

EN2808: INTRODUCTION TO ENGLISH FILM STUDIES

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Introduction to English Film Studies

Subject Code

EN - English

Course Number

2808

Academic Unit

English (EN)

College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

GE3401 Exploring English Cinema

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course will teach students how to study film. It will introduce the language of film analysis, including fundamental concepts and essential terminology, explore ways of thinking about film history, and examine approaches and methods for studying film. Building on this foundation, students will learn to 'read' films as texts situated in multiple artistic, social, political, and cultural contexts. Through close analyses of films, students will sharpen their critical thinking about one of the most important forms of twentieth and twenty-first century cultural expression.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Recognize and use film terminology and apply film studies concepts to the analysis of film.		x	
2	Examine multiple interpretive possibilities for, and formulate arguments about, film.	x	x	x
3	Apply analytical and critical skills to the study of film.	x	x	x
4	Demonstrate and apply an understanding of the multiple contexts of film.	x	x	x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Interactive lectures	Students will participate in interactive multimedia lectures.	1, 2
2		Students will watch film and film excerpts and discuss these using the appropriate terminology and concepts.	1, 2, 3
3		Students will discuss various interpretations of films and the implications of these interpretations, including their social, cultural and historical contexts.	2, 3, 4

Additional Information for LTAs

Students are not allowed to use Gen AI for any portion of this course.

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- " for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Participation is crucial in this course	1, 2, 3, 4	10	-	Yes
2	In-class quizzes will test the students' basic knowledge of the course content	1, 4	30	-	No
3	. One or more written assignments (in-class or take home) will allow students to apply the skills knowledge acquired on the course	1, 2, 3, 4	30	-	No
4	A small group video review of a film/visual essay/creative video project will allow the students to demonstrate their creative, analytical, and critical abilities in a video format	1, 2, 3, 4	30	-	No

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Examination (%)

0

Additional Information for ATs

Students are not allowed to use Gen AI for any portion of this course.

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

Participation (10%)

Criterion

Participation

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Makes significant contribution to in-class and online activities and completes tasks satisfactorily

Good (B+, B, B-)

Makes occasional contribution to in-class and online activities and completes the tasks satisfactorily.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Seldom makes adequate contribution in-class and online activities and in class tasks.

Marginal (D)

Little evidence of participation completes very few tasks.

Failure (F)

Fails to sufficiently participate

Assessment Task

Quizzes (20%)

Criterion

Subject knowledge

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Demonstrates a very detailed and accurate understanding of the course content.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Demonstrates a good understanding of relevant course content.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Demonstrates fairly good understanding of course content.

Marginal (D)

Demonstrates a superficial understanding of course content.

Assessment Task

Writing tasks (25%)

Criterion

Knowledge of subject

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Demonstration of subject knowledge in an exemplary way with evidence of in-depth reading/research.
Application of knowledge is excellent.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Demonstration of good subject knowledge showing evidence of readings/research.
Application of is good

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Demonstration of adequate subject knowledge but little reading/research evident beyond the minimum.
Application is adequate.

Marginal (D)

Little evidence of subject knowledge and poorly applied to the task.

Failure (F)

No evidence of subject knowledge, or fails to undertake the task

Assessment Task

Writing tasks (25%)

Criterion

Argumentation

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Thesis is clear and appropriate for the writing task. There is a sense of originality in the way the writer has answered the question. Ideas are well supported and conclusions reveal a progression of ideas

Good (B+, B, B-)

The responses contain sharp ideas that are clearly expressed, original, and thoughtfully supported.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Elements of B and D

Marginal (D)

The topic is clear but there is little originality in the way that the writer has answered the question. Ideas are not always supported. There is little sense of progression as the paper develops.

Failure (F)

The essay appears to be off topic or only loosely related to the task. The writer may have misunderstood the question.

Assessment Task

Writing tasks (25%)

Criterion

Language

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Exceptionally well composed. Words are used with precision and accuracy. A wide variety of sentence structures are used.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Strong control of language and a wide lexical range. Grammatical structures are varied and well constructed. Small errors may persist but the meaning is sharp and clear.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Effective and functional control. Basic ideas are communicated effectively. Errors cause minimal distraction.

Marginal (D)

There is a high density of errors, causing strain for the reader. The meaning is sometimes lost or unclear

Failure (F)

Almost every sentence has some kind of error, which causes serious problems for the reader. The meaning is often lost or distorted.

Assessment Task

Video review/Visual Essay/Creative Video Project (25%)

Criterion

Medium exploitation

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Demonstrates excellent control and use of the video format

Good (B+, B, B-)

Demonstrates good control and use of the video format

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Demonstrates acceptable control and use of the video format

Marginal (D)

Demonstrates little control and use of the video format

Failure (F)

Demonstrates no control or use of the video format

Assessment Task

Video review/Visual Essay/Creative Film Project (25%)

Criterion

Knowledge of subject

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Demonstration of subject knowledge in an exemplary way with evidence of in-depth reading/research and enquiry beyond the formal requirements of the course.

Application of knowledge is excellent.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Demonstration of good subject knowledge showing evidence of completing all readings/research as part of the formal requirements of the course.

Application of is good

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Demonstration of adequate subject knowledge but little reading/research evident beyond the minimum expectation of the subject.

Application is adequate only and could benefit from more reading/research.

Marginal (D)

Little evidence of subject knowledge and poorly applied to the task.

Failure (F)

No evidence of subject knowledge, or fails to undertake the task

Additional Information for AR

Students are not allowed to use Gen AI for any portion of this course.

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

principles of film form; film genres; elements of narrative; mise-en-scène; cinematography; acting; editing; sound; film history

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Nil

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Villarejo, Amy. Film Studies. Third edition., Routledge, 2021. https://julac-cuh.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/852JULAC_CUH/1b3khhj/cdi_askewsholts_vlebooks_9780429651540
2	Novak, Phillip. Interpretation and Film Studies: Movie Made Meanings. 1st Edition 2020, Springer International Publishing, 2020, https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-44739-7 .
3	Sikov, Ed. Film Studies#: An Introduction. Second edition., Columbia University Press, 2020.
4	See also the Yale film analysis guide at https://filmanalysis.yale.edu/?ref=zacharyxavier.com