

UMASS AMHERST Film & Video Course Guide

SPRING 2012

(updated 11/21/2011) (Strike means not confirmed)

Note: This guide is a work-in-progress. Course info may be subject to change. We will update the website as we get more information.

ANTHRO 106 - CULTURE THROUGH FILM	Gen. Ed. – G/SB
Krista Harper	Cap: 230
A-LEC(11318) Tu 6:00PM - 9:00PM	Bartlett Hall Rm. 65
AD01-DIS(11319) We 10:10AM - 11:00AM	TBA Staff
AD02-DIS(11320) We 11:15AM - 12:05PM	TBA Staff
AD03-DIS(11321) We 9:05AM - 9:55AM	TBA Staff
AD04-DIS(11323) Th 9:30AM - 10:20AM	TBA Staff
AD05-DIS(11324) Th 2:30AM - 3:20AM	TBA Staff
AD06-DIS(11325) Th 4:00PM - 4:50PM	TBA Staff
AD07-DIS(11326) Th 7:00PM - 7:50PM	TBA Staff
AD08-DIS(11327) Th 11:15AM - 12:05PM	TBA Staff
AD09-DIS(18055) Fr 10:10AM - 11:00PM	TBA Staff

Exploration of different societies and cultures, and of the field of cultural anthropology through the medium of film. Ethnographic and documentary films; focus on gender roles, ethnicity, race, class, religion, politics, and social change.

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IIB, V

Five College Film Studies Major category: 6

ART 230 - PHOTOGRAPHY I	Gen. Ed. - None
Staff	Cap: 14
01-ST(14064) MoWe 9:05AM - 11:50AM	Studio Arts Building Room 240

Introduction to photographic tools and methods. The balance between self-inquiry and the importance of process and materials as vehicles of meaning. Theory explored through class critiques and slide presentations. Photography examined and discussed both from a personal point of view and in its wider cultural context.

Open to undergraduate students with majors in Art, BFA-Art, BFA-Art Ed, BFA-Design or Art History.

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: V

Five College Film Studies Major category: none

ART 231 - PHOTOGRAPHY II	Gen. Ed. - None
Staff	Cap:14
01-ST(14065) MoWe 1:25PM - 4:10PM	Studio Arts Building Room 240

In-depth exploration of techniques and materials including zone system, large format, and non-silver processes. Slide lectures, discussions, and readings. Prerequisite: ART 230 or consent of instructor.

Open to undergraduate students with majors in Art, BFA-Art, BFA-Art Ed, BFA-Design or Art History.

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: V

Five College Film Studies Major category: none

ART 275: DIGITAL MEDIA: STILL IMAGE

Rosanne Retz

01-ST5(31204) TuTh 9:15AM- 12:15AM

Gen. Ed. - None

Cap: 16

Studio Arts Building

This course explores the creative possibilities of digital image creating and manipulation. Through demonstrations, creative technical assignments, students explore the digital workflow in independent projects involving sustained inquiry into a self selected theme.

Course Eligibility*: Open to Undergraduate Art, BFA-Art, BFA-Art-Ed, BFA-Design and BFA-Architecture majors only

Prerequisite: Completion of Art Foundations course (Art 110,120,131 and 142)

Or permission of the instructor.

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: V

Five College Film Studies Major: none

ART 384 - COMPUTER ANIMATION II

Christopher Bishop

01-ST5(14180) MoWe 10:10AM - 12:05PM

Lab L01-LAB(17915): 12:10-1:10

Gen. Ed. - None

Cap: 16

Fine Arts Center Rm 447

Fine Arts Center Rm 447

The second of a two semester sequence. Animation techniques using digital tools as applied to film, video, music and technology. Animation software (Maya) and professional compositing programs are used. Development and design of personal work is stressed. Emphasis is on creativity and professionalism. Studio course.

Open to Undergraduate ART, BFA-ART, BFA-ART ED, and BFA-DESIGN majors only.

Prerequisite: ART 374

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: V

Five College Film Studies Major category: 8

COMM 140 – INTRODUCTION TO FILM STUDIES

Martin Norden

01-LEC(69442) TuTh 2:30PM-3:45PM

L01-LAB(69443) Tu 4:00PM-6:00PM

Gen. Ed. - None

Cap: 125

Herter Hall Rm. 231

Herter Hall Rm. 231

The nature and several functions of film, including narrative and nonnarrative approaches to film communication. Topics include: the components of film expression (composition, movement, editing, sound, setting, and acting); designs in screen narrative; film's relationship to other arts and media; and its role as an instrument of social reflection and change. Open to undergraduate Freshman, Sophomore COMM majors only.

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies certificate category: I, V

Five College Film Studies Major category:

COMM 296F: IndStu-FILMFESTIVAL

Gen. Ed. - None

Anne Ciecko

Cap: 200

01-IND(16699) Wed 7:00-10:00pm

Thompson Hall Rm. 102

**This is a 1-credit Mandatory Pass/Fail course

Film screening. This semester's festival colloquium will be held in conjunction with the Massachusetts Multicultural Film Festival (MMFF). To earn 1 credit (pass/fail), students are required to attend a colloquium orientation during the first week of classes and at least 7 MMFF events throughout the semester, and to complete a survey at the end of each of the screenings attended.

Course Eligibility*: All majors; no prerequisites

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: none (1-credit, pass/fail only)

Five College Film Studies Major category: none (1-credit, pass/fail only)

COMM 331: PROGRAM PROCESS IN TELEVISION

David Maxcy Gen. Ed. - None

Cap: 36

01-LEC(51272) We 10:10AM - 11:00AM

Machmer Hall Rm. E-25

L01-LAB(51328)Mo 1:25PM - 4:25PM

Herter TV Studio

L02-LAB(51329) We 1:25PM - 4:25PM

Herter TV Studio

L03-LAB(51330) Fr 9:05AM - 12:05PM

Herter TV Studio

Lecture, studio. Introduction to concepts and techniques of television production, through lectures, lab exercises, and guided production projects. All 3 sections will meet together once a week for a 50-minute lecture with the course director. Each section (@12 students) will then meet once a week for a 3-hour lab session.

Course Eligibility*: Open to Senior, Junior and Sophomore Communication majors only.

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: V

Five College Film Studies Major category: 8

COMM 345: Special Topic-CONTEMPORARY WORLD CINEMA

Anne Ciecko Gen. Ed. - None

Cap 43

01-LEC(51280) MoWe 3:35PM - 5:30PM

Machmer Hall E-87

Lecture. This course offers an overview of recent narrative feature filmmaking from Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, and global diasporas. Students will develop critical tools for watching, reading, and writing about international and intercultural cinema. The following types of questions will be addressed: What are the ways in which contemporary films construct images of nations and cultures? What kinds of audio-visual representational strategies are used, and what kinds of negotiations occur? How do social, political, and economic circumstances impact the production, exhibition, and marketing/distribution of films? How do films connect with different audiences (local and international markets for popular films, the arthouse and film festival circuit, video stores, the internet, pirates, etc.)? What are the functions of international film stars, auteurs, and genres?

Course Eligibility*: all majors; no prerequisites

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IIB, V

Five College Film Studies Major category: 5, 6

COMM 433 - ADVANCED TELEVISION PRODUCTION AND DIRECTION

David Maxcy Gen. Ed. - None Cap:10

01-LEC(51281) Tu 11:15AM - 3:15PM Herter TV Studio

Lecture, Studio. Intensive workshop course in advanced concepts and techniques of studio-based television production, with a focus on the direction of live programs. Under the supervision of the instructor, students will produce individual projects in a variety of genres which will be aired on local cable television outlets. Prerequisite: COMM 331 or consent of the instructor.

Prerequisites: COMM 331 or COMM 397B

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IV, V

Five College Film Studies Major category: 8

COMM 441: PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES OF FILM STYLE PRODUCTION

Bruce Geisler Gen. Ed. - None Cap 12

01-LEC(51327) We 1:25PM - 5:25PM South College room 120

Lecture, studio. A hands-on introduction to single-camera filmmaking using digital video camcorders (electronic field production) or 16mm cameras and non-linear (computer-based) editing. Students will learn concepts of pre-production, shot composition, lighting, visual storytelling, continuity editing, and production & post production audio as they plan, shoot and edit exercises and complete projects. A "real world" editing project (scenes from an episode of "Highlander") will also be included.

Course Eligibility*: Open to Senior & Junior Communication majors only.

Course Prerequisites: COMM 231 or COMM 331 or permission of instructor.

Course Notes: Junior and Senior Communication majors who have completed either COMM 231 or COMM 331 may add this course through Spire. Others may add only by permission of the instructor.

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IV, V

Five College Film Studies Major category: 8

COMM 444: FILM STYLES & GENRES

Shawn Shimpach Gen. Ed. - None

01-LEC(69451) TuTh 2:30PM – 3:45PM Cap: 25

L01-LAB(69452) Th 4:00PM – 6:00PM South College Rm. 108

Lecture. Examination of films of a particular director or of films representing a particular genre, e.g. documentary films.

Prerequisite: COMM 240 or 340, 3 hours in COMM film courses exclusive of COMM 341

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IV, V

Five College Film Studies Major category:

COMM 493E: SEMINAR-SCREENWRITING

Martin Norden Gen. Ed. - None

01-SEM(55781) TuTh 9:30AM - 10:45AM, Cap: 20

South College room 108

Lecture, discussion. An examination of the art, craft, and business of screenwriting from theoretical and practical perspectives. Topics include screenplay format and structure, story, plot and character development, dialog and scene description, visual storytelling,

pace and rhythm, analysis of professional and student scripts and films, and more. Written work includes three screenwriting projects. The focus is on writing for narrative films and, to a limited extent, TV programs.

Prerequisite: COMM film course

Course Eligibility*: Open to Senior & Junior Communication majors only.

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IV, V

Five College Film Studies Major category: 8

COMM 493F SEMINAR-FILM DOCUMENTARY

Bruce Geisler Gen. Ed. - None Cap: 20

01-SEM(17280) TuTh 1:00AM - 3:00PM South College room 108

Lecture, discussion. This course combines critical analysis with a hands-on introduction to producing a documentary. Students will view, analyze, and critique all or part of fifteen works by filmmakers from Robert Flaherty ("Nanook of the North") to Morgan Spurlock ("Supersize Me"), to further their understanding of the documentarian's craft and art. Students will also do pre-production (research and scripting) on their own short documentary, along with shorter hands-on exercises in writing narration, interview techniques, use of archival sources, etc.

Course Prerequisites: COMM 240 or 231 (Formally COMM 297D) or COMM 340 or COMM 342 or COMM 493E or consent of instructor.

Course Eligibility*: Open to Senior & Junior Communication majors or by consent of instructor

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IIB, IV, V

Five College Film Studies Major category: 4

COMM 497AB: ST-HOLLYWOOD FILM, DIVERSITY AND ADAPTATION

Demetria Shabazz Gen. Ed. - None Cap: 25

01-LEC(69705) TuTh 1:00PM – 2:15PM South College Rm. 108

Description unavailable.

Open to Junior and Senior Communication majors only.

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IIB, IV, V

Five College Film Studies Major category:

COMM 593D S: Seminar-ADVANCED SCREENWRITING

Bruce Geisler Gen. Ed. - None Cap 20

01-LEC(51361) TuTh 11:15AM - 12:30PM South College room 120

Seminar. Building upon the concepts learned in the introductory course (COMM 493E - Screenwriting Seminar), this class will involve an intensive workshop environment where students receive continuing, in-depth feedback on their work in progress, as they strive for professional competence in feature-length theatrical screenwriting or writing for episodic television. Two professional screenplays and the films or TV shows produced from them will also be analyzed as students delve deeper into the writer's art and craft.

Students will complete either 60 pages of a feature length motion picture screenplay or a complete episode for an existing dramatic TV show, or two episodes for a current sitcom.

Course Eligibility*: Senior & Junior Communication majors or permission of the instructor

Course prerequisite: COMM 493E or another college-level screenwriting course or permission of the instructor.

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IV, V

Five College Film Studies Major category: 8

COMP-LIT 383 - NARRATIVE AVANT-GARDE FILM Gen. Ed. - AT

Don Levine

Cap: 140

A-LEC(56917) Mo 3:35PM - 7:00PM

Herter Hall Rm. 231

AD01-DIS(56918) Tu 2:30PM – 3:45PM

TBA

AD02-DIS(56919) Tu 4:00PM – 5:15PM

TBA

AD03-DIS(56920) Th 2:30PM - 3:45PM

TBA

AD04-DIS(56921) Tu 7:00PM – 8:15PM

TBA

Lecture, discussion. Explores modern origin of experimentation in film in avant-garde modes such as Expressionism, Surrealism and contemporary results of this heritage. Trying to determine if film is the most resolutely modern of the media. Emphasis on the ways in which Avant-garde films can problematize themselves through the ploys of telling a story. By means of a self-consciousness of story-telling which undermines viewer identification, the drive for closure, the demand for origins and order, and even cause and effect, these avant-garde films restore to playfulness its strength and ambiguity.

Requirements: one 5 page paper for midterm; final paper or project; attendance.

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IIA, V

Five College Film Studies Major category: 6

COMP-LIT 391A- S-INT. HISTORY OF ANIMATION Gen. Ed. - None

N. Couch

Cap: 100

01-LEC(56379) Tu 4:00PM-7:00PM

TBA

This course traces the history of animation from the late 19th century to today, including short and feature-length films from the United States, Europe and Japan. Topics will include the Fleischer, Disney and UPA studios, directors from Emil Cole to Hayao Miyazaki, and experimental animators including Oskar Fischinger and John Canemaker. Animation for television, including Jay Ward's Rocky and Bullwinkle and Matt Groening's The Simpsons will also be considered.

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IIB, V

COMP-LIT 391B - DYSTOPIAN FUTURES IN FILM & FICTION

Daphne Patai

Gen. Ed. - None

Cap: 50

01-LEC(19073) Tu 4:00PM-7:00PM

Room: Herter 217

Literature and film provide us with entertainment, pleasure, and stimulation. But dystopias -- in addition to working at that level -- express and address some of our most urgent fears and worries about our future. What does it mean to be human in an ever more technological society? How does society organize itself in a post-industrial age? What happens to individuals in a world whose culture is ever more homogeneous and driven by consumerism? What is the future of the human body? Are humans still linked to the natural world? What is the likely fate of our planet? What are the dangers of science and technology to a species whose emotions and wisdom may not keep up with its knowledge? What methods of social, economic, and political control will postmodern

societies depend on? What space will exist for non-conformists? What is the role of religion in maintaining social order? These are only a few of the crucial issues to be explored in this course.

Readings in English; foreign films have subtitles.

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IIB, V

COMPLIT 393F: POLISH FILM

Gen. Ed. - None

Barbara Bolibok,

Cap 30

01-LEC(14335): Th 4:00PM - 7:00PM

Room: TBA

This course is an introduction to classics of Polish cinema. We will watch films by Poland's best-known film directors to explore their key aesthetic, historical and philosophical concerns. Among directors whose works we will view are Roman Polanski, Andrzej Wajda, Wojciech Has, Jerzy Stuhr, Barbara Saas, Kazimierz Kutz, Andrzej Kondratuk, Jerzy Skolimowski, Agnieszka Holland and Krzysztof Kieslowski. Using the analytic language of literature, such as plot, character, setting, point of view, we will consider each film's narrative content (story) as well as its formal features (its visual poetics). In our discussions of the films we will try to identify those qualities that give Polish cinematography its distinctiveness. We will also pay particular attention to the style of acting. Among the theoretical readings for the course will be writings by the avant-garde theater director Jerzy Grotowski, who had an enormous impact on Polish actors.

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IIB, V

Five College Film Studies Major category: 5

FRENCHST 353 - AFRICAN FILM

Gen. Ed. – AT/G

Patrick Mensah

Cap 60

01-LEC(147755) Tu 4:00PM - 7:00PM

Bartlett Hall rm 61

D01-DIS(14756) Th 1:00PM - 2:15PM

TBA Staff

D02-DIS(14757) Th 2:30PM - 3:45PM

TBA Staff

Course taught in English. Histories and development of African Francophone and Caribbean film, from its inception to the present day. The sociocultural, economic, and political forces and imperatives defining its forms and directions. Questions this work raises in film aesthetics and theory as a whole. Screenings and analysis of films by Sembene, Achkar, Kabore, Mweze, Cisse, Drabo, Bekolo, Teno, Peck, Paley, Lara, Haas, and others.

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IIB, V

Five College Film Studies Major category: 5

GERMAN 393D - RACE AND GENDER IN GERMAN CINEMA

Barton Byg

Gen. Ed. – None

Cap: 50

01- LEC(70773) TuTh 1:00PM - 2:15PM

Herter Hall Rm. 227

L01-LAB(70774) Mon 6:00PM - 9:00PM

Herter Hall Rm. 227

German thought has provided both positive and extremely negative foundations for the representation of both race and gender since the 19th century. The course will analyze the German cinema in this context, from WEB DuBois's reception of German social philosophy and the birth of cinema in the colonial era, to the striking diversity of Weimar

cinema, the violent suppression of diversity of Nazi cinema, and the broad range of post-WWII productions that relate to these legacies in changing historical circumstances. Screenings of both rare and classic films (*Diary of a Lost Girl*, *Black Survivors of the Holocaust*, *Germanin*, *Toxi*), lecture/discussion and critical readings. Regular journal writing assignments, in-class film analysis, two short papers, midterm and final exam. Conducted in English; no prerequisites.

Eligible for application toward the UMass Film Studies certificate.

[To be proposed for approval as an interdisciplinary 4-credit general education course for diversity.]

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IIB, V

Five College Film Studies Major category:

MUSIC 170: MUSIC IN FILM

Gen. Ed. - AT

Jason Hooper

Cap: 50

01-LEC(70830) MoWeFr 2:30PM – 3:20PM

Bartlett Hall Rm. 61

A historical survey of film music from the Silent Era to the present day, thus providing a basis for the aesthetic appreciation of music in film. Students will also foster an increased awareness of film music's many functions through critical listening and viewing.

Emphasis is given to Hollywood narrative films. Please note that some of the movies we will study are rated R and contain strong language, violence, and nudity. Students should take this into consideration when registering for the course.

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IIA, V

POLISCI 201: AMERICAN POLITICS THROUGH FILM

Michael Hannahan Gen. Ed.- HS

Cap: 216

01-LEC(55458): TuTh 4:00PM - 4:50PM

Bartlett Hall room 65

D01-DIS(55464): Mo 9:05AM - 9:55AM

TBA

D02-DIS(55465): Mo 10:10AM - 11:00AM

TBA

D03-DIS(55466): Mo 12:20PM - 1:10PM

TBA

D04-DIS(55467): Fr 9:05AM - 9:55AM

TBA

D05-DIS(55468): Fr 10:10AM - 11:00AM

TBA

D06-DIS(55685): Fr 12:20PM - 1:10PM

TBA

D07-DIS(56421): Mo 1:25PM - 2:15PM

TBA

D08-DIS(56422): Fr 1:25PM - 2:15PM

TBA

D09-DIS(56423): Mo 2:30PM - 3:20PM

TBA

D10-DIS(56424): Fr 2:30PM – 3:20PM

TBA

Motives used to explore the development of American politics in the 20th century. The forces that shaped our politics early in the century (immigration, reform, religion), the rise of "big" government in the depression and World War II years (the new roles of the federal government, the enhanced presidency, internationalism, and anti-communism), and selected issues (race, gender, modern campaigns) prominent since the 1960s. The meaning of political democracy in America and how our understanding of it has adapted to changing times and conditions.

Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IIB, V

Five College Film Studies Major category: 6 (component)

SPANISH 397W – 01 ST-Latin American Cinema Gen. Ed. - None
Jose Ornelas Cap: 25
01-LEC(70788) Th 4:00PM – 6:30PM Rm: TBA
Description: TBA
Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IV, V
Five College Film Studies Major category:

SPANISH 597T - 01 ST-CATALAN CINEMA Gen. Ed. - None
Barbara Zecchi Cap: 100
01-LEC (16880) Tu 6:30PM - 9:30PM Herter Hall room 231
Description: TBA
Undergraduate UMass Film Studies Certificate category: IV, V
Five College Film Studies Major category:

GRADUATE COURSES in FILM at the UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS

See graduate course guide.