

School of Arts & Science HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT

HIST 116-001 Hollywood as Historian 2014 Fall

COURSE OUTLINE

The Approved Course Description is available on the web @ http://www.camosun.bc.ca/calendar/current/web/hist.html

1. Instructor Information

| (a) | Instructor: | Paula Young | |
|-----|---------------|---|--|
| (b) | Office Hours: | Monday & Wednesday1:30- 2:20; Tuesday & Thursday 3:30-4:20 OR BY APPOINTMENT | |
| (c) | Location: | Young 319 (Lansdowne) | |
| (d) | Phone: | 370-3363 | |
| (e) | Email: | youngp@camosun.bc.ca http://camosun.ca/learn/programs/history/young.html | |
| (f) | Website: | | |

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course a student will be able to:

- 1. Compare representations of history in film with those in primary and scholarly sources.
- 2. Weigh the historical evidence presented in media such as films documentaries, and written sources.
- 3. Describe how representations of the past change over time in film and scholarly writing.
- 4. Demonstrate research, writing, and oral communication skills.

3. Required Materials

| (a) | Texts | James J. Lorence, Screening America: United States History Through Film Since 1900 |
|-----|-------|---|
| (b) | Other | History Department Style Guide on instructor's website and on D2L Maarten Pereboom, <i>History and Film: Moving Pictures and the Study of the Past</i> (on Reserve at the Camosun library) |

4. Course Content and Schedule

Class schedule: Lectures and Seminars: Monday 2:30-5:30 pm

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

September 22: The Essay Proposal: "May the Force be With You" - 15%

October 6: Movie Review - 10%

November 17: The Essay: "Go Ahead and Make My Day" - 20%

October 20: Mid-term Exam – 20%

Dec. 8 – 16: Final Exam - 20%

Seminar participation: 15% - the grade for seminar participation (or discussion) is based on the quality of student participation. To ensure discussions are effective, students are expected to read and think about the assigned seminar material, and come to class prepared to discuss the author's main points ****Students who miss more than three seminars will forfeit their entire seminar mark****

Penalties for the late submission of work: unless a student can provide a doctor's note saying that he/she was ill and unable to turn in her/his work on the due date, the instructor will apply a 5% per day late penalty for late submissions of the essay proposal, the movie review and the essay.

6. A Note on Plagiarism: Plagiarism will result in a failing grade on the assignment and may result in a failing grade for the course and/or further disciplinary action by the College. Please see the Student Conduct Policy.

What is plagiarism?

1. The use of another person's words (sentences/phrases/paragraphs) without including quotation marks and footnotes. This applies to any written work published in book, text, or magazine form, or anything located on the Internet. In other words, it is plagiarism if someone copies and pastes work from the Internet and presents that work as his/her own.

2. Paraphrasing any author's words or ideas without using a footnote to cite the source.

3. Copying another student's work, either on assignments or exams.

7. Weekly Class Schedule

Note: This schedule is subject to minor changes – the instructor will discuss any changes at the beginning of every class.

Sept. 8 Topic : Hollywood and History

James J. Lorence, "Preface," & "Introduction," *Screening America* Maarten Pereboom, "Moving Pictures as a Historical Resource," *History and Film*, Chapter 1, & pp. 15-38,

Documentary: Dawn of the Eye, no. 2

Sept. 15 Topic 1: The Progressive Era in America

Film: A Corner in Wheat (1909)

Topic 2: African-Americans and racialization in film

Birth of a Nation (1915) Guess Who's Coming to Dinner (1967) Do the Right Thing (1989)

Seminar & Lecture Prep: Lorence, chapter 1,2 & 15; and Pereboom, pp. 129-136 & 146-47.

Sept. 22 "MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU": ESSAY PROPOSAL DUE

Topic: Hollywood and American Indians in film

Custer's Last Stand (1936) Little Big Man (1970) Disney's Pocohontas (1995) Smoke Signals (1998)

For background information you can watch the documentary: *Reel Injun* (2010), available at Camosun's Library

Sept. 29 Topic: 1920s and social change

Dancing Mothers (1926) Inherit the Wind (1960) Alleged (2010)

Seminar & Lecture Prep: Read Lorence, chapter 3; and Pereboom, pp. 22-24.

Oct. 6 MOVIE REVIEW DUE

Topic: The Great Depression *The Grapes of Wrath* (1940) Seminar & Lecture Prep: Read Lorence, ch. 5 (for info only) and Lorence, ch. 6; Pereboom, p. 153-54

Oct. 13 THANKSGIVING STAT HOLIDAY

Oct. 20 MID-TERM EXAM

Oct. 27 **Topic: Hollywood and War** Foreign Correspondent (1940) Der Fuehrer's Face (1943) <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tzxCquYJ1H4</u> The Negro Soldier (1944)

Seminar & Lecture Prep: Lorence, ch. 7, 8 & 9

Nov. 3 **Topic: Normalcy & fear in the Cold War** *Duck and Cover* (1951) on YouTube *Dr. Strangelove* (1964) *Thirteen Days* (2000)

Seminar & Lecture Prep: Lorence, ch. 10 & 11

Nov. 10 **Topic: Responses to the war in Vietnam** *The Green Berets* (1968) *Platoon* (1986) *Coming Home* (1978)

Seminar & Lecture Prep: Lorence, ch. 14; Pereboom, p. 212

Nov. 17 "GO AHEAD AND MAKE MY DAY": ESSAY DUE

Topic: Class and Gender in Film Norma Rae (1979) Working Girl (1988) Philadelphia (1993) Brokeback Mountain (2005)

Seminar & Lecture Prep: Lorence, ch. 13; Pereboom, 110-111 & 214-215

Nov. 24 **Topic: Coming to terms with the past** *The Act of Killing* (2012) Denmark/Norway/U.K. *12 Years a Slave* (2013) United States *Repentance* (1984) USSR

Dec. 1 **Topic: Does historical accuracy matter?** Argo (2012)

Seminar & Lecture Prep:

 President Jimmy Carter, *Presidential Press Conference: Situation in Iran*, November 28, 1979. From The American Presidency Project: <u>http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/index.php?pid=31752</u>
 Simon Houpt, "Ken Taylor sets the record straight about Argo's take on the 'Canadian Caper'" in *The Globe and Mail*, February 25, 2013 <u>http://www.theglobeandmail.com/arts/awards-and-festivals/film-awards/ken-taylorsets-the-record-straight-about-argos-take-on-the-canadian-caper/article9044112/
 Brian D. Johnson, "Movies that make (up) history," from Macleans on-line, January 19, 2013 <u>http://www.macleans.ca/culture/movies/movies-that-make-history/</u>
 Brian D. Johnson, "Ben Affleck rewrites history," from Maclean's on-line, September 12, 2012 <u>http://www.macleans.ca/culture/movies/ben-affleck-rewriteshistory/</u>
 Eric Sager, "Comment: History is more than just getting the facts right," *Times Colonist*, March 15, 2013. www.timescolonist.com/opinion/op-ed/comment-history</u>

is-more -than-just-getting-the-facts-right-1.91437

Dec. 8-16 FINAL EXAM PERIOD

8. Grading System

| Percentage | Grade | Description | Grade Point Equivalency |
|------------|-------|---|----------------------------|
| 90-100 | A+ | | 9 |
| 85-89 | А | | 8 |
| 80-84 | A- | | 7 |
| 77-79 | B+ | | б |
| 73-76 | В | | 5 |
| 70-72 | B- | | 4 |
| 65-69 | C+ | | 3 |
| 60-64 | С | | 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 |

Standard Grading System (GPA)

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 at **camosun.ca** or 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. |

9. Learning Support and Services for Students – provided free to Camosun students

Counselling Centre: <u>http://camosun.ca/services/counselling/</u> Disability Resource Centre: <u>http://camosun.ca/services/drc/</u> Learning Skills: <u>http://camosun.ca/services/learning-skills/index.html</u> Writing Centre: <u>http://camosun.ca/services/writing-centre/</u> College Ombudsman: <u>http://camosun.ca/about/ombudsman/</u>

10. STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY – it is the student's responsibility to become familiar with this policy. <u>http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/pdf/academic.pdf</u>

LIBRARY RESOURCES FOR HISTORY

When you need reliable books, articles and websites for essays and research projects, ask a librarian to help you find suitable items. You can go to the Information Desk in the library, or use the online service called AskAway. There is a link to AskAway, as well as the catalogue and library hours, on the <u>library's homepage</u> at <u>www.camosun.ca/library</u>. The Library gives you access to thousands of articles through <u>online databases</u>.*

To find articles that are relevant to History topics, click on

Art/Literature/History at the top of the database list. These databases will be useful:

1. Academic Search (EBSCO) –journals with an academic focus, many full-text

2. Combined CBCA - Canadian magazines & journals, some full-text

3. *JStor* – full-text, academic journals

4. Humanities Index - index only, some full-text

You can read the articles on any computer with an internet connection, but to gain access you will need your student number (C#######) and library password. Your *library password* is usually your birthdate in the format MMDDYY. Ask for assistance if this does not work.

* If you cannot use this direct link, follow this path: from the library's homepage: click on Magazines/Journals/Newspapers, then select Search for articles by topic.