



ENG 282: Introduction to Film
Spring 2003
Tuesday/Thursday 12:25-2:15, Caldwell G107

Dr. Marsha Orgeron

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Film Studies at NCSU:

NCSU offers a Film Studies Minor (15 credit hours) and a Film Major (30 credit hours). For more information and advising contact Professor Maria Pramaggiore or visit our website: www.ncsu.edu/chass/film.

Required Texts:

Film Art: An Introduction. David Bordwell & Kristen Thompson. 6th Edition.

Film, Form, and Culture. Robert Kolker. CD-Rom (bundled with *Film Art* at the book store).

Course Description:

This course will introduce you to the vocabulary and analytical skills with which to approach the study of motion pictures. We will examine film form, style, and industry practices through readings, a CD-rom, screenings, and discussion. We will learn how to watch films with the goals of critical thinking, thoughtful discussion, and interpretive writing.

In order to be successful in this course you will need to: 1) attend all screenings and be an observant spectator, 2) carefully do the readings for each class session, 3) be ready to participate in class discussion, and 4) turn in all assignments on the days that they are due.

Course Requirements:

Screenings/Attendance:

Regular course attendance is required. Please bring your textbook to each class session. If you miss a class, ask another student for notes and find out if you missed any new assignments. In-class quizzes and exercises cannot be made up. Excessive absences will have an adverse effect upon your grade. Any absences beyond two will reduce your final grade by a third (if you earn a "B" in the course but miss 4 days, you will receive a "C+" as your final grade). Documented emergencies will receive special consideration if work can be made up in a timely fashion.

General:

I encourage you to be an active spectator: write down your ideas during and after the screenings, make connections between class discussions and what you are watching/reading, and note questions you might want to ask in class. Without thorough screening notes it will be easy to forget the many films we will be watching over the course of the semester. Make an effort to take part in class discussions. While I do not quantify oral participation as part of your final grade, active participation will help borderline grades. And by all means try to see films outside of class whenever you can!

Administrative:

If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations please contact me as soon as possible. If you will be participating in a sport or other University sponsored event this semester you should provide me with documentation so that we can make arrangements for you to make up for any missed work.

Written Work:

You are encouraged to discuss paper topics or any other assignment with me in advance via email or during my office hours. Papers are due at the beginning of class on the day that they are due (see syllabus). Late papers drop a grade per class day that they are late.

You should consider using the university's *free* Writing Tutorial Services. Call 515-3163 or visit http://www.ncsu.edu/tutorial_center/writespeak/index.htm for more information.

Academic Integrity:

Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. This includes all forms of plagiarism, cheating on assignments or exams, turning in work that has been written (partially or entirely) by someone else (this includes the easy-to-track-down source of websites), fabricating information or citations, or helping another student commit an act of academic dishonesty. In addition to failing the assignment and the course, you will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct should you commit any trespass of academic integrity.

Grades:

Your final grade will be determined as follows:
Quizzes/Homework/Kurosawa Assignment: 20%
Film Review: 10%
Sequence Analysis: 20%
Analytical Paper: 20%
Final Exam: 30%

Extra Credit:

10 extra credit points towards your quizzes, etc. (20% of your grade) are available by attending the January 31 screening of *The Bicycle Thief*, directed by Vittorio De Sica, at 8:00 p.m. at the North Carolina Museum of Art. Students tickets are \$3.50. To receive credit you need to turn in your ticket stub along with a 1-2 page response to the film.



**Introduction to Film
Syllabus for Spring 2003**

- Th January 9 Course Introduction: Why Study Film?
Three Modes of Discourse: Description, Evaluation, & Analysis
- Tu January 14 Screening: *The Wizard of Oz* (USA, 1939, 101 min.), Dir. Victor Fleming
- Th January 16 Reading: *Film Art*, Chapter One: Production, Distribution, & Exhibition (2-37)
FFC CD-Rom Chapter 1, Continuity Editing
- Tu January 21 CLASS CANCELED—Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
- Th January 23 Reading: *FFC CD-Rom Chapters 4, Point of View; 6, Lighting; & 7, Camera*
- Tu January 28 Screening: *El Mariachi* (Mexico, 1992, 81 min.), Dir. Robert Rodríguez
- Th January 30 Reading: *Film Art*, Chapter Two: Film Form (39-58)
Screening: *10 Minute Film School*, Dir Robert Rodríguez
- Tu February 4 Screening: *Citizen Kane* (USA, 1941, 119 min.), Dir. Orson Welles
- Th February 6 Reading: *Film Art*, Chapter Three: Narrative as a Formal System (59-92)
FFC CD-Rom Chapter 2, The Long Take
- Tu February 11 **Film Review Due**
Screening: *Fistful of Dollars* (Italy, 1964, 100 min.), Dir. Sergio Leone
- Th February 13 Reading: *Film Art*, Chapter Four: Film Genres (94-109)
- Tu February 18 Reading: Chapter Five: Documentary (partial chapter: 110-128)
Screening: *Gap-Toothed Women* (USA, 1987, 31 min.), Dir. Les Blank
- Th February 20 **Scene Analysis Assignment (In-Class)**
Screening: *Night & Fog* (France, 1955, 31 min.), Dir. Alain Resnais
- Tu February 25 Reading: *Film Art*, Chapter Five: Experimental Films (partial chapter: 128-144)
Screening: *Ballet Mecanique* (France, 1924, 19 min.), Dirs. Murphy & Leger
La Jetee (France, 1962, 28 min.), Dir. Chris Marker
- Th February 27 Screening: *Rear Window* (USA, 1954, 112 min.), Dir. Alfred Hitchcock
- February 27 EVENING EVENT: *High and Low*, Dir. Akira Kurosawa:**

Witherspoon Student Center Theater, 7:00 p.m., free.

Tu March 4 **Scene Analysis Due**

Reading: *Film Art*, Mise-en-Scene (156-192)

FFC CD-Rom Chapter 5, Mise-en-Scene

Th March 6 CLASS CANCELED

Tu March 11 SPRING BREAK

Th March 13 SPRING BREAK

Tu March 18 Screening: *Raging Bull* (USA, 1980, 121 min.), Dir. Martin Scorsese

Th March 20 **Kurosawa Assignment Due**

Reading: *Film Art*, Cinematography (193-224; partial chapter)

Film Art, Film Criticism: *Raging Bull* (391-396)

Tu March 25 Screening: *Do The Right Thing* (USA, 1989, 120 min.), Dir. Spike Lee

Th March 27 Reading: *Film Art*, Cinematography continued (224-248; partial chapter)

Film Art, Film Criticism: *Do The Right Thing* (361-366)

Tu April 1 Screening: *Jaws* (USA, 1975, 124 min.), Dir. Steven Spielberg

Th April 3 Reading: *Film Art*, Editing (249-290)

FFC CD-Rom Chapter 3, Montage

Tu April 8 Screening: *M* (Germany, 1931, 110 min.), Dir. Fritz Lang

Th April 10 Reading: *Film Art*, Sound (291-326)

FFC CD-Rom Chapter 8, Sound and Image

Tu April 15 In-Class Workshop

Th April 17 CLASS CANCELED—Easter Break

Tu April 22 Screening: *In The Mood for Love* (Hong Kong, 2000, 96 min.), Dir. Wong Kar-Wai

Th April 24 Reading: *Film Art*, Style as a Formal System (327-350)

Tu April 29 **Analytical Paper Due**

Screening: π (USA, 1997, 85 min.), Dir. Darren Aronofsky

Th May 1 Discussion and Final Exam Review

Tu May 6 Final Exam: 1:00-4:00 p.m. There are no make-ups for the final examination.