IELI 2450-003  
Topics in ESL:  
Introduction to Film

Syllabus – Fall 2019

Class schedule:  
T Th 1:30 – 2:45  Main 227  
W 11:30 – 12:20  HPER 112

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classes begin</td>
<td>Aug. 27 (T)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Labor Day Holiday</td>
<td>Sept. 2 (M)</td>
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<td>USU Fall Break Holiday</td>
<td>Oct. 18 (F)</td>
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<td>Thanksgiving Break</td>
<td>Nov. 27-29 (W-F)</td>
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<td>Classes end</td>
<td>Dec. 6 (F)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam (this class)</td>
<td>Dec. 12 (Th) 9:30-11:20</td>
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Instructor:  Ann Roemer  
Office: Main 073  
Office hours: T Th 12:00-1:15 and by appointment  
(435) 797-2051  
E-mail: ann.roemer@usu.edu

Textbook:  No textbook. A three-ring notebook would be helpful to keep all of the handouts that I give you throughout the semester.

General Course Goals:  To learn about film studies vis-à-vis classic films of various genres. Students will use the language skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking to analyze movies.

As an introduction to film studies, this course will take an analytical and critical look at movies, beginning with an examination of movie genres. Students will learn to deconstruct films and analyze them on four levels:

1. literary: genre, plot, characters, setting, & theme
2. cinematic: camera, sound, & lighting
3. dramatic: acting, costumes, & make-up
4. cultural: American behavior, language, relationships, & values

Class activities:  1) to summarize and analyze films orally and in writing
2) to take notes & participate in class discussions
3) to roleplay scenes from selected films
4) to express & support opinions by giving examples
5) to determine the director's purpose and critique a film
6) to give oral presentations and write analyses
7) to work with classmates in small groups

**Grades:** Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Written assignments</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tests</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final presentation/paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
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The following grading scale will be used:

- A+ = 96 - 100
- A  = 93 - 95
- A- = 90 - 92
- B+ = 87 - 89
- B  = 84 - 86
- B- = 82 - 83
- C+ = 79 - 81
- C  = 77 - 78
- C- = 75 - 76
- D+ = 72 - 74
- D  = 69 - 71
- D- = 65 - 68
- F  = < 65

According to IELI policy, you must earn a C- or better to pass the course.

**Homework**

Homework assignments are due at the beginning of the class period. Late homework will be accepted, but no more than 1 day after due date and no more than 3 times per term. To receive credit for homework & journals:

1. Look for a check mark (√) at the top of your paper. This means you received full credit (3 points) for the assignment. √+ = Excellent (4 points) and √- = acceptable (2 points).

2. No check mark (√)? There's nothing at the top of your paper? This means you have some mistakes that you need to correct on the same piece of paper. Just erase and make the corrections with a different color pen right by my red marks. Then hand it in again, no later than the next class period. Do not rewrite the assignment unless . . .

3. You see Rewrite at the top of your paper. This means you need to rewrite the paragraph, correcting the mistakes marked in red ink. You can use the same piece of paper as the original. Please hand in both copies together, no later than the next class period.

**Students' Responsibility**

You are responsible for studying each chapter, completing the homework assignments, handing them in on time, and being prepared to make meaningful contributions to each class discussion. Students are expected to take an active role in learning and improving their language skills through study and participation in and out of class. You will get what you put into this class. Be a proactive learner!

**IELI Policies and Practices**

**IELI and USU Attendance Policy**

Learning a language requires that you actively attend and participate in your classes. If you do not regularly attend classes, you may miss important information and fail the class, not progressing to the next level in the IELI program. Attendance is not only important for learning but essential for international students on an F-1 or J-1 visa to maintain their legal immigration status. IELI works
closely with the office of Global Engagement to ensure that our students maintain their immigration status and will report students who regularly miss class. Consequently, the following attendance policy will be enforced.

**Missing consecutive classes**
If a student misses 7 consecutive classes for any one class without contacting the instructor and providing valid proof of absence (e.g., a medical excuse from a doctor), their immigration status will be terminated and they will be sent home.

**Total classes**
If a student misses 7 total class hours for any one class or 22 total class hours in any one semester, their immigration status will be terminated and they will be sent home.

**USU policy- excused absences**
According to the USU policy, a student may not miss more than 20% of any class even if it is excused. This means that you cannot miss more than 9 classes for any one class, even if some of the absences are excused. If a student’s total absences (excused and unexcused) for any class exceeds 9, their immigration status will be terminated and they will be sent home.

**Warnings**
Students will get at least three warnings before their immigration status is terminated. It is the student’s responsibility to provide a current e-mail address to IELI and the office of Global Engagement and check their e-mail regularly. If a student’s immigration status is terminated, they will be given 15 days to leave the U.S.

**Grading**
The grades you get for each class are based on the work you do for that class. Attendance and effort are important factors for successful learning but do not directly affect your grade. It is important for you to do your best on all your in-class and at home activities as they will be graded on how well you complete these activities. Successful completion of these activities will help you gain the knowledge and skills you need to meet learner outcomes for each course.

**Progressing to the next level**
You must receive a grade of C- or better in any IELI class in order to pass that class and move to the next level of that class. Students who receive lower than a C- are required to repeat the class until they receive a passing grade. If you are not passing a class at mid-term you will be re-registered for the class until final grades are posted. If your final grade shows that you passed the class, you will be moved up into the next level or the class will be dropped.

If you want to check on how well you met the learner outcomes for each class, there are two ways to do so: 1) you can get a copy of the student achievement form from the IELI staff assistants or 2) you can access your grade on the USU website and then compare the grade to the Grade Descriptions on the IELI website (Current Students -> Academics-> Grade Descriptions).

**In-term evaluations**
Your professors will inform you, in writing, of your grade three times during the semester (e.g. approximately 4 weeks, 8 weeks and 12 weeks). For the midterm evaluation, IELI faculty assign a letter grade to students in each of their classes. If you are doing work at a level lower than C in any
of your classes, your professor will meet with you to discuss what you will need to do to pass the class.

**USU Plagiarism Policy**

Plagiarism includes knowingly “representing, by paraphrase or direct quotation, the published or unpublished work of another person as one’s own in any academic exercise or activity without full and clear acknowledgement. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials” (Code of Policies and Procedures for Students, Article V, Section 3A.1). The penalties for plagiarism are severe. They include “#1) warning or reprimand and #2) grade adjustment” (see: Article VI, Section 1A): Other penalties may also be imposed at the Dean’s discretion. These include probation, suspension, expulsion, withholding of transcripts, denial or revocation of degrees.

**USU Students with Disabilities Policy**

“Reasonable accommodations will be provided for all persons with disabilities in order to ensure equal participation within the program. If a student has a disability that will likely require some accommodations by the instructor, the student must contact the instructor and document the disability through the Disability Resource Center (797-2444), preferably during the first week of the course. Any request for special consideration relating to attendance, pedagogy, taking of examinations, etc., must be discussed with and approved by the instructor. In cooperation with the Disability Resource Center, course materials can be provided in alternative format, large print, audio, diskette, or Braille.”

**Withdrawal Policy and “I” Grade Policy**

Students are required to complete all courses for which they are registered by the end of the semester. In some cases, a student may be unable to complete all of the coursework because of extenuating circumstances, but not due to poor performance or to retain financial aid. The term ‘extenuating’ circumstances includes: (1) incapacitating illness which prevents a student from attending classes for a minimum period of two weeks, (2) a death in the immediate family, (3) financial responsibilities requiring a student to alter a work schedule to secure employment, (4) change in work schedule as required by an employer, or (5) other emergencies deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Depending on last-minute occurrences, availability of resources, and other unforeseen circumstances, the instructor may make changes to the original syllabus. If possible, she will consult with the students beforehand; if not, students will be informed in as timely a manner as possible and given the reasons for the change(s).

**Academic Integrity - "The Honor System"**

Each student has the right and duty to pursue his or her academic experience free of dishonesty. The Honor System is designed to establish the higher level of conduct expected and required of all Utah State University students.

The Honor Pledge: To enhance the learning environment at Utah State University and to develop student academic integrity, each student agrees to the following Honor Pledge: "I pledge, on my honor, to conduct myself with the foremost level of academic integrity."

*A student who lives by the Honor Pledge is a student who does more than not cheat, falsify, or plagiarize.*
A student who lives by the Honor Pledge:
Espouses academic integrity as an underlying and essential principle of the Utah State
University community; understands that each act of academic dishonesty devalues every
degree that is awarded by this institution; and is a welcomed and valued member of Utah
State University.

**Grievance Process (Student Code)**
Students who feel they have been unfairly treated [in matters other than (i) discipline or (ii)
admission, residency, employment, traffic, and parking - which are addressed by procedures separate
and independent from the Student Code] may file a grievance through the channels and procedures
VII. Grievances, pages 25-30)