

COURSE NUMBER: Vr236		COURSE TITLE: Film Art and History	
TERMS OFFERED: Summer		PREREQUISITES: VY 100	
TEXTBOOKS/REQUIRED MATERIAL: Readings assigned by teacher, including material from Bolton's <i>American Film/American Culture</i> and Bordwell & Thompson's <i>Film Art: An Introduction</i> . Students will also watch approximately 12 films. These will be significant or representative works, and may be changed each semester.		INSTRUCTOR: Mary Frances Capiello DATE OF PREPARATION: October 9, 2012 DATE OF UC APPROVAL:	
INSTRUCTOR(S): Mary Frances Capiello		SCIENCE/DESIGN: n/a	
CATALOG DESCRIPTION: This course will progress chronologically through film history, introducing people, technical innovations and movements that have affected what we see on screen. Students will be introduced to and use specialized film-related terminology. Artistic elements (shot length, framing, etc.) and their contributions to the final product will be discussed. In addition, the way culture affects movies will be a major theme. The course will utilize movies, documentary footage, photographs and other material to give students a varied and vivid picture of the development of American film and society. The instruction and all reading materials will be in English, and only English will be spoken in class.		COURSE TOPICS: 1. The birth of the movies 2. The silent era 3. Cinema and the Great Depression 4. Orson Welles 5. Film noir 6. Developments of the 1950's 7. Changing mores, changing films (1960's) 8. Minorities in film 9. The "Film School Generation" 10. Directors of the 1980's 11. The rise of independent film 12. The rise of the documentary	
COURSE STRUCTURE/SCHEDULE: Lecture: twice per week, 1 90-minute meeting and 1 50-minute meeting; film screening: 1 per week, 2 hours			
COURSE OBJECTIVES [Course Outcomes in brackets]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To provide an understanding of how film art and the film industry have developed since the birth of the movies. [1, 2, 7] To introduce important innovators and personalities of American film, and explain their contributions to the art. [1, 2, 7] To enable students to use English vocabulary related to cinema and cinema studies. [2, 3, 4, 5, 8] To enable students to analyze a film, taking into account its cultural, technological and artistic characteristics. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6] To enable students to understand how a country's culture influences its mass media. [1, 6, 7] To provide students with a more detailed understanding of 20th century American culture. [6, 7] To improve student ability to work in small groups. [10] To improve student ability to present effective presentations in English. [9, 10] 		
COURSE OUTCOMES [Program Outcomes in brackets]	<p>After completing Vr236, students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Display knowledge of American film history (major directors, major movements). [j] Explain how American film has developed, particularly from a technical standpoint. [g] Use film-related terms correctly, both in oral and written English. [g] Identify various shots and shooting techniques. Explain how elements such as mise-en-scene, lighting and music contribute to a film's effectiveness. [g] Demonstrate basic knowledge of 20th century American history. [j] Explain how elements of American culture (such as racial prejudice) affect what is shown on the screen. [j] Read and understand basic (non-specialized) film criticism and film-theory texts written for native English speakers. Explain the contributions and style of an American auteur in an engaging and detailed way. [g] Work in a group to prepare and deliver an effective presentation in English. [d, g] 		
ASSESSMENT TOOLS [Course Outcomes in brackets]	<p>Two short (3-5 page) film response papers [3, 4, 5] One mid-term examination [1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8] One final examination [1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8] Oral presentation on film director (7-10 minutes, given by group of 3 students) [1, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10] Class participation (answering assigned questions orally) [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8]</p>		