



**El Camino College**  
**COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD – Approved**

**I. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION**

**Subject and Number:** Film/Video 105  
**Descriptive Title:** Media Aesthetics  
**Course Disciplines:** Film Studies  
**Division:** Fine Arts

**Catalog Description:**

This course introduces students to close analyses of film and television texts and includes broad questions of form and content, aesthetics and meaning, and history and culture. Students explore the diverse possibilities presented by the cinematic art form through an examination of a wide variety of productions, national cinemas, and film movements. Topics include modes of production, narrative and non-narrative forms, visual design, editing, sound, genre, ideology and critical analysis.

**Conditions of Enrollment:**

**Recommended Preparation:** English B

<b>Course Length:</b>	<b>X Full Term</b>	<b>Other (Specify number of weeks):</b>
<b>Hours Lecture:</b>	<b>3.00 hours per week</b>	<b>TBA</b>
<b>Hours Laboratory:</b>	<b>0 hours per week</b>	<b>TBA</b>
<b>Course Units:</b>	<b>3.00</b>	

**Grading Method:** Letter  
**Credit Status:** Associate Degree Credit

**Transfer CSU:** X Effective Date: 10/19/2015  
**Transfer UC:** X Effective Date: Fall 2018

**General Education:**

**El Camino College:**

**3 – Humanities**

Term: Fall 2016 Other:

**CSU GE:**

**C1 - Arts, Dance, Music, Theater**

Term: Other:

**IGETC:**

**3A - Arts**

Term: Other:

**II. OUTCOMES AND OBJECTIVES**

**A. COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (The course student learning outcomes are listed below, along with a representative assessment method for each. Student learning outcomes are not subject to review, revision or approval by the College Curriculum Committee)**

1. At the end of this course, students will be able to identify aesthetic elements of the cinematic arts such as cinematography or editing and their use in screen storytelling.
2. At the end of this course, students will be able to analyze a film text through the formal elements of its production design.
3. At the end of this course, students will be able to describe the influence of new technologies on the aesthetic choices available to filmmakers of a given era.

**B. Course Student Learning Objectives (The major learning objective for students enrolled in this course are listed below, along with a representative assessment method for each)**

1. Critically analyze film and television as a technology, business, cultural production/cultural artifact, entertainment medium and art form.  
Term or other papers
2. Demonstrate the ability to critically analyze, interpret, and write about film and electronic media using film-specific language.  
Term or other papers
3. Demonstrate visual literacy through the application of the analytical tools of categories, theories and ideologies to understand the cinematic arts' complex role and function in society.  
Objective Exams
4. Demonstrate recognition, description and analysis of formal aesthetics elements of the cinematic arts. (i.e.: Cinematography, Editing, Mise-en-scene, Sound)  
Homework Problems
5. Prepare analytical essays regarding the technical, aesthetic, and cultural aspects of the cinematic arts.  
Term or other papers

**III. OUTLINE OF SUBJECT MATTER (Topics are detailed enough to enable a qualified instructor to determine the major areas that should be covered as well as ensure consistency from instructor to instructor and semester to semester.)**

Lecture or Lab	Approximate Hours	Topic Number	Major Topic
Lecture	6	I	Creativity, Business and Technology A. Film as an art form B. Film as a business C. Commercial vs. art cinema
Lecture	6	II	Film Form A. Formal elements B. Patterns C. Genre

Lecture	6	III	Narrative Systems A. Hollywood and Classical/Continuity Storytelling B. New Wave alternatives: disjunctive editing and montage C. Modern strategies: the Pulp Fiction effect
Lecture	9	IV	Film Language I A. Mise-en-scene B. Cinematography
Lecture	9	V	Film Language II A. Editing B. Sound C. Music
Lecture	9	A. VI	Alternatives to Hollywood and the Classical Style A. Documentary/Reality TV B. Experimental/Nonnarrative C. c. Animation Arts: Traditional/Digital
Lecture	6	VII	Major Historical Movements A. silent cinema: domestic and international B. sound cinema: domestic and international C. European Art Cinema D. cinema in the age of television E. cinema in the digital age
Lecture	3	VIII	Style as Formal System A. formal elements and patterns B. popular narrative style paradigms C. c. alternatives to narrative: experimental and nonfiction
<b>Total Lecture Hours</b>			54
<b>Total Laboratory Hours</b>			0
<b>Total Hours</b>			54

#### IV. PRIMARY METHOD OF EVALUATION AND SAMPLE ASSIGNMENTS

##### A. PRIMARY METHOD OF EVALUATION:

##### B. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENT USING PRIMARY METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Shoot a photograph of a building, statue, work of art in your community and then write a short paper on the aesthetic qualities of the subject under study.

##### C. COLLEGE-LEVEL CRITICAL THINKING ASSIGNMENTS:

1. In a 3- to- 5-page paper, analyze the camera work in *Black Swan* and how it contributes to the theme of imperfection moving to perfection.
2. In a short oral presentation, screen selected clips from at least 3 films that demonstrate the aesthetics of film noir lighting, romantic comedy lighting, and horror lighting and how these styles typify these genres.

**D. OTHER TYPICAL ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION METHODS:**

- Essay exams
- Objective Exams
- Other exams
- Homework Problems
- Term or other papers
- Multiple Choice
- True/False
- Presentation

**V. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS**

- Demonstration
- Discussion
- Group Activities
- Guest Speakers
- Internet Presentation/Resources
- Lecture
- Multimedia presentations

**Note: In compliance with Board Policies 1600 and 3410, Title 5 California Code of Regulations, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Sections 504 and 508 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, instruction delivery shall provide access, full inclusion, and effective communication for students with disabilities.**

**VI. WORK OUTSIDE OF CLASS**

- Study
- Answer questions
- Required reading
- Written work
- Observation of or participation in an activity related to course content

**Estimated Independent Study Hours per Week: 6**

**VII. TEXTS AND MATERIALS**

**A. UP-TO-DATE REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS**

Zettl, Herbert. Sight, Sound, Motion: Applied Media Aesthetics. 8<sup>th</sup> ed. Cengage, 2017.

**B. ALTERNATIVE TEXTBOOKS**

**C. REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS**

**D. OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS**

**VIII. CONDITIONS OF ENROLLMENT**

**A. Requisites (Course and Non-Course Prerequisites and Corequisites)**

Requisites	Category and Justification
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**B. Requisite Skills**

Requisite Skills
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**C. Recommended Preparations (Course and Non-Course)**

Recommended Preparation	Category and Justification
Course Recommended Preparation English-B	

**D. Recommended Skills**

Recommended Skills
English language skills, oral and written, at college level. ENGL B - Write 5-7 paragraphs of 200-300 words with topic sentences and supporting details, 2 of these paragraphs to be written in class. ENGL B - Read and respond to short readings or one book-length work of appropriate lexile (900 to 1000). ENGL B - In assigned writing, use a variety of sentence types and edit them for correct grammar, appropriate word choice, and accurate spelling

**E. Enrollment Limitations**

Enrollment Limitations and Category	Enrollment Limitations Impact
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Course created by Kevin O'Brien on 03/05/2015.

BOARD APPROVAL DATE: 10/19/2015

LAST BOARD APPROVAL DATE: 06/17/2019

Last Reviewed and/or Revised by: Kevin O'Brien on 04/09/2019

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