



School of Arts & Science
VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT
ART 190
History of Film
Quarter 1/Fall 2009 (Sep-Dec)

COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is online @ <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/art.html>

Ω Please note: the College electronically stores this outline for five (5) years only.
It is **strongly recommended** you keep a copy of this outline with your academic records.
You will need this outline for any future application/s for transfer credit/s to other colleges/universities.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Brenda Petays		
(b)	Office Hours:	Mondays, Wednesdays 1-3pm, Tuesdays 4-5pm, Fridays 9-10am		
(c)	Location:	101d Young		
(d)	Phone:	370-3380	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	petaysb@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:			

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Discuss the artistic values and techniques in film.
2. Outline the history of film techniques and narrative structures.

3. Required Materials

- (a) Texts recommended text: **Film Art an Introduction**. David Bordwell and Kristin Thompson (any edition)
- (b) Access to a television monitor, DVD player and or computer/internet is essential

Recommended Books and journals on the internet or in Camosun library, UVic library, and Victoria Public library: **Rotten Tomatoes, Bright Lights Film Journal, Slant Magazine, Senses of Film, Film Comment, Sight and Sound, CineAction, Cineaste, Cinema Scope, Film Quarterly etc.**

Supplies for film project

- Digital camera or digital video camera, editing software, computer, YouTube account

4. Course Content and Schedule

Content: This course explores the aesthetic and intellectual roots that contributed to define cinema as an art, and the diverse currents that shaped modern film. We will delve into the influence of literature, fine arts, avant-garde movements, and film pioneers, to trace their impact in the most prominent cinematic trends and filmmakers. Students will develop a complex appreciation of the context that framed the evolution of film language and aesthetics. This course requires weekly viewing of movies, participation in discussions and intensive writing.

Schedule: class Hours Art 190, 10:30-2:30, Fridays, Fisher 100

- Introduction to film as an art form (1895-present)
- Styles and technical aspects (editing, camera movement, costumes and lighting)
- Film is considered historically, socially and artistically
- Relationship of film to major art movements (German Expressionism, Russian Constructivism, Surrealism, Abstract Expressionism, Conceptual art and Postmodernism)

- become visually aware
- discover the charm of early movies
- see film as time travel

Art 190 History of Film 2008 screening and reading schedule

September 11 Introduction **Forgotten Silver** 1997 Peter Jackson and Costa Botes New Zealand (90mins)
Text Chapter 12 Film Art and Film History

September 18 **The General** 1927 Buster Keaton USA (1hr56mins)

September 25 **Pick Up on South Street** 1958 Samuel Fuller USA (81mins)
Text Chapter 4 Mise-en-scene and film noir analysis p.397-401

October 2 **Brick** 2006 Rain Johnson USA (1hr50mins)
Text Chapter 5 Cinematography

October 9 **The 400 Blows** 1959 Francois Truffaut France (1hr39 mins)
Text Chapter 6 Editing

October 16 **La Haine** (Hate) 1995 Mathieu Kassovitz France (96mins)

October 23 **The True Meaning of Pictures** 2002 Jennifer Baichwal Canada (71mins)
Text Chapter 10 Documentary, Experimental, and Animated Films

October 30 **The Vice Guide to Travel** (2006) Eddy Moretti and Shane Smith Canada/USA (approx 90mins)
Text Chapter 11 Film Criticism: Sample Analyses

November 6 **mid-term exam (secret screening)**

November 13 **Pontypool 2009** Bruce McDonald Canada (96mins)
Plus+ **un chien andalou** 1929 Luis Bunel and Salvador Dali France (17mins)
Text Chapter 9 Film Genres

November 20 **Cleo de 5 a 7** 1962 Agnes Varda France (90mins)
Text Chapter 8 Style

November 27 **Hedwig and the Angry Inch** 2002 John Cameron Mitchell USA (1hr35mins)
Text Chapter 7 Sound

Dec 4 Student films due. All student films complete and uploaded to YouTube group for viewing

Dec 4 **Oldboy** 2005 Chan Wook Park South Korea (2hr25min)

Dec 11 **Assignment due: Student films screened in class**
Text Film Criticism: Sample Analyses p.384

TBA final exam secret screening

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(a)	Assignment	December 4 YouTube; in class viewing December 11 Film Project 25% A short film, digital, 3-5 minutes, uploaded to YouTube <u>Projects are viewed online and in class</u> (Examples will be provided)
(b)	Mid-term	November 6 Mid-term Exam 25% based on a "secret" film screened in class for the exam
(c)	End-term Exam	TBA Final Exam: 25% based on "secret" film screened in class for the exam
(d)	Film Journal	Journaling about the films you watch 25% Due October 30 and December 11

6. Grading System Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7

77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at camosun.ca for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. <i>(For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)</i>
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services, or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services, and the College web site in the Policy Section.

"Last night I was in the kingdom of shadows. If you only knew how strange it is to be there. It is a world without sound, without colour. ... It is not life but its shadow, it is not motion but its soundless spectre."
--Maxim Gorky

"You digest and absorb your life by turning it into stories, images, art. Those stories are as important as food. Those are stories you can use to make people laugh or cry or sick. Or scared. To make people feel the way you felt." *Haunted*—Chuck Palahniuk

Film Journal 25% due October 30 and December 11

A plastic report folder or a 3 ring binder will probably work the best for this course element. In it, you should place—in an organized fashion—the following for each film viewed in class:

1. Title, director and major cast.
2. Reviews. Start with IMDB.com etc.
3. Interviews with directors, screen writers cast etc.
4. Criticism. Assemble critical articles on books or film at any time to enhance your viewing, reading and understanding

1-4 are articles that you research, read and print for you journal

5. Writing your thoughts about the film, may be typed or handwritten. A good process is to have 2 entries: before viewing the film write down what you expect from the film and after viewing the film write on what met or disappointed your expectations. These thoughts are best when they are specific, tied to particular scenes in the film
6. Scene notes any notes you make during the viewing of a film

5-6 are notes that you write in your film journal

The Film Journal is best when it is thorough. It will be graded on complexity. The more reviews you find, the longer and more specific your journal entries, the more detailed your notes, the higher your grade.