This course syllabus is intended as a set of guidelines for Introduction to Cinema (COMM 2366), it is for information purposes only and does not constitute a contract. Both North Lake College and your instructor reserve the right to make modifications in content, schedule, and requirements as necessary to promote the best education possible within prevailing conditions affecting this course.

Instructor Information:

Instructor’s Name: Alice Butler
Email Address: abutler@dcccd.edu
Office Phone Number: (972) 273-3568
Office location: P230

Course Information

Course title: Introduction to Cinema
Course number: COMM 2366
Section numbers: 73203
Credit hours: 3 (3 lec.)
Class meeting time: 9:30 AM – 12:20 PM Friday only

Course description: Emphasis on the analysis of the visual and aural aspects of selected motion pictures, dramatic aspects of narrative films, and historical and sociological effect of film as an art.

Course prerequisites: Developmental Reading 0093 or English as a Second Language (ESOL) 0044 or have met the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) standard in Reading.
**Required or Recommended Textbooks and Materials**

No textbook is required to purchase. The instructor will provide all handouts, additional materials or references. The student needs access to the internet and computer for research and for printing papers and assignments.

**Course Objectives**

The various aspects of Film are surveyed. Topics include screenplays, writers, directors, actors, artists and technicians. An interest in and a basic knowledge of film will be built by viewing films, through hearing background and backstage lectures, by participating in class discussions, and involvement in projects, classroom presentations and research papers.

**Specific Course Learning Outcomes**

Students will view, discuss and write about films screened in class. These are films that will not be readily available in most local theaters.

Students will view, research, discuss, and report on films in public venues. Individual presentations will be made to the class on significant films of the student’s personal perspective.

Students will observe how films reflect and react to the cultures which have produced them.

**Course Outline**

This class is designed primarily for non theatre majors who have an interest in film and want to explore the subject beyond most public venues and to delve into less available and more remote sources to view, discuss and research a broader variety of films. Students can earn 3 hours of college or university parallel credit as an elective or as Core Tier Two credit for Humanity, Creativity and the Aesthetic Experience.

The purpose of this introduction to cinema is to build an appreciation for film, not to entertain the students as an audience. There will be some films screened that are not in color, some not in English, some not even with sound. Certainly, not everyone will like every film. But hopefully everyone will find something that they have never seen before, maybe never even heard of or have known about that will inspire them to look further into the wide variety and depth of film.

Each class will include the screening of an entire film. Most are full length, though none longer than the class period. Each will be followed by a Screening Quiz, or other writing assignment.
Students will be required to rent films and/or purchase tickets to public viewings. A series of homework assignments will cover specific films to be viewed by the student outside of class. These films are considered by many to be classic or important films. These will be relatively easy to locate for viewing by rental, library check out or can even be found on campus for viewing.

Students will also have assignments for class presentations. Some research will be involved so some Internet capability is needed. Each student will need the capacity to print assignments for submission for grading.

The course entirely conducted in class, not online. The student is responsible for proper submission of each written assignment by the due date. All assignments must be printed and submitted to the instructor in class, not by email, online or on ecampus. The final course grade will be made available on econnect, this is the official grade at the conclusion of the course by the following week.

**Calendar of Class Meetings and Assignments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Class Introduction and Syllabus. First Screenings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Assignment 1. Next Screening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Assignment 2. Continued screenings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Individual Presentations (Volunteer basis) Assignment 2. Continued screening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5-6</td>
<td>Continued Assignment 2 Presentations and screening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Mid-term Review. Continued Assignment 2 Presentations and screenings</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Mid-term Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Assignment 3. Continued screening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10-12</td>
<td>Continued Assignment 2 Presentations and screening.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>Research papers (assignment 3) Due. Screening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 14</td>
<td>Last Presentations (assignment 2) Due. Screening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>Final Exam review. Final full-length screening.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 16</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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**Means of Assessment of Course Learning Outcomes**

Students will be assessed of their work in the class by the daily quiz and responses. Each assignment will be graded by the instructor as well as all tests and exams. Class attendance and participation are closely monitored.

**Evaluation Procedures**

- Class attendance and participation: 20%
- In-class screening quizzes: 25%
- Individual film presentation: 10%
- Research papers: 15%
- Tests: 15%
- Final exam: 15%
**Exams and Assignments**

Ten films are assigned to be viewed at the students’ convenience. The first five are to be screened before the first test and the last five before the second test.

A research paper in (proper MLA format) on a single significant film chosen by the student is due before the presentation of same.

A class presentation of this film.

A second research paper on another film chosen by different criteria (no class presentation)

Daily Screening Quizzes in class.

Two tests.

A final exam.

**Grading Scale**

A  100-90
B  89-80
C  79-70
D  69-60
F  59-0
N  enrolled but never attended

**Discipline/ Course/ Department/Policies**

No cell phone use of any kind is allowed in class. Any use of a cell phone will dismiss the student and be counted as an absence.

Prompt class attendance is very important. Roll will be taken at the beginning of class and late arrival after 15 minutes will be considered an absence. Three late arrivals are equal to one absence. Leaving class early will be considered an absence. Each three absences will lower the final grade ONE more letter grade.

All assignments are to be printed by the student in proper form and submitted by the due date. No email submissions nor ecampus nor online submissions will be accepted. Late assignments or papers will be reduced in grade by one letter per class.

Screening Quizzes may only be taken at the end of the film shown and only in class in order to be submitted for grading. No exceptions.

There will be no make-up tests or exams.

Students are responsible for acquiring copies of films assigned to be viewed off-campus.
ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

The Student Code of Conduct prohibits academic dishonesty and prescribes penalties for violations. According to this code, which is printed in the college catalog, "academic dishonesty", includes (but is not limited to) cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, plagiarism, and collusion.

1) The Vice-President of Academic & Student Affairs may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of academic dishonesty.

2) Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism and collusion.

3) Cheating on a test includes:
   a) Copying from another student’s test paper;
   b) Using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
   c) Collaborating with another student during a test without permission to do so;
   d) Knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an un-administered test.
   e) Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for you to take a test; and
   f) Bribing another person to obtain an unadministered test or information about an unadministered test.

4) “Plagiarism” means the appropriation of another’s work (ideas and/or words) and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work in one’s written work offered for credit. Quotes not identified as quotes constitute a form of plagiarism even if the borrowed ideas are documented.

5) “Collusion” means an unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work offered for credit.

Academic dishonesty may result in the following sanctions, including, but not limited to:
1. A grade of zero or a lowered grade on the assignment or course.
2. A reprimand.
3. Suspension from the college.

NOTIFICATION OF ABSENCE DUE TO RELIGIOUS HOLY DAY(S)

Students who will be absent from class for the observance of a religious holiday must notify the instructor in advance. Please refer to the Student Obligations section of the college catalog for more explanation. You are required to complete any assignments or
take any examinations missed as a result of the absence within the time frame specified by your instructor.

**REQUIREMENTS OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (A430)**  
North Lake College provides academic accommodations to students with disabilities, as defined under ADA law. It is the student's choice and responsibility to initiate any request for accommodations. If you are a student with a disability who requires such ADA accommodations, please contact North Lake College's Disability Services Office in person (A430) or by phone at 972-273-3165.  
[http://www.northlakecollege.edu/resources/disability.html](http://www.northlakecollege.edu/resources/disability.html)

**FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT OF 1974 (FERPA)**  
In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), the College may release information classified as "directory information" to the general public without the written consent of the student. Directory information includes: (1) student name, (2) student address, (3) telephone numbers, (4) date and place of birth, (5) weight and height of members of athletic teams, (6) participation in officially recognized activities and sports, (7) dates of attendance, (8) educational institution most recently attended, and (9) other similar information, including major field of study and degrees and awards received. Students may protect their directory information at any time during the academic year. If no request is filed, directory information is released upon written inquiry. No telephone inquiries are acknowledged. No transcript or academic record is released without written consent from the student, except as specified by law.

**ADMINISTRATIVE WITHDRAWAL**  
Students with valid extenuating circumstances may be eligible for an administrative withdrawal by the Dean of the Division in which the course or courses are taught. An administrative withdrawal will not be awarded to students who simply fail to withdraw prior to the last day to receive a "W." The request for an administrative withdrawal must be made in writing to the Dean of the Division with any supporting documentation attached. This must occur before the last official day of the semester.

**DROP POLICY**  
If you are unable to complete this course, you must officially withdraw by: **Thursday, April 16, 2015.** Withdrawing is a formal procedure which you must initiate; your instructor cannot do it for you. All Dallas County Community Colleges charge a higher tuition rate to students registering the third time for a course. This rule applies to the majority of credit and Continuing Education / Workforce Training courses. Developmental Studies and some other courses are not charged a higher tuition rate. Third attempts include courses taken at any DCCCD college since the fall 2002 semester. For further information, go online to: [http://www.DCCCD.edu/thirdcourseattempt](http://www.DCCCD.edu/thirdcourseattempt).

**STOP BEFORE YOU DROP**
For students who enrolled in college level courses for the first time in the fall of 2007, Texas Education Code 51.907 limits the number of courses a student may drop. You may drop no more than 6 courses during your entire undergraduate career unless the drop qualifies as an exception. Your campus counseling/advising center will give you more information on the allowable exceptions. Remember that once you have accumulated 6 non-exempt drops, you cannot drop any other courses with a “W”. Therefore, please exercise caution when dropping courses in any Texas public institution of higher learning, including all seven of the Dallas County Community Colleges. For more information, you may access:  
https://www1.dcccd.edu/coursedrops

FINANCIAL AID STATEMENT
Students who are receiving any form of financial aid should check with the Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing from classes. Withdrawals may affect your eligibility to receive further aid and could cause you to be in a position of repayment for the current semester. Students who fail to attend or participate are also subject to this policy.

To apply for financial aid in the DCCCD, students must complete FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) on the web at:  
http://www.fafsa.ed.gov

COUNSELING SERVICES (A311)
Counseling services for personal issues are provided to all students currently enrolled at North Lake College at NO CHARGE. These services are provided by licensed professionals who are bound by confidentiality (within ethical parameters). With the assistance of a counselor, students are able to identify, understand, resolve issues and develop appropriate skills. To make an appointment call 972-273-3333 or visit A311. For additional information, go to:  
http://northlakecollege.edu/services-and-resources/health-and-wellness/counseling-services/Pages/default.aspx

THE ACADEMIC SKILLS CENTER (ASC)
The ASC is designed to provide the following assistance to students:

- An ESOL lab with computer access.
- Free tutoring for students enrolled in Foreign Language courses.
- The iRead Lab offers individual and small group tutoring, as well as workshops, to help current students improve their reading, study, and test taking skills.
- The Writing Center to help students clarify writing tasks, understand instructors’ requirements, develop and organize papers, explore revision options, detect grammar and punctuation errors, properly use and document sources, and improve their writing skills.
- The Online Writing Lab (OWL) allows students to submit papers to our writing tutors electronically and get feedback within 24-72 hours. The OWL can be accessed through eCampus.
  - After logging on to eCampus, click on the Community Tab at the top.
  - Type “Owl” in the search field and click “Go.”
Next, click on the double drop-down arrows next to “NLC-OWL2,” and then click on “Enroll.”

Once enrolled, students can receive services from the OWL.

- The Blazer Internet Lounge with 12 computers, additional open seating, and WiFi Internet access.

For more information or to schedule a tutoring appointment, come by A-332 or call 972-273-3089.

**TESTING CENTER (A 425)**

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
No tests will be issued after 7:00 p.m. Other cut-off times may be in effect for specific exams by the instructor’s direction. All exams collected at 8:00 p.m.

Friday-Saturday: 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
No tests will be issued after 2:30 p.m. Other cut-off times may be in effect for specific exams by the instructor’s direction. All exams collected at 3:30 p.m.

Sunday – CLOSED

If you instructor requires you to complete an exam in the Testing Center, be sure to have the following information when you request you test:

1. Instructor’s name
2. Subject, course number, and section number (exp: Speech 1311.7011)
3. Exam number (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.)
4. Exam deadline (Get this information from your instructor. The testing staff cannot look up this information on computers).

You should also bring the following supplies:

1. Pencil
2. Scantron answer sheet
3. A Test Request Form must be completed before entering the Testing Center.
5. Government or school issued photo identification is required & enforced.

You may not bring personal items into the Testing Center. This includes bags, cell phones, and pagers.

Please show courteous and cooperative behavior while using the services provided by the Testing Center.

DO NOT bring children to the Testing Center. You must make arrangements for the care of your children prior to your exam date. The police department will be notified of any unattended children.

DO NOT take any testing materials with you when you leave the Testing Center. This includes the test, answers, charts, scratch paper. These items will be attached to your test.

Questions? Please visit the Testing Center (A 425) or call 972-273-3160.
## Learning Activities, Outcomes, and Assessment

### Activity Number 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Activity:</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The top ten AFI films are viewed by the student on his/own. Preparation for writing on the film, director, other creative staff and artists is done online and by other print research options, books, periodicals etc.</td>
<td>The student will recognize the Top Ten AFI films as significant works of filmmaking.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Assessment**

Five of these films are to be viewed before the Mid-Term examination the balance before the Final exam. These exams will include discussion questions requiring a substantial response in essay form to be graded by the instructor.
### Activity Number 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Learning Activity:</strong></th>
<th><strong>Learning Outcomes:</strong></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First research paper. The student chooses a personally significant file to research. A paper is produced in proper MLA style covering specific items about the history of the film, as well as their subjective opinions and personal criticism.</td>
<td>The student will critique his/her choice of personal significant film in a written essay.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Assessment:</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>The instructor will grade the paper, comment on possible points of improvement and if necessary, meet the student.</td>
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### Activity Number 3.

<table>
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<th><strong>Learning Activity:</strong></th>
<th><strong>Learning Outcomes:</strong></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Each student performs a classroom presentation of the individual film research paper. The student may not use visual aids in this 4-6 minute presentation.</td>
<td>The student will critique his/her choice of personal significant film in an oral presentation for the class.</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Assessment:</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The instructor will critique and grade the presentation with the help of the previously submitted research paper.</td>
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