



University of International Business and Economics International Summer School

FIM 110 Introduction to Film Studies

Term: July 8th – August 2nd, 2019
Instructor: Dr. Matthew L. Conboy
Home Institution: Zayed University
Email: matthew.conboy@zu.ac.ae
Class Hours: M-F 13:10-15:10
Office Hours: T and Th 10:30-12:00 and by appointment
Total Contact Hours: 40 contact hours
Credit: 4 units

Course Description:

FIM 110 is an introduction to film analysis that examines critical approaches of authorship, genre, presentation, and narrative. Students will become literate in the language of cinema and learn basic film concepts, techniques, and terminology. Focal topics include spectatorship, ideology, social and political context, celebrity culture, ambits of meaning, and modes of film criticism. FIM 110 is designed for students who love movies but may lack the experience to make viable interpretive arguments about them.

Prerequisite:

None

Course Goals:

- ✧ Develop literacy in filmic language within a variety of stylistic contexts.
- ✧ Discuss the relationship between specific films and the social settings in which they were produced.
- ✧ Explore significant chapters in film history.
- ✧ Reflect on personally and culturally determined viewing positions.
- ✧ Synthesize textbook and lecture material in order to work as part of a film production group.
- ✧ Utilize industry standard software to create a film “short.”

Required Textbook:

Looking at the Movies, 5th Edition, Richard Barsam and David Monahan, ISBN-13: 978-0393265194

[https://www.amazon.com/Looking-Movies-Fifth-Richard-](https://www.amazon.com/Looking-Movies-Fifth-Richard-Barsam/dp/0393265196/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1512762465&sr=1-1&keywords=looking+at+the+movies+5th+edition)

[Barsam/dp/0393265196/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1512762465&sr=1-](https://www.amazon.com/Looking-Movies-Fifth-Richard-Barsam/dp/0393265196/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1512762465&sr=1-1&keywords=looking+at+the+movies+5th+edition)

[1&keywords=looking+at+the+movies+5th+edition](https://www.amazon.com/Looking-Movies-Fifth-Richard-Barsam/dp/0393265196/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1512762465&sr=1-1&keywords=looking+at+the+movies+5th+edition)

All of readings will be supplied by the instructor

EText available through <https://digital.wwnorton.com/movies5>

Grading Policy:

Weekly Quizzes (4) 80% (20% each)

These will consist of True/False, fill-in-the-blank, and short answer questions
Group Production Project 20%

This will consist of a group working together to produce a film “short.” Information provided in the readings will guide the students through all steps of film production and editing.

Grading Scale:

The quizzes and project will be graded according to the following grade scale:

A	90-100	C+	72-74
A-	85-89	C	68-71
B+	82-84	C-	64-67
B	78-81	D	60-63
B-	75-77	F	below 60

Class Rules:

A summer course is an intense and fast-paced learning environment. Students must make a commitment to the course in order to earn a passing grade. To create a successful learning environment all students must adhere to the following rules:

Students must arrive on time. A habit of arriving late will impact your final score. It shows disrespect for the instructor and your fellow classmates who are in the class to succeed.

Student will make every effort to contribute to class discussions and lectures.

Students will conduct their behavior in the class room as is expected of a mature, serious university student. Disruptions will not be tolerated. That includes:

- ✧ use of electronic devices for purposes other than coursework
- ✧ habits of talking, not paying attention, and disruptive behaviors
- ✧ cheating, not doing your own work, incomplete assignments

Attendance Policy:

Attendance in class is mandatory. If an absence is unavoidable, arrangements must be made in advance to avoid penalty. UIBE policy requires a medical certificate to be excused. Any unexcused absences may impact the student’s grade. Moreover, UIBE policy is that a student who has missed more than one-third of the class (6 class times) of a course will fail.

Course Schedule and Topics:

Week 1

Introduction to class, film vocabulary, and video editing software

Chapter 1 Looking at Movies

Chapter 2 Principles of Film Form

Chapter 3 Types of Movies

Week 2

Story development and storyboarding

Chapter 4 Elements of Narrative

Chapter 5 Mise-en-Scene

Chapter 6 Cinematography

Week 3



Film production

Chapter 7 Acting

Chapter 8 Editing

Chapter 9 Sound

Chapter 10 Film History

Week 4

Video editing and post-production

Chapter 11 How the Movies are Made