



**CAMOSUN COLLEGE**  
**School of Arts & Science**  
**Department of Humanities**

**PHIL-116-002**  
**Philosophy Through Film**  
**Winter 2019**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

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

Ω 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.

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**1. Instructor Information**

(a) Instructor	Sandy Bannikoff
(b) Office hours	Tuesday and Thursday 10:30 -12 and 2:30 to 3:30
(c) Location	Y232 (turn right immediately when entering the main hallway)
(d) Phone	250-370-3389 <b>Alternative:</b> _____
(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**

Coursepack: "Phil 116-01 Philosophy Through Film", available at Landsdowne Bookstore

**4. Course Content and Schedule**

Schedule subject to change. Complete references for all readings are in the coursepack.

## **January 11: First Class**

View: Waking Life. Dir. Richard Linklater. Fox Searchlight Pictures. 2001. Film.  
Read: Coursepack pages 1-6 (Boethius and Descartes)

### **January 18** Circle Discussion: Waking Life

View: The Reel Injun. Dirs. Neil Diamond, Catherine Bainbridge, Jeremiah Hayes. Domino Film. 2009. Film.  
Read: Coursepack pgs. 18-30 (Lakhoff, Catlin, Heaney)

### **January 25** Circle Discussion: Reel Injun

View: I ♥ Huckabees. Dir. David O. Russell. Fox Searchlight Pictures. 2004.  
Read :Coursepack pgs. 31-42 (Solomon, Plutarch, Zwicky)

### **February 1** Circle Discussion: I ♥ Huckabees Essay Questions Distributed

View: Life of Pi. Dir. Ang Lee. 20th Century Fox. 2012. Film.  
Read: Coursepack pgs. 43-48 (Wisdom, Borges)

### **February 8** Circle Discussion: Life of Pi

View: Watership Down. Dir. Martin Rosen, John Hubley. Warner Bros. 1978.  
Read: Coursepack pgs. 49-56 (Hobbes, Thoreau)

### **February 15** Circle Discussion: Watership Down Essay Due

View: District 9. Dir. Neill Blomkamp. Sony Pictures. 2009. Film.  
Read: Coursepack pgs. 57-64 (Singer, Boghossian, Tranströmer)

### **February 22: Reading Break**

### **February 29** Circle Discussion: District 9 Essay Questions Distributed

View: Malcom X. Dir. Spike Lee. Warner Bros. 1992. Film. OR Malcom X: Make it Plain. PBS Documentary. Dir. Orlando Bagwell. Film. 1994.  
Read: Coursepack pgs. 73-80 (Žižek, Zwicky)

### **March 8** Circle Discussion: Malcom X

View: Selma. Dir. Ava DuVernay. Paramount Pictures. 2014. Film.  
Read: Coursepack pgs. 65-72 (Yancy, Angelou)

**March 15** Circle Discussion: Selma  
**Essay Due**

View: Hannah Arendt. Dir. Margarethe vonTrotta. Zeitgeist. 2012. Film. (Note: Recommended for background on this topic: Shindler’s List. Dir. Steven Spielberg. Universal Pictures.1993. Film.)  
Read: Coursepack pgs. 81-89 (Arendt, Frankl, Dellaire, Solzhenitsyn)

**March 22** Circle Discussion: Hannah Arendt

View: Focus. Dir. Neal Slavin. Paramount Vantage. 2001. Film.  
Read: Coursepack pgs. 90-94 (Calhoun, Borges)

**March 29** Circle Discussion: Focus  
**Essay Questions Distributed**

View: If a Tree Falls: A Story of the Earth Liberation Front. Dir. Marshall Curry. Oscilloscope. 2011. Film. (Note: Recommended for background on this topic: An Inconvenient Truth. Dir. Davis Guggenhiem. Paramount Vantage. 2006. Film.)  
Read: Coursepack pgs. 95-103 (Hale, Leopold)

**April 5** Circle Discussion: If a Tree Falls

View: Beasts of the Southern Wild. Dir. Benh Zeitlin. Fox Searchlight Pictures. 2012. Film.  
Read: Coursepack pgs. 104-113 (Malthus, Zwicky)

**April 12:** Circle Discussion: Beasts of the Southern Wild  
**Essay Due**

View: Examined Life. Dir. Astra Taylor. Zeitgeist Films. 2008. Film.  
Read: Coursepack pgs. 114-128 (Zwicky)

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

- 1. Weekly work sheets and class community.....30%  
    Breakdown: Weekly Worksheets..... 15%  
                Class Community.....15%
- 2. Three Essays.....70%

**6. Grading System**

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

## 7. Recommended Materials to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

## 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)

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		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.