. A, D, E.
- F. Understand, synthesize, and compare the connections and elements of traditional drama and classic cinema. A, B, E.
- G. Recognize the importance and impact of animated cinema on film making. A, B, C, E.
- H. Investigate the critical relationship between culture and particular genres of film. A, D, E, F.
- I. Develop critical arguments for three total critical reviews of the impact of cinema on a cultural scale. D, E, F.
- J. Keep a daily journal of cultural experiences. E, F.
- K. Gain an understanding of universal story arches and frameworks and differentiate the ways in which they are expressed across cultures. A, D, E.
- L. Create meaningful connections between personal experience and the experience of others through cinema. A, D, E, F.

*Letters after performance expectations reference the course goals listed above.

IV. Evaluation:

- A. **Testing Procedures:** Physical quizzes will be given for each chapter.
- B. **Laboratory Expectations:** N/A
- C. **Research Paper:** There will be a total of three critical review essays due by the end of the course, accounting for 60% of the total grade.
- D. **Other Evaluation Methods:** Students will be expected to keep a daily journal in response to outings, festivals, and the cultural experiences that are expected of them. There will also be two mandatory movie reviews each week, which will utilize those aspects of film that we are studying in each unit, per week (for a total of 6). The reviews and journal will account for 20% of the grade. The remaining 20% will be determined by participation in classroom discussion and the end of chapter quizzes.
- E. **Grading Scale:** Please note that some TnCIS member institutions do not accept + and - grades, therefore all TnCIS grading scales must consist of only A, B, C, D, F letter grades.

A = 90-100

B = 80-99

C = 70-79

D = 60-69 F = 0-59

V. Policies:

A. Attendance Policy:

Attendance is of utmost importance in study abroad courses. There are no unexcused absences permitted. Unexcused absences are grounds for removal from the program.

Being in class on time is also very important. Frequent tardiness will be considered an absence and appropriate action will be taken. Absences due to illness must be reported immediately to the program director.

B. Academic Dishonesty:

Academic misconduct committed either directly or indirectly by an individual or group is subject to disciplinary action. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to the following practices:

- Cheating, including but not limited to unauthorized assistance from material, people, or devices when taking a test, quiz, or examination; writing papers or reports; solving problems; or completing academic assignments.
- Plagiarism, including but not limited to paraphrasing, summarizing, or directly quoting published or unpublished work of another person, including online or computerized services, without proper documentation of the original source.
- Purchasing or otherwise obtaining prewritten essays, research papers, or materials prepared by another person or agency that sells term papers or other academic materials to be presented as one's own work.
- Taking an exam for another student.
- Providing others with information and/or answers regarding exams, quizzes, homework or other assignments unless explicitly authorized by the instructor.

In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed as a result of academic misconduct, the instructor has the authority to assign either (1) an F or zero for the assignment or (2) an F for the course.

VI. Instructional Hours:

Instructional time spent in a formal classroom setting and during excursions will total a minimum of 37.5 hours for this course.