

Course Outline for: THTR 1111 Introduction to Cinema**A. Course Description:**

1. Number of credits: 3
2. Lecture hours per week: 3
3. Prerequisites: None
4. Corequisites: None
5. MnTC Goals: Goal #6 - Humanities and the Fine Arts
Goal #7A - Human Diversity, Race, Power, and Justice in the United States

Movies mirror our world and illuminate the diversity of human experience. Explore the development of film through aesthetic, historical, and cultural perspectives while examining how filmmakers have portrayed race, gender, class, and other social identities over time. Through this powerful medium, gain a deeper understanding of individuals and communities beyond your own.

B. Date last reviewed/updated: February 2025**C. Outline of Major Content Areas:**

1. History and evolution of the film industry including the many groups that shape society and culture.
2. The shifting power dynamic of the cinema industry based on analysis of historical structural inequities.
3. Form and narrative structure of film
4. Mise-en-scene
5. Design
6. Cinematography
7. Editing
8. Sound
9. Acting

D. Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain the relationship between film and society's evolving understanding of different cultural values and identities in the United States and globally. (Goal 6b, 7Aa)
2. Analyze major films and filmmakers from various eras including those from historically underrepresented voices. Goal (6a, 6c)
3. Examine how the formal and stylistic features of films contribute to their narrative and thematic concerns. (Goal 6a, 6c)
4. Explain how power dynamics in the film industry are changing to more clearly center and equalize diverse stories and storytellers. (Goal 7Ab)
5. Articulate a variety of possible thematic implications for specific films. (Goal 2b)

6. Describe how the changing meaning of group identities is being reflected in filmmaking from different cultures and world views. (Goal 2a, 2c, 7Aa)
7. Formulate critical responses to films through integration of different sources (e.g., readings, research, aesthetic judgment) and personal self-reflection regarding racism and bigotry. (Goal 2a, 2c, 6c, 6e, 7Ac)

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning:

Methods for assessment may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Quizzes
2. Study Questions
3. Film Review
4. Analytical Essay
5. Mid-Term Exam
6. Final Exam

F. Special Information:

None