



# ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## COURSE OUTLINE

**DIVISION:** Humanities, Fine Arts and Social Science (HFASS)

**COURSE:** FLM 2009 The Art of the Film

**Effective Date:** Spring 2025

**Submitted Date:** Oct-24

**Credit Hours:** 3

**IAI Number (if applicable):** F2-908

*Complete all that apply or mark "None" where appropriate:*

Prerequisite(s): None

Enrollment by assessment or other measure?  Yes  No

If yes, please describe:

Corequisite(s): None

Pre- or Corequisite(s): None

Consent of Instructor:  Yes  No

Delivery Method: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Lecture</b>	<b>3 Contact Hours</b> (1 contact = 1 credit hour)
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Seminar</b>	<b>0 Contact Hours</b> (1 contact = 1 credit hour)
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Lab</b>	<b>0 Contact Hours</b> (2-3 contact = 1 credit hour)
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Clinical</b>	<b>0 Contact Hours</b> (3 contact = 1 credit hour)
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Practicum</b>	<b>0 Contact Hours</b> (2-4 contact = 1 credit hour)
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Internship</b>	<b>0 Contact Hours</b> (5-10 contact = 1 credit hour)

Offered:  **Fall**  **Spring**  **Summer**

### CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

An introduction to film as an art form, emphasizing a study of the aesthetic and production elements of the medium, including narrative genres, directorial style, cinematography, acting, and editing. Course content and activities include film viewings, critiquing, lectures, and discussions on the history and appreciation of cinema as an art form and its influence on and reflection of society. The course introduces students to art aesthetics and theory using a wide variety of film genres.

### **ACCREDITATION STATEMENTS AND COURSE NOTES:**

Students should write a combined minimum total of fifteen (15) pages of formal writing in assignments such as papers, projects, journals, and/or review writings.

### **COURSE TOPICS AND CONTENT REQUIREMENTS:**

- I. History of Cinema, focusing on changing technology: Silent Film Era to modern Films utilizing Digital Sound, Animation, Computer-Generated images, etc.
- II. Introduction to Film genres—e.g., the Musical, the Western, Action/Adventure, etc.—and film techniques—e.g., shots, sounds, colors, scripts, special effects, etc.
- III. Introduction to film making, especially business, political, and technical/production concerns.
- IV. Defining and viewing of films—whether originating in cinema, television, or computer—to illustrate concepts covered in class lecture, discussion, and readings.
- V. Discussion of effects of popular opinion on film, in terms of commercialism and concept of art, and discussion of film's effects upon society.

### **INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:**

- Analysis of readings and films viewed.
- Lectures on artistic elements, business, history, politics, and technology of cinema.
- Viewing representative films.
- Reading materials related to films concerning technical and critical aspects of film.
- Examinations, papers, and presentations--intended not only to measure recall but to promote "new" critical thinking and analytical skills.
- Writing as a learning tool.

### **EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT:**

Evaluation methods may include the following:

1. Assigned readings from primary and secondary sources.
2. Assigned film viewings.
3. Mid-term and final examinations.
4. Papers, projects, and/or journal/review writings, for a combined minimum total of fifteen (15) pages of formal writing.
  - Short papers (3-5 in quantity, 1-2 pages in length) should relate concepts to films, e.g. papers in which students must explain form's relation to content.

- Long papers (1-2 in quantity, about 10 pages in length) should demonstrate student has attained knowledge of concepts.
  - Additionally, projects may also be used to show this attainment, e.g., script-storyboard project, synthesis paper, video-film project, etc.
5. Attendance and participation in discussion, lectures, and film viewings.
  6. Students will demonstrate an ability to critique films based on concepts covered in readings and lecture.

## **INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:**

### **Textbooks**

Textbooks assigned by the instructor.

### **Resources**

- Internet Access
- Podium/Lectern
- Black/Whiteboard
- Chalk/Erase Markers
- Classroom/Smart Classroom
- Class Management Software
- Desks for students
- TV/VCR/Projector/Monitor/Speakers
- Videos/DVDs/Blue Rays/Streaming services
- Photocopies/Digital copies of instructional materials

## **LEARNING OUTCOMES AND GOALS:**

### **Institutional Learning Outcomes**

- 1) Communication – to communicate effectively.
- 2) Inquiry – to apply critical, logical, creative, aesthetic, or quantitative analytical reasoning to formulate a judgement or conclusion.
- 3) Social Consciousness – to understand what it means to be a socially conscious person, locally and globally.
- 4) Responsibility – to recognize how personal choices affect self and society.

## Course Outcomes and Competencies

1. Analyze various film techniques and genres to attain a greater understanding and appreciation of the artistic quality of film
  - 1.1. Describe, define, and identify elements of photography—such as but not limited to angles, shots, color use—in relation to a film’s theme.
  - 1.2. Describe, define, and identify elements of mise en scène—such as but not limited to character proxemics, set construction, prop display—in relation to a film’s theme.
  - 1.3. Describe, define, and identify elements of movement—such as but not limited to changes of effect regarding movement of the subject within the frame and movement of the camera—in relation to a film’s theme.
  - 1.4. Describe, define, and identify elements of editing—such as but not limited to jump cuts, crosscutting, and classical cutting—in relation to a film’s theme.
  - 1.5. Describe, define, and identify various film genres—such as but not limited to melodrama, the Western, the musical, Film Noir—in relation to a film’s theme.
2. Understand how films are made and how the film industry operates.
  - 2.1. Explain and discuss the process of film-making for both independent and conglomerate corporate studios.
  - 2.2. Recognize, define, and identify roles/occupations within the film industry and discuss their function in film production, e.g., producer, director, actor, key grip, etc.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the impact that history, politics, and technology have had and continue to have upon the films produced.
  - 3.1. Demonstrate an understanding of how different periods in cinema history—such as the beginnings (1890-1920) of silent films, the advent.
  - 3.2. (1920s-1930s) of talkies, the introduction of color (1930s to 1940s), etc.— have influenced films.
  - 3.3. Discuss how history and cinematic history have influenced film, and vice versa.
  - 3.4. Discuss how politics have influenced film, and vice versa.
  - 3.5. Discuss how technological advances have influenced film, and vice versa.

4. Express the way society impacts films and the way films impact and reflect society.
  - 4.1. Explain the relationship between a societal change or social theory and the corresponding change in film.
  - 4.2. Explain the relationship between a change in film and the corresponding change in society.
  - 4.3. Synthesize discussions of film theory with discussions of social theory.
5. Come to conclusions about the role of film in society and determine their responsibility to each other.
  - 5.1. Write clearly about films using ideological and/or social theories.
  - 5.2. Write clearly about society, showing how it has affected and continues to affect filmmakers' construction of reality.