

MST 205: MEDIA LITERACY

Term: SPRING 2023

Instructor: Mr. Barrionuevo	Credits: 3:2:3
Spring 2023 Schedule:	Office: Brown 213
MST 205-01 11am to 12:15pm Brown Building 215	Office Hours:
MST 205-02 9:30am - 10:45am Brown Building 215	Email: f_barrio@uncg.edu

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

This course engages students in the study of aesthetic principles and concepts as they apply to motion picture and television production.

RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOK:

Sight, Sound, Motion: Applied Media Aesthetics, 8th Edition, by Herbert Zettl.
Cengage, 2015.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Students will develop an understanding of the branch of philosophy dealing with aesthetics in its broad terms.
2. Students will consider the ramifications of making aesthetic choices in the pre, production and post-production phases of film production.
3. Students will engage in the systematic examination of a number of media elements, including light and color, space, time-motion, and sound.
4. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the interaction between key aspects of the visual media.
5. Students will have an understanding of the technological history of film from its origins to the present.

6. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the technological development of television from its infancy to the present.
7. Students will have demonstrated comprehension of an array of technical terms and concepts related to film and video technology.
8. Students will have an enhanced understanding of the importance of being responsible media producers.
9. Students will have demonstrated knowledge concerning the emergence of digital and high-definition image acquisition and post-production systems.

EVALUATION METHODS AND GRADING:

There will be two exams over the course of the semester. Each one is multiple-choice, fill in the blank, and short answer. Questions will cover lectures, presentations, and films we watch in class and recommended for home viewing. Each exam is worth 25% of the final grade.

Students will also be responsible for responding to the discussion post by no later than the due date listed on canvas as well as replying to two of their fellow student's post as a way to continue our in class learning in an online environment.

Finally each student will produce a 3 to 5 minute video essay on a movie of their chose analyzing key aesthetic element of a film to be picked by the student and approved by the professor. Video Essays are worth 25% of the final grade. A detailed guide and groups will be assigned by the professor. (Flee Bag Video Essay Example will be seen in class)

Rubrics for the papers will be provided at the appropriate time.

Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	25%
Video Essay	25%
Video Essay (Checkins)	15% (spilt into 4 parts to equal to 15%)
Class Participation	10%
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TOTAL:	100%

Final course grades will be based on the following scale:

Grading Scale:

A+ = 97-100 B+ = 87-89 C+ = 77-79 D+ = 67-69

A = 93-96 B = 83-86 C = 73-76 D = 63-66

A - = 90-92 B- = 80-82 C- = 70-72 D- = 60-62

F = <59

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance is mandatory and will follow the standard Department of Media Studies attendance policy. This course meets twice a week for one and one quarter hours per session. You are allowed to miss two class sessions without penalty, so two absences counts as having missed one whole week of classes.

From a pedagogical perspective, you cannot reasonably expect to succeed in this course—or any other course—unless you attend class regularly. If, due to other personal or professional (job, for instance) obligations, regular attendance will be an issue for you, you should drop the course immediately.

Specifically regarding the strictly enforced policy, students are allowed to miss two class sessions without penalty. For each additional missed class, the student's course grade will be reduced by a half-letter grade. Upon missing six class meetings, the student will fail the course—or will be eligible to withdraw, (student's responsibility, not the instructor's) if before the official UNCG deadline for course withdrawal without incurring a WF (withdraw failing) grade.

If a student misses six class sessions, the Instructor will drop the student from the class, regardless of when this occurs in the semester.

Note: Course failure due to poor attendance may adversely affect financial aid eligibility. For details related to withdrawal deadlines and financial aid rules/regulations, it is the student's responsibility to investigate, confirm and comply, not the instructor's.

Legitimate reasons for absences: *Serious* medical or family emergency (documentation must be provided), or religious holidays (for which you must notify me two weeks in advance). Unless you have documentation to support your request for an exception, please do not bother to contact me with various excuses. I have heard them all and you will just be wasting our mutual time. Simply take your absence and come to class the following session. Students missing class are responsible for finding out what they missed (or obtaining notes) from a classmate, although classmates are in no way obligated to provide this information. It's this simple: *if you want to pass this course, come to class.*

Do not e-mail me asking what you missed. We cannot be expected in an e-mail to replicate what was covered in an hour and 15 minutes.

Punctuality: Unless you have a serious medical or family emergency, there is no excuse for tardiness. We are all adults, have chosen to take part in this course, and it is our responsibility to arrive on time. Students arriving late disrupt and distract classmates (who arrived on time) from the lecture, screening, or our discussions. It is rude, disrespectful, and unprofessional to be tardy.

If you arrive 6 minutes after the start of the class (at 2:36 or later) you will not be allowed in, and will be counted absent.

If you anticipate having difficulty arriving on time for the class meetings due to some other obligation, drop the course now.

Leaving class early—if you must leave class early, the only legitimate excuses are the same as for absence and tardiness, and you must let me know *before* class begins. Otherwise, you will be penalized the equivalent of one half of an absence. If you arrive late *and* leave early on the same day, you will be counted as absent.

Note: An attendance sheet will be circulated at the beginning of each class meeting to ensure that attendance, punctuality, and presence for the entire class meeting are properly documented. Signing in for a classmate is considered a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy and will not be tolerated. If this happens, both students (the one absent and the one signing for the absent student) will be considered absent—at the very least—for that day.

Electronic Devices: None are allowed.* No mobile phones, laptops, tablets, iPods, iPads. Leave them at home or turn them off completely. If I catch you texting or using a laptop/tablet during class, or if your phone rings or vibrates audibly, you will be used to leave and counted absent for that day. *Students requiring the use of a laptop or other electronic device during class for note-taking purposes must make prior arrangements with the instructor.

Sleeping in Class: Seriously, it does happen, is extremely rude and disrespectful, to say the least, and will not be tolerated. If you fall asleep in class, you will be asked to leave and counted absent for that day.

Presence (in general): I am speaking of alert mental presence, not merely physical presence. If you are enrolled in this course and intend on earning a passing grade, you *have* to be here. Why not make the most of it? Sit up, be alert, pay attention, participate, contribute, have fun. Lively discussion is an essential component of this class. Be a part of it.

Class Etiquette (in general): For successful teaching and learning, our classroom must be an arena of free thought, speech, and respect. Respect one another. Lively discussion/debate is one of our goals, but mutual respect is a requirement. Do not interrupt one another. I do not tolerate language that is sexist, racist, homophobic, or otherwise offensive (and neither does the university, per the student handbook). Each of us is entitled to our point of view, but we will not use discriminatory language.

Disruptive Behavior Policy: Disruptive behavior of any kind will not be tolerated. If you are disruptive in the classroom, you will be asked to leave, counted absent for that day, and the Dean of Students Office will be notified. This policy is included in UNCG's Student Policy Handbook: <http://sa.uncg.edu/handbook/policies/>

E-mail (and other written communication) etiquette- If you e-mail me, you will address me as "Prof. Barrionuevo". Don't address me as "Hey" or just launch into your e-mail.

Important COVID Information

As we return for Fall 2022, all students, faculty, and staff and all visitors to campus are required to uphold UNCG's culture of care by actively engaging in behaviors that limit the spread of

COVID-19. While face-coverings are optional in most areas on campus, individuals are encouraged to wear masks. All individuals and visitors to campus are asked to follow the following actions:

Engaging in proper hand-washing hygiene.

Self-monitoring for symptoms of COVID-19.

Staying home when ill.

Complying with directions from health care providers or public health officials to quarantine or isolate if ill or exposed to someone who is ill.

Completing a self-report when experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, testing positive for COVID-19, or being identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive.

Staying informed about the University's policies and announcements via the COVID-19 website.

Students who are ill, quarantining, or isolating should not attend in-person class meetings, but should instead contact their instructor(s) so alternative arrangements for learning and the submission of assignments can be made where possible. As we continue to manage COVID-19 on our campus, we are following the lead of the local health department and we will adjust our plans to balance student success, instructional requirements, and the hallmarks of the collegiate experience with the safety and wellbeing of our campus community.

COURSE CALENDAR:

NOTE: ALL DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE!

YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED IN CLASS OF ANY CHANGES TO THE SCHEDULE.

MOVIES WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS

Week1

Tuesday: Welcome to the course. Distribution of syllabi.

Present Ch. 1 Applied Media Aesthetics

Lecture: What is a film? How to read films?

Cont. Analyzing Films

Thursday: The First Aesthetic Field: Light

Week2

Tuesday: Cont. The First Aesthetic Field: Light

Lecture: How to analyze films? How to discuss a film academically? (terminology)

Thursday: The Extended First Field

Week3

Tuesday: Cont. Discussion: The Extended First Field

Lecture: How to centralize an argument / Introduction of the Scene

Discussion: Two and Three Dimensional Field

Thursday: Online Review on Light and Color

Week4

Tuesday: Lecture: Discuss Paper Topics

Discussion: Forces on screen

Apply aesthetics to analytically
interpretations.

Thursday: Analytical practice

Week5

Tuesday: Review: Two and Three Dimensional Field

Lecture: Study of Genre Conventions and

Thursday: Stereotypes in Movies

Week6

Tuesday: Cont. Lecture: Stereotypes in Movies and

what does that means for an audience.

Thursday: Genre and Theme

Week7

Tuesday: Discussion: Time and Motion in Film

Lecture: Tone

Review for Mid-Term.

Thursday: Online **MID TERM**

Week8

Tuesday: Lecture: Scene (Analytical Workshop)

Thursday: Analytical Scene Practice

Week9

Tuesday: Lecture: Tone in aesthetics

Thursday: Time and Motion in Film

Week10

Tuesday: Understanding Ellipses Discussion: Sound

Lecture: Crafting a Scene.

Thursday: Sound

Week 11

Tuesday: Discussion: Editing

Lecture: How to discuss a film

Thursday: Movie Prompt

Week 12

Tuesday: Discussion: Editing

Lecture: Final Paper Discussion

Thursday: Review: Sound and Editing

Week 13

Tuesday: Workshop Final Papers

Thursday: **Online (turn in assignment)**

Analytical Video Essay Due (3 to 5 mins)

Week 14

Tuesday: Class Discussion “The Industry” and Student Films

Review: Final Exam

Thursday: The Future

Week 15

Thursday: **Online (turn in assignment)**

FINAL EXAM

