Intro to Film & Media
English 110
Spring 2013

Course Description:
This course provides an introduction to Film and Television Studies. Students will learn important aspects of the history and theories of screen culture, as well as how to analyze and interpret television texts and contexts. Coursework emphasizes analytical essay writing about the formal and thematic aspects of television. By the end of the term, students will have the basic skills necessary for a critical knowledge of television. (This course satisfies the Arts & Letters group requirement.)

Basically the goals for English 110 are:
- Gain basic understanding about Television aesthetics.
- Learn TV studies vocabulary.
- Develop skills to write and talk critically about television.

For this class you will need:
- Jeremy Butler’s *Television: Critical Methods and Applications*
- Access to e-mail (and to check it regularly) & Google Drive
- And to subscribe to the course blog

Attendance:
Attendance is REQUIRED. You may miss 2 classes (I take attendance everyday, but please keep track of your absences!) without it affecting your grade. A third absence will lower your final course grade by ½ a grade. If you miss a 4th class you automatically FAIL the course without notice. No exceptions. Frequent tardiness will also be counted as an absence.

You are responsible for what you miss in that class. If you want to discuss what you missed, please come to office hours but do not send me an e-mail asking me about what you missed. You are responsible for finding the viewing material on your own (everything we watch will be on reserve in Knight Library after we watch it).

Expectations:
- This is an English Department course and as such your writing will meet the highest standards. I will pay attention not only to your ideas but how those ideas are presented. This means that I will pay careful attention to your writing you will be graded on it.
- Format: Unless otherwise noted, all work must be typed, in 12 point Times New Roman, one-inch margins and all work will be turned into your Google Drive folder by the time and date noted in the schedule of assignments (usually 12am each Friday). Failure to meet these formatting requirements can lower your grade.
- Active participation is required. To facilitate discussion, you need to read the assigned material before class (and be sure to bring the reading to class) and take notes while watching the television programs.
• **No Cell phones. No Texting. No Internet use. No side conversations.** It is vital that students respect the classroom and each other. Consistently disrupting the class (falling asleep, talking while others are trying to talk, allowing a phone to ring, texting, checking Facebook or e-mail during class, arriving late or leaving early, etc.) will result in an absence (which I will just mark down—consider this note your warning as you will not be notified during class) or I will ask you to leave class for the day.
• Feel free to bring coffee and/or dinner and/or snacks to class.

**Assignments:**
All individual assignments are posted on the blog under “Assignments.”

**Mini Close Readings:** 1-paragraph close-readings due at end of each week. These short answers will respond to a specific question about a formal element or topic. 10% each (x4 = 40%)

**Midterm:** Take-home Midterm Exam 25%

**Take-Home Final Exam:** Take home Final Exam 30%

**Participation:** Talking, paying attention, being respectful, and stuff 5%

**Late Work/Extensions:**
I DO NOT except late work. The only exceptions to my late work policy are documented emergencies. However, **if you need an extension** please come talk to me at least 24 hours before the assignment is due. I will require you to document your need for an extension and set a new due date (usually via e-mail).

**Academic Honesty:**
All work submitted in this course must be your own and be written exclusively for this course. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must be properly documented. Please consult Rules for Writers for a definition of plagiarism and information on documentation, and refer to the Student Conduct Code on the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards website, http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/StudentConductandCommunityStandards/StudentConductCode/tabid/69/Default.aspx. In cases where academic dishonesty has been clearly established, the award of an F for the final course grade is the standard practice of the Composition Program. Please see me if you have any questions about your use of sources.

**Access for Students with Disabilities:**
If you have a disability (physical or learning), which you think may affect your performance in this class, please see me during the first week of the term so we can make arrangements, if necessary, for your full access to all classroom activities.

*Quick Warning: This class will screen media that contains explicit depictions of sex, violence, adult themes, coarse language, and material that many might find offensive. If you think that this might be a problem, please come talk to me about whether we can find a solution, or if this is the best class for you.*
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week &amp; Topic</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>DUE FRIDAY by 12pm</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1: Introductions, Mise en Scene, etc.</strong></td>
<td>Read: Butler, Chpt. 1&lt;br&gt;Watch: <em>Dexter</em> Credit Sequence and Clips: Boxing Cats, Sneeze, Train Pulling Into a Station</td>
<td>Due: Read Butler, Chpt. 7&lt;br&gt;Watch: <em>Downton Abbey</em> (Season 1, Ep. 1)</td>
<td>Mini Close Reading #1&lt;br&gt;Check out NYT on Anna Karenina costumes to help think through DA's costumes</td>
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<td><strong>Week 2: Formal Analysis: Cinematography</strong></td>
<td>Watch: <em>Sherlock</em> (Pilot) &amp; <em>Scandal</em> (Pilot)</td>
<td>Due: Read Butler, Chpt. 8</td>
<td>Mini Close Reading #2 (Shot List)</td>
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<td><strong>Week 3: Formal Analysis: Editing</strong></td>
<td>Watch: <em>Have Gun, Will Travel</em> &amp; <em>Mad Men</em> (Pilot)</td>
<td>Due: Read Butler, Chpt. 9</td>
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<td><strong>Week 4: Sound, Narrative &amp; Plot</strong></td>
<td>Watch: <em>Paperman</em></td>
<td>Watch: <em>Scandal</em> (Ep. 2)</td>
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<td>Due: Butler, Chpt. 10</td>
<td>Due: Read Butler, Chpt. 2</td>
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<td><strong>Week 5: Family Sitcoms when Father Knew Best</strong></td>
<td>Watch: <em>The Andy Griffith Show</em> &amp; <em>The Cosby Show</em></td>
<td>MIDTERM EXAM</td>
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<td><strong>Week 6: Funny Ladies</strong></td>
<td>Watch: <em>I Love Lucy</em> &amp; <em>The Goldbergs</em> (need sub)</td>
<td>Watch: <em>The Mindy Project</em> &amp; <em>Parks and Rec</em> Reading: Online Pieces Posted on Blog</td>
<td>Mini Close Reading #3 (Outline)</td>
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<td><strong>Week 7: Cops &amp; Lawyers</strong></td>
<td>Watch: <em>Dragnet</em> &amp; <em>Bones</em> (Pilot)</td>
<td>Due: Read Mittell “Policing Genres” (BB)</td>
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<td><strong>Week 8: Serial Television</strong></td>
<td>Watch: <em>The Wire</em> (Ep. 1 &amp; 2) OR <em>True Blood</em></td>
<td>Read Mittell “Narrative Complexity” (BB)</td>
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<td><strong>Week 9: Guilty Pleasures &amp; Trash TV</strong></td>
<td>NO CLASS (Memorial Day)</td>
<td>Watch <em>Pretty Little Liars</em> (Pilot)</td>
<td>Close Reading #4 (Guilty Pleasures Assignment)</td>
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<td><strong>Week 10: Reality TV</strong></td>
<td>Watch: <em>Here Comes Honey Boo Boo</em> &amp; <em>Duck Dynasty</em></td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Take home FINAL DUE MONDAY of Finals Week</td>
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