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GENERAL INFO

CINE-ENG 260  
MEDIA AESTHETICS

Winter Term 2021

Tuesday & Thursday  
4:15-5:45 p.m. (US Pacific Time)

Course Instructor  
Ari Purnama (purnama@uoregon.edu)

Office Hours  
Wednesdays 3 - 5 p.m. (US Pacific Time) on Zoom

>> Schedule your appointment with me during my office hours via the link below:  
https://bit.ly/2Jwyr2g
In this course, you will learn how to analyze film and media aesthetics by utilizing proper cinematic language and applying key concepts. We will explore the fundamentals of film and media aesthetics by looking at how narrative, mise en scène, cinematography, editing, and sound operate in a film. Through the weekly readings and viewings, class discussions, and a final assignment, we hope that you will be able to attain the ability to analyze a film or media product systematically. Ultimately, through this course, you will gain a perspective that views all aesthetic elements in a film as a series of choices made through the complex collaboration of artists and craftspeople. Knowing the key terms, concepts, and tools learned from this course, we hope you will implement them in your creative work.
INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course is designed to help you get familiarized with how film works as an art form. With this goal in mind, we hope that by participating in this course, you will be able to:

1. **Identify** and **define** the specific terminologies and concepts in film and media aesthetics;
2. **Describe** cases using the terminologies and concepts specific to film and media aesthetics;
3. **Analyze** the aesthetics of a film by applying concepts learned in the course; and,
4. **Communicate** the outcome of the aesthetic analysis in the form of an oral presentation.
COURSE MATERIAL

We will use the following textbook for the course:


Available at the Duck Store or from an online bookseller.

Given this textbook's price, you are welcome to find used and rental versions of the 12th edition. You may also use the 11th edition of this textbook, but you have to make sure that you’re reading the same chapters corresponding to the topics listed in the weekly schedule below (page 12).

Except for the textbook, the rest of the course material (lecture slides, video recordings of the Zoom class meetings, and film viewing guides) are available on Canvas.

Assigned films for viewing before class meetings are available on the Yamada Language Center’s Virtual Language Lab: CINE-ENG 260 MEDIA AESTHETICS. Please make sure you are viewing the correct one by checking that the authors listed on there is: Ari Purnama. You will find the link to each assigned film on Canvas under the weekly schedule for your convenience.

Explicit Viewing Content

This course is a college-level course, and some of the viewing content (assigned films, movie clips shown in class, etc.) may contain R-rated content involving graphic depictions of sex and violence. If this presents a problem for you, you should consider registering for a different course.

This material will be uploaded after each week’s class meetings.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Learning Reflection Journal 20%
2. Summary of Your Film Analysis Presentation 30%
3. Film Analysis Presentation on Zoom 50%

Explanations, instructions, and grading rubrics for these assignments are provided on Canvas under "Assignments".
This course is designed as a remote course, meaning that we will be meeting virtually on Zoom each week throughout the term. To ensure that our meeting provides ample room for us to engage meaningfully with the course material and learn productively from each other, I divide the class into two groups: Section A & B.

> Section A meets on Tuesdays at 4:15-5:45 p.m.
> Section B meets on Thursdays at 4:15-5:45 p.m.

You will be assigned to one of these groups (see the lists on Canvas under “People”>Section A and Section B). Diversity is central in determining the composition of each Section. You are not allowed to change your Section.

Please note that the final assignment is an individual PowerPoint presentation on Zoom, so these Sections are created for the purposes of in-class learning activities only, **not for the final assignment**.
COURSE POLICIES

> Academic Integrity for Remote Learning
The University Student Conduct Code defines academic misconduct, which includes unauthorized help on assignments and examinations and the use of sources without acknowledgment. Academic misconduct is prohibited at the UO. I will report misconduct to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards—consequences can include failure of this course. I will ask you to certify that your assignments/projects are your own work. I will be looking to see evidence of critical thinking and your ability to put the concepts we’re working on into action in response to the assignment prompts.

> Communicating with Me, How and Why
Our class will communicate through our Canvas site. Announcements and emails are archived there and automatically forwarded to your UO email, and can even reach you by text. Check and adjust your settings under Account > Notifications.

>> Office Hours
I will host office hours through Zoom each week on Wednesdays at 3:00 -5:00 p.m. To schedule your appointment with me during my office hours, please pick a timeslot here. I will also have a running discussion board on our Canvas called “Discussions” for the entire group to ask and answer. I welcome meetings outside my regular office hours, too, knowing that there is considerable uncertainty in all of our lives right now. Just email me to set a time.

>> Why Should You Reach Out to Me?
Talking with you as learners about our course material is a real pleasure. Are you confused or excited about something? Please be in touch! Please also be in touch to tell me how you are really doing in these difficult times—are you having a tough week? Having troubling with some aspect of the course? I would like to strategize with you. I’d like to help you in any way I can within my reach to help you succeed.
COURSE POLICIES
(CONTINUED)

> Guidelines for Using Zoom:
1. Please test your video and audio before joining a live class session. You can learn more about testing your audio and video by visiting the UO Service Portal.
2. Try to be on time when the meeting starts. It can be distracting to have participants join late.
3. All of us occasionally need to hide video, but know that seeing your faces is a joy to me and, I believe, enriches our ways of relating—when you can, I value video on.
4. That said, please be mindful that others can see you and your surroundings if your video is on. Try to find a quiet setting without lots of noise or busy activities in the background. Please minimize distractions like eating or multitasking.
5. Use a microphone or speak closely to your computer microphone so that others can hear you. If you have the video on, try to look at your camera, not the screen, when you are contributing.
6. Mute your audio when you are not actively contributing. When contributing, avoid making other noises such as typing or eating or having side conversations with others that might be present with you.
7. Use chat to pose questions or offer insights “on the side” while others are contributing. The chat can be read by all and reflect a high standard of respect for our class community.

For help and troubleshooting with Zoom, visit the UO Service Portal.

⚠ Zoom Sessions Recorded and Chats Preserved
Every class meeting will be recorded, and any comments in the chats will be preserved so that course content will be accessible to everyone enrolled in the course beyond the synchronous (live) sessions.
Resources for Students

>> Academic Support
The University Teaching and Learning Center provides resources to help you as students succeed. For a list of their services, including workshops, courses, tutors, and mentors, please visit: tlc.uoregon.edu

>> Students with Disabilities
The university strives to create inclusive learning environments. Notify me if there are aspects of the course that result in disability-related barriers to your participation. You are encouraged to contact the Accessible Education Center in 164 Oregon Hall at (541) 346-1155 or uoaec@uoregon.edu.

>> Discrimination and Harassment
Students experiencing discrimination or harassment, including sex or gender-based violence, may seek information on safe.uoregon.edu, respect.uoregon.edu, titleix.uoregon.edu, or aaeo.uoregon.edu or contact the non-confidential Title IX office (541-346-8136), AAEO office (541-346-3123), or Dean of Students offices (541-346-3216), or call the 24-7 hotline 541-346-SAFE for help.

>> Your Well-being
Life at college can be very complicated. As students, you may feel overwhelmed or stressed, experience anxiety or depression, struggle with friendships and/or relationships, or just need help to navigate challenges in your life. If you’re facing such difficulties, you don’t need to handle them on your own—there are help and support on campus. As your instructor, if I believe you may need additional support, I will express my concerns, the reasons for them and refer you to resources that might be helpful. It is not my intention to know the details of what might be bothering you, but simply to let you know I care and that help is available. Getting help is a courageous thing to do—for yourself and those you care about.
University Health Services help students cope with difficult emotions and life stressors. If you need general resources on dealing with stress or want to talk with another student who has been in the same place as you, visit the Duck Nest (located in the EMU on the ground floor) and get help from one of the specially trained Peer Wellness Advocates.

University Counseling Services (UCS) has a team of dedicated staff members to support you with your concerns, many of whom can provide identity-based support. All clinical services are free and confidential. Find out more at counseling.uoregon.edu or by calling 541-346-3227 (anytime UCS is closed, the After-Hours Support and Crisis Line is available by calling this same number).

Basic Needs
Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Dean of Students Office (346-3216, 164 Oregon Hall) for support.

The UO Basic Needs Resource Guide includes resources for food, housing, healthcare, childcare, transportation, technology, finances, and legal support.

Consequence for Academic Dishonesty
Please note that buying or selling class notes, exams, and papers from other individuals or services is in violation of this course’s Academic Integrity policies. Students found in violation of this policy risk failing the course.

Course Syllabus is Subject to Modification
By registering for this class, you are agreeing to the terms of this syllabus. The instructor reserves the right to alter the course syllabus and requirements as the term progresses.
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MEDIA AESTHETICS

SECTION A: Tuesday, January 5, 4:15-5:45 p.m.
SECTION B: Thursday, January 7, 4:15-5:45 p.m.

COURSE INTRODUCTION:
WHAT IS FILM AND MEDIA AESTHETICS?

READ before Class Meeting:
Course Syllabus

**Prepare to be quizzed on the course syllabus during the 1st Class Meeting.**

WATCH before Class Meeting:
Drive (Nicolas Winding Refn, 2011)
SECTION A: Tuesday, January 12, 4:15-5:45 p.m.
SECTION B: Thursday, January 14, 4:15-5:45 p.m.

UNDERSTANDING FILM FORM

READ before Class Meeting:
“Significance of Film Form.” Film Art textbook (pages: 50–71)

WATCH before Class Meeting:
Samson and Delilah (Warwick Thornton, 2009)
SECTION A: Tuesday, January 19, 4:15-5:45 p.m.
SECTION B: Thursday, January 21, 4:15-5:45 p.m.

THE NARRATIVE FORM AS A TYPE OF FILM FORM

READ before Class Meeting:
“Narrative Form.” Film Art textbook (pages: 72–110)

WATCH before Class Meeting:
Citizen Kane (Orson Welles, 1941)
SECTION A: Tuesday, January 26, 4:15-5:45 p.m.
SECTION B: Thursday, January 28, 4:15-5:45 p.m.

FILM STYLE: MISE EN SCÈNE

READ before Class Meeting:
“Mise en scène.” Film Art textbook (pages: 112–158)

WATCH before Class Meeting:
In the Mood for Love (Wong Kar Wai, 2000)
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SCHEDULE

WEEK 5

SECTION A: Tuesday, February 2, 4:15-5:45 p.m.
SECTION B: Thursday, February 4, 4:15-5:45 p.m.

FILM STYLE: CINEMATOGRAPHY

READ before Class Meeting:
“Cinematography.” Film Art textbook (pages: 159–215)

WATCH before Class Meeting:
Moonlight (Barry Jenkins, 2016)
SECTION A: Tuesday, February 9, 4:15-5:45 p.m.
SECTION B: Thursday, February 11, 4:15-5:45 p.m.

EDITING

READ before Class Meeting:
“Editing.” Film Art textbook (pages: 216–262)

WATCH before Class Meeting:
The Cutting Edge: The Magic of Movie Editing (Wendy Apple, 2004)
SCHEDULE

WEEK 7

SECTION A: Tuesday, February 16, 4:15-5:45 p.m.
SECTION B: Thursday, February 18, 4:15-5:45 p.m.

SOUND

READ before Class Meeting:
“Sound.” Film Art textbook (pages: 263–302)

WATCH before Class Meeting:
M (Fritz Lang, 1931)
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SECTION A: Tuesday, February 23, 4:15-5:45 p.m.
SECTION B: Thursday, February 25, 4:15-5:45 p.m.

BRINGING IT ALL TOGETHER: HOW DOES A FILM AESTHETIC ANALYSIS LOOK LIKE?

READ before Class Meeting:
“Summary: Style and Film Form.” Film Art textbook (pages: 303–325)

WATCH before Class Meeting:
Amélie (Jean Pierre-Jeunet, 2001)
SECTION A: Tuesday, March 2, 4:15-5:45 p.m.
SECTION B: Thursday, March 4, 4:15-5:45 p.m.

CONSULTATION SESSION FOR YOUR FINAL ASSIGNMENTS

There will be no regular class meetings held this week, but you’re welcome to attend a consultation session if you want to consult your final assignments with me. The consultation session is optional and will be held according to your Section’s class meeting time.

Upload the Summary of Your Presentation Assignment to Canvas in advance, by latest on Friday, March 5, 2021, at 11:59 p.m.

2 points deduction per day (after the due date) will be applied to late submission. Please make sure that you upload your summary on time!
FILM ANALYSIS PRESENTATION ASSIGNMENT ON ZOOM
SECTION A Students: Tuesday, March 9, 4:15-5:45 p.m.
SECTION B Students: Thursday, March 11, 4:15-5:45 p.m.

Upload your presentation slides to Canvas in advance, by latest on Monday, March 8, 2021 at 11:59 p.m.