COURSE REQUIREMENTS, ASSIGNMENTS, AND TESTS

1. Students will read assigned textual materials, view a film that exemplifies the issues brought forth in the textual materials and film clips, and participate on the discussion board following their viewing of the film.
2. Students will then take a weekly multiple-choice quiz.
3. An all-essay mid-term exam will cover the Elements of Film.
4. Students will complete an analysis project: students will select, view, and analyze two films in a similar genre – one chosen from an earlier decade and a contemporary film – and compare and contrast the films in terms of form, content, and socio-political mores and impact. Students will complete an analysis form for each film, and compose a typed 4-5 page paper.
5. Students will complete an all-essay, comprehensive final exam.
6. Attendance/Participation - students are expected to complete each lesson with its attendant quiz and discussion board posting. There are no makeup exams for any reason.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. View then discuss/write about films critically
2. Analyze film art as either (or both) a reflection and an “instigator” of culture and socio-political mores
3. Describe form and content in American commercial narrative films
4. Trace the historical development of American commercial narrative film – technological advances, aesthetics, and formal techniques, as well as inventors and notable artists
5. Describe the duties and responsibilities of key players on a film set.
6. Describe ways in which other major movements (literary, artistic, and/or philosophical) impacted film.

LECTURES, DISCUSSIONS, LEARNING UNITS, LESSONS, CHAPTERS

1. Introduction, history, the language of film, twin libidinal impulses, etc.
2. The Elements of Film: Screenwriting and Genre
3. The Elements of Film: Cinematography and Sound
4. The Elements of Film: Directing/Acting
5. The Elements of Film: Editing and SFX
6. Film – The Decades: Early Film and the 1920s
7. Film – The Decades: 1930s
8. Film – The Decades: 1940s
9. Film – The Decades: 1950s
10. Film – The Decades: 1960s
11. Film – The Decades: 1970s
12. Film – The Decades: 1980s
13. Film – The Decades: 1990s
14. Film – The Decades: 2000s

REQUIRED READING

2. Various supplemental readings are posted online for each lesson. They are also required.
3. Various exemplary film clips are posted online for each lesson. They are also required.