



HOUSATONIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE NAME: FILM STUDY

COURSE NUMBER: ART* 206

CREDITS: 3

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: An exploration of the art of the cinema through analysis of representative dramatic, documentary and experimental films. Among the topics covered are: comparisons between films and other artistic expressions; the major aspects of film style; the nature and importance of film genres; film functions (as art, entertainment, social and political statement, propaganda, education, and experiment).

PREREQUISITES: None

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

General Education Competencies Satisfied:

HCC General Education Requirement Designated Competency Attribute Code(s):

AESX **Appreciation of the Aesthetic Dimensions of Humankind**

Additional CSU General Education Requirements for CSU Transfer Degree Programs:

None

Embedded Competency(ies):

None

Discipline-Specific Attribute Code(s):

FINA **Fine Arts elective**

Course objectives:

General Education Goals and Outcomes:

Appreciation of the Aesthetic Dimensions of Humankind: Students will understand the diverse nature, meanings, and functions of creative endeavors through the study and practice of literature, music, the theatrical and visual arts, and related forms of expression.

Course Specific Outcomes:

1. Identify and define a variety of film genres including: art, entertainment, social and political statement, propaganda, education and experiment
2. Identify and define the components of film study: narrative structure, cinematography, camera placement (distance, angle, movement), lighting, color, mise en scene, editing, dialogue, sound effects and music.

3. Recognize the terminology that is applied to a variety of film products and techniques
4. Demonstrate the critical skills used to analyze a film for its meaning (stated and implied) and aesthetic content.
5. Demonstrate the ability to think creatively.
6. Demonstrate a knowledge of artistic trends and styles acquired through visual examination and historic references that focus on social, political, and cultural contexts.
7. Investigate and articulate ethical choices when communicating through the visual medium.

Course Content:

Narrative Film

- A. Principles of narrative construction.
- B. Identification of major themes.
- C. Analysis of characters and relationships.
- D. Comparison of works by the same director- visual styles.
- E. Classical vs. Modernist documentaries.

Documentary Film

- A. Objectivity
- B. Traditional vs. Modernist documentaries

Experimental Film

- A. Influence of Art Movement: Cubism, Dada, Surrealism, Abstract Expressionism, Pop Art, Mini
- B. Cinematic experiments with visual and sounds.