



CAMOSUN COLLEGE
School of Arts & Science
Department of
Humanities

PHIL-116-001
Philosophy Through Film
Fall 2018

COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is available on the web @
<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/phil.html>

⚡ Please note: This outline will not be kept indefinitely. It is recommended students keep this outline for their records, especially to assist in transfer credit to post-secondary institutions.

1. Instructor Information

(a) Instructor	Sandy Bannikoff
(b) Office hours	Wednesday & Friday 10:30 – 11:30; also available by appointment
(c) Location	Y232
(d) Phone	250-370-3389 Alternative: _____
(e) E-mail	bannikof@camosun.bc.ca
(f) Website	_____

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

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

1. Identify and describe ideas and arguments as expressed through film and other media such as television, music videos, and video shorts. Relate these ideas and arguments to their classical presentations.
2. Identify the ideas that make certain films significant.
3. Apply information found in external sources to explore and critically analyze the ideas and arguments found in film. Support descriptive and value claims about the ideas and arguments as well as claims about the film presentation of those ideas and arguments.
4. Demonstrate written and oral communication skills.

3. Required Materials

- (a) Coursepack: Available at Landsdowne Book Store

4. Course Content and Schedule: Subject to Change

Introduction: September 10

Recommended: Waking Life. Dir. Richard Linklater. Fox Searchlight Pictures. 2001. Film.

Required Reading: Coursepack pages 1-6. (Boethius, Descartes)

September 17

Circle Discussion: The Reel Injun

View: The Reel Injun. Dirs. Neil Diamond, Catherine Bainbridge, Jeremiah Hayes. Domino Film. 2009. Film.

Read: Coursepack pgs. 11-17. (G.E. Moore, Ludwig Wittgenstein)

September 24

Circle Discussion: The Revenant

View: The Revenant. Dir. Alejandro González Iñárritu. 20th Century fox. 2015. Film.

Read: Coursepack pgs. 18-30. (George Lakhoff, George Catlin, Sheamus Heaney)

October 1

Circle Discussion: I □ Huckabees and Life of Pi

View: I □ Huckabees. Dir. David O. Russell. Fox Searchlight Pictures. 2004.

Read: Coursepack pgs. 31-42 (Robert Solomon, Plutarch, Jan Zwicky)

Or

View: Life of Pi. Dir. Ang Lee. 20th Century Fox. 2012. Film.

Read: Coursepack pgs. 43-48 (John Wisdom, Jorge Luis Borges)

October 8: Thanksgiving Holiday

October 15

Circle Discussion: Watership Down

View: Watership Down. Dir. Martin Rosen, John Hubley. Warner Bros. 1978.

Read: Coursepack pgs. 49-56 (Thomas Hobbes, Henry David Thoreau)

October 22

Circle Discussion: District 9

View: District 9. Dir. Neill Blomkamp. Sony Pictures. 2009. Film.

Read: Coursepack pgs. 57-64 (Peter Singer, Paul Boghossian, Thomas Tranströmer)

October 29

Circle Discussion: Malcom X and Selma

View: Malcom X. Dir. Spike Lee. Warner Bros. 1992. Film.

Read: Coursepack pgs. 73-80 (Slavoj Žižek, Jan Zwicky) (Please note the page numbers.)

Or

View: Selma. Dir. Ava DuVernay. Paramount Pictures. 2014. Film.

Read: Coursepack pgs. 65-72(George Yancy, Maya Angelou) (Please note the page numbers.)

November 5

Circle Discussion: Hannah Arendt

View: Hannah Arendt. Dir. Margarethe vonTrotta. Zeitgeist. 2012. Film.

(Note: Recommended viewing for background on this topic: 13 Minutes. Dir. Oliver Hirschbiegel. NFP marketing & distribution. 2015. Film.)

Read: Coursepack pgs. 81-89 (Hannah Arendt, Viktor E. Frankl, Roméo Delleire, Alexander Solzhenitsyn)

November 12: College Closed

November 19

Circle Discussion: Focus

View: Focus. Dir. Neal Slavin. Paramount Vantage. 2001. Film.

Read: Coursepack pgs. 90-94 (Cheshire Calhoun, Jorges Luis Borges)

November 26

Circle Discussion: If A Tree Falls

View: If a Tree Falls: A Story of the Earth Liberation Front. Dir. Marshall Curry. Oscilloscope. 2011. Film.

Read: Coursepack pgs. 95-103 (Benjamin Hale, Aldo Leopold)

December 3

Circle Discussion: Glory at Sea and Beasts of the Southern Wild

View: Glory at Sea (Dir. Zeitlin, 2008) or Beasts of the Southern Wild. Dir. Benh Zeitlin. Fox Searchlight Pictures. 2012. Film.

Read: Coursepack pgs. 104-113 (Thomas Robert Malthus, Laura Westra, et al., Jan Zwicky)

Conclusions

Recommended

View: Examined Life. Dir. Astra Taylor. Zeitgeist Films. 2008. Film.

Read: Coursepack pgs. 114-128 (Jan Zwicky)

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

- (a) Participation in Circle and Lecture Discussions.....25%
- (b) Three Writing Assignments (see details on handout)
 - 1. Due October 1st20%
 - 2. Due November 5th25%
 - 3. Due First week of exams.....30%

6. Grading System

- Standard Grading System (GPA)
- Competency Based Grading System

7. Recommended Materials to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course This is a course that requires students to attend all classes and to keep up with weekly assignments. Each week students must watch a film, complete the assigned readings, and collect their thoughts for discussion. Please come see me right away if you are having trouble keeping up.

8. College Supports, Services and Policies



Immediate, Urgent, or Emergency Support

If you or someone you know requires immediate, urgent, or emergency support (e.g. illness, injury, thoughts of suicide, sexual assault, etc.), **SEEK HELP**. Resource contacts @ <http://camosun.ca/about/mental-health/emergency.html> or <http://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence/get-support.html#urgent>

College Services

Camosun offers a variety of health and academic support services, including counselling, dental, disability resource centre, help centre, learning skills, sexual violence support & education, library, and writing centre. For more information on each of these services, visit the **STUDENT SERVICES** link on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/>

College Policies

Camosun strives to provide clear, transparent, and easily accessible policies that exemplify the college's commitment to life-changing learning. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of College policies. Policies are available on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/>. Education and academic policies include, but are not limited to, Academic Progress, Admission, Course Withdrawals, Standards for Awarding Credentials, Involuntary Health and Safety Leave of Absence, Prior Learning Assessment, Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal, Sexual Violence and Misconduct, Student Ancillary Fees, Student Appeals, Student Conduct, and Student Penalties and Fines.

A. GRADING SYSTEMS <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html>

The following two grading systems are used at Camosun College:

1. Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentag	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
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e			
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		1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

2. Competency Based Grading System (Non GPA)

This grading system is based on satisfactory acquisition of defined skills or successful completion of the course learning outcomes

Grade	Description
COM	The student has met the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
DST	The student has met and exceeded, above and beyond expectation, the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
NC	The student has not met the goals, criteria or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.

B. 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 <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html> 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 are designed to have an anticipated enrollment that extends beyond one term. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course.
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.

