



**University of International Business and Economics
International Summer School**

FIM 110 Introduction to Film Studies

Term: May 25– June 25, 2020

Instructor: Dr. Nick J. Scullo

Home Institution: Texas A&M University, Kingsville

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Class Hours: Monday through Thursday, 120 minutes each day (2,400 minutes in total)

Office Hours: TBD

Discussion Session: 2 hours each week

Total Contact Hours: 64 contact hours (45 minutes each, 48 hours in total)

Credit: 4 units

Course Description:

In this course students will be introduced to the historical, formal and theoretical components of film studies. We will pay special attention to film analysis and composition, and develop a vocabulary for talking about how films communicate ideas, engage audiences, and reflect culture. To accomplish these goals, we will watch films every day, in class, and discuss them using terms and concepts from the course readings.

Course Goals:

Develop familiarity with the technological and historical development of film from early cinema to contemporary blockbusters.
Understand and apply the formal vocabulary of film analysis and composition
Be conversant in theoretical questions related to film as an art form and as a technology for communication.

Required Textbook:

All readings will be electronically provided.

Grading Policy:

Quiz 1: 10 points

Quiz 2: 10 points

Your Movie/Group Movie Presentation: 50 points

Who Would Play You and Why Paper: 25 points

Your Movie Poster: 25 points



Final: 100 points
Midterm: 100 points
Participation: 50 points
Total: 370 points

Grading Scale:

Assignments and examinations 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:

Only use laptops, tablets, and cell phones for not taking, reading, translation, and for looking up information when informed by the instructor.

Keep side conversations to a minimum.

Late work will lose 10 percent for each day it is late.

If caught cheating by the instructor or teaching assistant, the student will fail the assignment on which they cheated. If caught cheating more than twice, the student will be assigned a failing grade for the class.

Attendance Policy:

Students are allowed to miss two classes without excuse before students will need to bring an excuse otherwise 2.5 points will be deducted from the participation grade for each absence.

Course Schedule (The syllabus is a proposed course of events. Deviations may be necessary.):

Day	Topic	Assignments are due the next class day
Day 1	Introduction to Class The Syllabus Introductions	Film Wikipedia (pp. 1-12) Dixon & Foster (pp. 1-21)
Day 2	Early Movies: From novelty to narrative	Dixon & Foster (pp. 22-52)

	Evolution of the form: Silent films to talkies. Watch “Dr. Strangelove”	
Day 3	Finish and discuss “Dr. Strangelove”	No Homework
Day 4	Watch “Psycho”	Grant (pp. 1-17)
Day 5	Finish and Discuss “Psycho” Horror Movies	Dixon & Foster (pp. 120-134) Bordwell (pp. 1-18)
Day 6	Hollywood Contemporary Film: Quiz	Introduction to Film Studies (pp. 1-23) James Moody, “What is Film Studies?”
Day 7	How to analyze a film	Mise-En-Scene Wikipedia (pp. 2-4) Chapter 5 Mise-En-Scene Reading (pp. 87-125)
Day 8	Mise-En-Scene	Booker (pp. 1-13, 699-702) Complete “Who Would Play You?”
Day 9	Watch “Gladiator”	No Homework
Day 10	Finish and Discuss “Gladiator”	
Day 11	Midterm	Booker “Seven Basic” Plots Outline “Film Genres” excerpt from Bordwell and Thompson

Day 12	Elements of Film Story Telling Film Genres	TBD Reading on Movie Marketing
Day 13	Movie Advertising/Marketing	
Day 14	Watch “Toy Story” and Discuss	Complete Movie Posters and be Prepared to Present yours in class
Day 15	Present Your Movie Poster in Class	TBD Reading on Animation
Day 16	Animation Watch and Discuss “Old Man and the Sea” Watch and Discuss “Bao” Animation: Quiz 2	No Homework
Day 17	Group 1 Movie Presentation	Study for Final
Day 18	Group 2 Movie Presentation	Study for Final
Day 19	Group 3 Movie Presentation	Study for Final
Day 20	Final	