

Course Syllabus for ENG 210, Approaches to Literature, Fall 2009

Instructor: Dana Andrews

Section 06 @ 3:30pm→6:20pm Mondays only

Office: Eder 212 D (Phone: 271-5814)

Office Hours: MWF 7:30am→7:50 am AND 11→11:50 MWF AND Mon 1:30 pm→3:20pm AND T/TH 3:30→4:00 pm (and by appointment on any day)

Email: dandrews1@missouriwestern.edu

Required book: *The Power of Film*, by Howard Suber

Course Objective: Who determines which films are great (and why)? Critics? The Academy? Scholars? Filmmakers themselves? Moviegoers? Answer: All of them, because everyone has an opinion about which films are great!, are very good, merit only two stars, and which ones really suck. You, as students, artists, non-artists, and fans of movies might or might not agree with some of my selections, but I believe you'll laugh, shed a tear, be fascinated, feel tension, and learn about some of the things that make great cinema. And, it all starts with a GREAT screenplay!

Course Requirements: Read the pages indicated on this syllabus BEFORE coming to class (we won't be reading in class; we'll be viewing films). **Write a one-page response to 10 of the 13 films (your choice).** Apply one or two elements from the readings to the films viewed (e.g. "Acts" will obviously apply to the first film we watch. It is up to you to determine what passages from the assigned reading that you may wish to include in your response paper). **The papers are due before noon on Tuesday and must be emailed before then or they will NOT BE ACCEPTED! The ten response papers will be 20% of your grade.**

Other Requirements: There will be a midterm exam. The exam will be on the films, readings, and lectures. **The midterm is 20% of your grade.** One **term paper** is due at the end of the semester. Choose one of the three films you didn't write a response to and compose a 3 to 4 page paper (a thesis of your choice). **The term paper is 20% of your grade.** A **final exam** will be given during exam week and it will be comprehensive of the entire semester. **The final exam is 20% of your grade and you must take it in order to pass the class.**

Quizzes: We'll have unannounced quizzes on the readings and the films at various times throughout the semester. **The quizzes will be 20% of your grade.**

Attendance policy: In order to improve student learning and to achieve compliance with federal financial aid policies, Western has a mandatory attendance policy for all 100 and 200 level courses. A student will be given an excused absence when acting as an official representative of the university, provided the student gives prior written verification from the faculty/staff supervisor of the event; however, **there are no other excused absences, exceptions or "makeups" for this attendance requirement.** *Furthermore, the maximum number of absences allowed before the midterm report, October 14, for this class is one (1).* Thus, when you have two (2) before October 14th, you will be reported to the Registrar's Office, who will automatically withdraw you from this class. The Financial Aid Office will reduce financial aid as appropriate. *Note that I do not have my own attendance policy for the rest of the semester. However, I will be passing around a roll sheet to check against the response papers. If you are not in class, then you are NOT allowed to rent the film and write a response to email in. In other words, there are no "make-ups."* If you know of any circumstances likely to make this policy difficult for you this semester, you may wish to consult with your advisor to review your options.

REALITIES: Cell Phones should be completely turned off BEFORE you walk through the door. This means that they should not be on vibrate or silent; they should be OFF. NO TEXT MESSAGING

ONCE YOU ENTER THE CLASSROOM. NO MP3 PLAYERS OR OTHER MUSIC—NO HEADPHONES/EARPHONES—ONCE YOU WALK IN THE DOOR. **(OVER)**

Make up work: Athletes and other performers, it's your responsibility to arrange for work to be **turned in early** if you're going to miss class because of school sanctioned travel. Such travel must be documented by faculty or staff and turned in to me at least two class periods before the event. **I don't accept late work.** Meet your deadlines.

Other Realities & Plagiarism: All course work must be completed to pass this class. Academic dishonesty—plagiarism, copying or presenting another's work as your own, etc.—will not be tolerated and will result in failure of the course.

Students with Special Needs: If you are in need of test-taking, note-taking, or other accommodation, help is available through the Disability Services Coordinator, Michael R. Ritter, at 271-4330.

**Grading Percentages: Midterm 20%; Response Papers 20%; Quizzes 20%;
Term Paper 20%; Final Exam 20%**

Class Schedule: POF= The Power of Film

Aug. 24th—Introduction, syllabus, film TONIGHT: Read “Acts” Chapter from POF

31st Read: POF pgs. xxiii through 34

Sept. 7th NO CLASS—Labor Day

14th Read: POF pgs. 35-69

21st Read: POF pgs. 70-105

28th Read: POF pgs. 108-143

Oct. 5th Read: POF 144-179

12th Midterm Exam, film

19th Read: POF 180-215

26th Read: POF 216-251

Nov. 2nd Read: POF 252-288

9th Read: POF 289-333

16th Read: POF 334-369

23rd Read: POF 370-401

30th Read: POF 404-414

FINAL EXAM: Dec. 7th