



## COURSE OUTLINE

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

TBA

### 1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Judith Price		
(b)	Office Hours:	Tues. 2:00-3:00pm		
(c)	Location:	Y100		
(d)	Phone:	250 370-3382	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	pricej@camosun.ca		
(f)	Website:			

### 2. Intended Learning Outcomes

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

1. Discuss the relationship of film as a medium to other cultural productions (such as theatre and performance art).
2. Analyze film in terms of aesthetics, themes, and narrative techniques.
3. Differentiate between major film genres and their tropes.
4. Place each film in a larger cultural, social, and historical context.
5. Recognize different modes of interpretation.
6. Write coherently in an academic form (such as an essay, analysis, or summary).

### 3. Required Materials

1. (a) Text: *Understanding Movies: Thirteenth Edition*.  
 With also excerpts from: *Film: A Critical Introduction*, and *Film Art: An Introduction*.  
 (b) Various readings will be handed out and you may need to print out or read online other material relating to assignments.  
 Students will need to do online research for film/video material and print material.  
 Optional: References will be placed on reserve at the library front desk. (Books and DVDs)

### 4. Course Content and Schedule

This course introduces students to the academic, critical, and theoretical study of film as an art form and as a technical medium of expression. It will offer students several different disciplinary lenses (such as historical, social, and cultural) with which to view and analyze films. Students in this course will discuss and interpret a broad range of films in order to learn about such topics as film genre, film and narrative, film aesthetics, the role of sound in creating meaning, and film's role in reflecting and shaping culture, beginning with a Western historical foundation and expanding to a global perspective.

This course format consists of a two-hour lecture and a one-hour seminar each week. Films that illustrate the specific topic to be discussed each week will be screened during the two-hour lecture class and the discussion and analysis will occur during the one-hour seminar class. There will also be some documentaries about film history and film as a cultural phenomenon shown during the lecture class from time to time. e.g. 'The Story of Film: An Odyssey' and 'Lumiere and Co.'

The course will be divided into sections, looking at film history, film production (structure, aesthetics, sound, technologies), genres and narratives, and culture (social and global concerns and ideologies), with the understanding that these divisions are arbitrary and the expectation that the topics will overlap and, in some cases, merge.

This course will enable students to:

- Understand the historical foundation underlying contemporary film in both western and

- global cultures.
- Have a basic knowledge of, and be able to, analyze the form, structure and aesthetics at play in films.
- Develop a methodology for deconstructing film imagery, narratives and sound.
- Cultivate an understanding, from diverse cultural perspectives, of the underlying role ideologies have played and continue to play in the form and content of films.
- Acquire a vocabulary to describe, discuss and write about film as a cultural study.
- Be conversant with the effects that the development of digital technologies have had on film production and distribution.
- Have a clear understanding of the contemporary merging of film and video under the aegis of artist cinema and the role that digitization has placed in this movement.
- Recognize the effects that the virtual worlds created in films have on our perception of reality and the ways that film analysis can be employed to better understand that reality.

This course has no exams and is interactive in approach. Students will write short reviews/analyses of each film viewed, referencing the topics being discussed. There will also be weekly readings assigned from the textbook (or course pack). The film reviews and the readings pertaining to each section will be discussed during the seminar classes. Periodically each student will present an analysis in seminar class to initiate the discussion. The reviews will be handed in at the end of each section. There will also be a 1500-word research essay consisting of an in-depth analysis and interpretation of a film of their choice that illustrates and examines at least one of the topics discussed. Students will be asked to expand their research to other texts and online material.

I am also considering a small group project designed to give students hands-on experience with creating a film clip.

**Warning:** Films may be shown that some students may find troubling. If you feel that this might interfere with your full participation in the class, you might reconsider taking this course.

### Lecture Schedule

Subject to change without notice.

#### Week 1

Class #1 Introduction to course. Discuss outline, assignments, course content, expectations. View video.

Class #2 Discuss video. (probably 'Lumiere and Co.'). Assign reading for week 2. Discuss writing a basic short film analysis using the 'Lumiere' video.

#### Week 2. Film history section begins

Class #3 View two parts of 'The Story of Film: an Odyssey'

Class #4 A discussion of the early history of film and the role that various countries and political systems played in its development, both technically and conceptually. Assign reading for week 3.

#### Week 3.

Class #5 Film history. Film viewing.

Class #6

#### Week 4.

Class #7 Film history. Film viewing

Class #8

#### Week 5. Film production, structure, aesthetics and sound section begins.

Class #9 1<sup>st</sup> set of film reviews due. Film viewing.

Class #10 Cinematography and mise-en-scene discussed. Shift from film stock to digital discussed.

#### Week 6.

Class #11 Film production cont'd. Film viewing.

Class #12 Editing discussed. Shift from editing film stock to digital editing discussed.

#### Week 7.

Class#13 Film production cont'd. Film viewing.

Class#14 Sound in film discussed. Differences between sound capture and application in analogue and digital film production.

#### Week 8. Film genres and narratives section begins.

Class #15 2<sup>nd</sup> set of film reviews due. Film viewing.

Class #16

#### Week 9.

Class #17 Film genres cont'd. Film viewing.

Class #18

Week 10.

Class #19 Film genres cont'd. Film viewing

Class #20

Week 11. Film and culture (social, global concerns and ideologies) section begins.

Class # 21 3<sup>rd</sup> set of reviews due.

Class #22

Week 12.

Class#23 Film and culture cont'd. Research essay due. Film viewing.

Class #24

Week 13.

Class #25 Film and culture cont'd. Film viewing.

Class #26

Week 14. Final week course wrap up

Class #27 4<sup>th</sup> set of reviews due. Student film projects due.

Class #28

Evaluation: (includes learning activities, assignments and evaluation methods/systems)

Each student will be expected to complete the assignments set by the instructor.

### 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Project#1	Weekly film reviews/analyses (12x 5%)	_____	Ongoing	60%
Project #2	Academic research essay. See attached material	_____	Class #23	25%
	Participation in group discussions, attendance	_____	Ongoing	15%

I'm considering a possible hands-on project, in which case the weekly reviews or the essay would be reduced in grade points.

Students must submit their work within the predetermined time limitations to be considered for evaluation and are required to attend and contribute at group discussions. Class attendance and participation is essential.

*NOTE: Missing more than 2 classes will have a very negative effect on your grade and could result in failure of the course.*

*Frequent lateness will also have a very negative effect on your grade.*

### 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](http://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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://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.

[ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED](#)