

Film Appreciation (COMM 2366)

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: James Clinton Rawls, MFA
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Office Location: Technology Center – Room 227
Office Hours: Tues/Thurs – 8:00 – 1:00



**LAMAR INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY**

CREDIT

3 Semester Credit Hours (3 hours lecture)

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Online

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:

None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an exploration of the history, methods, genres, and notable filmmakers in the cinematic arts, and the ways in which they express the values of cultures and human experience.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to

- Identify major genres within the cinematic arts
- Recognize the styles of major filmmakers within those genres
- Evaluate the impact of society on the history of film
- Become an active viewer of films and apply lessons within to one's everyday life

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS

None

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Regular attendance is crucial to your success in this course. Please regularly login to your course and submit assignments by the due date. Absences or missed work due to medical reasons with proper documentation will not be counted against you, and absences for religious reasons will be respected as well. In both cases, medical and religious, prior notification is needed.

DROP POLICY

If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process by the specified drop date as listed on the [Academic Calendar](#). If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an “F” in the course.

STUDENT EXPECTED TIME REQUIREMENT

For every hour in class (or unit of credit), students should expect to spend at least two to three hours per week studying and completing assignments. For a 3-credit-hour class, students should prepare to allocate approximately six to nine hours per week outside of class in a 16-week session OR approximately twelve to eighteen hours in an 8-week session. Online/Hybrid students should expect to spend at least as much time in this course as in the traditional, face-to-face class.

COURSE CALENDAR

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS (Due on this Date)	ASSIGNMENTS (Due on this Date)
2/09/24	Unit One	Unit One Lessons	Exams – Lesson 1-3
2/09/24	Unit One	None	Five Favorite Films Presentation
3/01/24	Unit Two	Unit Two Lessons	Exams – Lesson 4-6
4/05/24	Unit Three	Unit Three Lessons	Exams – Lesson 7-9
4/05/24	Unit Three	None	Response Paper
5/03/24	Unit Four	Unit Four Lessons	Exams – 10-12
5/03/24	Final Project	None	Filmmaker Focus Presentation
5/03/24	Extra Credit	None	Course Evaluation

COURSE EVALUATION

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

- Presentation 10%
- Response Paper 15%
- Exams/Quizzes 60%
- Final Project 15%

GRADE SCALE

- 90-100 A
- 80-89 B
- 70-79 C
- 60-69 D
- 0-59 F

LIT does not use +/- grading scales

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students found to be committing academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, or collusion) may receive disciplinary action. Students need to familiarize themselves with the institution's Academic Dishonesty Policy available in the Student Catalog & Handbook at <http://catalog.lit.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=80#academic-dishonesty>.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc. can be online at <https://lit.edu/online-learning/online-learning-minimum-computer-requirements>. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles' Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at [Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology \(lit.edu\)](#).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook*. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at www.lit.edu. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

STARFISH

LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these

emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

CONTACT PROCEDURES

When emailing your professor, include your name, course section number, and a detailed message so that questions and concerns may be addressed properly. Be specific and detailed, and make no assumptions. Please be respectful and informative in all correspondence. The more information you provide, the more quickly your issues can be resolved. Please allow up to two business days for a response.

CLASSROOM CONDUCT

Working with your instructor and engaging with your peers is crucial to your success in this course. Please treat your professor and one another with the utmost respect and adherence afforded a professional.

ECHS/DUAL CREDIT COURSE CONDUCT

For Dual Credit students only – When working in an ECHS Dual Credit course, treat your in-class facilitator with respect. This individual is an equal partner of your professor, and working with them is critical to your success. Your facilitator and your professor are in regular contact regarding your work, classroom conduct, and attendance. All final decisions in every matter though will be rendered by your professor and no one else.

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION, GRADE REDOS, AND LATE WORK POLICY

Unless otherwise specified, each assignment must be uploaded to the appropriate Blackboard link by 11:59 pm on the due date. Assignments turned in after the due date will be considered late. If such assignments are accepted, it will be solely at the instructor's discretion and with an automatic point reduction penalty.

Be respectful of your instructor's time and turn in all assignments by or before the appropriate due date. Plagiarized or academically dishonest assignments will result in an automatic zero.

If a student fails a major assignment barring the final project, or does not turn in a major assignment on time, the student will have three business days from when the initial grade is entered to contact the professor and submit a redo. This redo may incur up to an automatic 30% penalty, and will only be accepted at the instructor's discretion. Repeated offenses such as frequent late work or multiple cases of academic dishonesty may render this privilege null and void.

Please allow up to one week for assignments to be graded.