

<b>Syllabus HSS 404-058 - THTR SEM: FILM STUDIES: ART OF THE SHORT FILM</b>		
<b>Instructor: Rodney Reyes</b>		
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	Kupfrian Hall 113, Thursdays 12:30-1:30pm and/or by appointment	
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	All Lower Division and 300 level Humanities GUR requirements. Can take the 300 level HUM/LIT/HIST/PHIL during the same semester.	
<b>Instructor Information:</b>	I will respond to all emails/inbox messages within 24 hours. Quizzes, homework, and discussions will be graded weekly. I will deliver feedback for major course assessments in class or online using Canvas or by e-mail.	
<b>Required readings:</b>	MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, Joseph Gibaldi, Modern Language Association, 6th ed., 2003 (Either this manual or the APA manual is required for the course.)	
<b>Required Viewings:</b>	<b>There will be no books assigned. However, you will be required to watch the films assigned. I will provide a link for most if not all the films assigned. Otherwise the films assigned are available for rental off of iTunes, Amazon, Youtube or Netflix.</b>	
<b>Homework:</b>	<b>Homework will be assigned throughout the semester.</b>	
<b>Technical Requirements:</b>	A YOUTUBE or VIMEO account is required for this course. You will use those channels to upload your Visual Exercises for viewing. A Smartphone or Digital Camera that records HD VIDEO is required. Visual Exercise assignments require the ability to record video. Minimum editing knowledge is preferred.	
<b>Expecations for Class Etiquette:</b>	Students are expected to follow NJIT's Code of Student Conduct. Students should be polite, active participants and respect their instructor, classmates, as well as ideas or opinions that differ from their own. While scholarly debates are encouraged, they should not become personal attacks.	
<b>Course Objective:</b>	This is a class on the art of the short film and its roles in culture and exploring its relationship to our world. We will explore film on a craft level and its disciplines as an art form through analysis and critique. Learn basic film vocabulary such as montage, mis-en- scene, various camera shots and cinematic conventions. Grasp on filmmaking through visual exercises to understand the basic theory regarding the camera's role in shaping the viewer's perception. Understanding on the purpose and function of film. By the end of the course students will create a 3-5 minute short film.	
<b>Method of Instruction:</b>	Watch films and videos. Lecture and class discussion. Library work. Quizzes and final presentations.	
<b>Participation is mandatory</b>	Assignments for that class date must be completed on that date. Quizzes also must be taken at designated dates and times, no make-up quiz will be given. Unexcused absences will count against your participation grade. 3 unexcused absences will lower your overall participation grade by a percentage; If you have extenuating circumstances for any reason and miss a class you must contact the Dean of Student's Office.	
<b>Policies:</b>	<b>No make-up quizzes will be given.</b> Late assignments may be accepted with permission.	
<b>SESSION ONE</b>	SEPT 5: INTRODUCTION TO CLASS AND SYLLABUS DISCUSSION;	
<b>SESSION TWO</b>	SEPT 7: INTRODUCTION TO CITIZEN KANE; ROLES IN FILMMAKING	<b>WEEK</b>
<b>SESSION THREE</b>	SEPT 12: CITIZEN KANE (QUIZ); POST-VIEWING DISCUSSION	
<b>SESSION FOUR</b>	SEPT 14: INTRODUCTION TO SHANE/THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY	<b>WEEK 2</b>
<b>SESSION FIVE</b>	SEPT 19: SHANE/THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY (QUIZ); POST-VIEWING DISCUSSION	
<b>SESSION SIX</b>	SEPT 21: VISUAL EXERCISE #1 PRESENTATION;	<b>WEEK 1</b>

<b>SESSION SEVEN</b>	SEPT 26: VISUAL EXERCISE #1 PRESENTATION; INTRODUCTION TO CASABLANCA	<b>WEEK 4</b>
<b>SESSION EIGHT</b>	SEPT 28: CASABLANCA QUIZ AND POST-VIEWING DISCUSSION;	
<b>SESSION NINE</b>	OCT 3: INTRODUCTION TO BLADE RUNNER	<b>WEEK 5</b>
<b>SESSION TEN</b>	OCT 5: BLADE RUNNER QUIZ AND POST-VIEWING DISCUSSION;	
<b>SESSION ELEVEN</b>	OCT 10: VISUAL EXERCISE #2 PRESENTATION	<b>WEEK 6</b>
<b>SESSION TWELVE</b>	OCT 12: VISUAL EXERCISE #2 PRESENTATION; INTRODUCTION TO THE ROYAL TENENBAUMS	
<b>SESSION THIRTEEN</b>	OCT 17: THE ROYAL TENENBAUMS QUIZ AND POST-VIEWING DISCUSSION;	<b>WEEK 7</b>
<b>SESSION FOURTEEN</b>	OCT 19: INTRODUCTION TO THE BIG SHORT	
<b>SESSION FIFTEEN</b>	OCT 24: THE BIG SHORT QUIZ AND POST-VIEWING DISCUSSION;	<b>WEEK 8</b>
<b>SESSION SIXTEEN</b>	OCT 26: ADAPTATION PAPER DUE: CAMERA TECHNIQUES	
<b>SESSION SEVENTEEN</b>	OCT 31: INTRODUCTION TO MONEYBALL	<b>WEEK 9</b>
<b>SESSION EIGHTEEN</b>	NOV 2: MONEYBALL QUIZ AND POST-VIEWING DISCUSSION	
<b>SESSION NINETEEN</b>	NOV 7: SPECIAL GUEST	<b>WEEK 10</b>
<b>SESSION TWENTY</b>	NOV 9: SPECIAL GUEST	
<b>SESSION TWENTY-ONE</b>	NOV 14: VISUAL EXERCISE #3 PRESENTATION	<b>WEEK 11</b>
<b>SESSION TWENTY-TWO</b>	NOV 16: VISUAL EXERCISE #3 PRESENTATION; INTRODUCTION TO THE LAST BLACK MAN IN SAN FRANCISCO	
<b>SESSION TWENTY-THREE</b>	NOV 21: THE LAST BLACK MAN IN SAN FRANCISCO QUIZ AND POST-VIEWING DISCUSSION	<b>WEEK 12</b>
<b>SESSION TWENTY-FOUR</b>	THANKSGIVING BREAK	
<b>SESSION TWENTY-FIVE</b>	NOV 28: NOMADLAND QUIZ AND POST-VIEWING DISCUSSION	<b>WEEK 13</b>
<b>SESSION TWENTY-SIX</b>	NOV 30: VISUAL EXERCISE #4 PRESENTATION	
<b>SESSION TWENTY-SEVEN</b>	DEC 5: IN-CLASS ASSIGNMENT- PRE-PRODUCTION	<b>WEEK 14</b>
<b>SESSION TWENTY-EIGHT</b>	DEC 7: IN-CLASS ASSIGNMENT- PRINCIPAL PHOTOGRAPHY	
<b>SESSION TWENTY-NINE</b>	DEC 12: IN-CLASS ASSIGNMENT- PRINCIPAL PHOTOGRAPHY PART 2	<b>WEEK 15</b>

<b>FINAL EXAM DATE</b>	DATE TBD: FINAL SHORT FILM PRESENTATION AND Q&A	
<b>QUIZ</b>	There will be quizzes on the week of post-viewing film discussions in duration between 15-20 minutes each depending on the film.	
<b>ASSIGNMENTS:</b>	<b>There will be additional assignments throughout the semester in class and as homework. Below are assigned assignments.</b>	
<b>SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS:</b>	<b>VISUAL EXERCISE 1: Show an Ordinary Day in 60 Seconds; DUE SEPT 21</b>	
	<b>VISUAL EXERCISE 2: 5X5; DUE OCT 6</b>	
	<b>ADAPTATION PAPER DUE: NOV 16</b>	
	<b>VISUAL EXERCISE 3: Redux; DUE NOV 14</b>	
	<b>VISUAL EXERCISE 4: 1 minute short film loop - Vertical Orientation; DUE NOV 30</b>	
	<b>FINAL SHORT FILM PROJECT &amp; PRESENTATIONS; TBD</b>	
<b>GRADING</b>	<b>15% Assignments/Attendance/Participation, 15% Visual Exercises 1-4, 25% Quizzes, 15% Adaptation Paper, 30% Final Short Film Project</b>	
<b>GRADING SCALE</b>	100 - 92.5 A, 92.4 - 85 B+, 84.4 - 80 B, 79.9 - 77.5 C+, 77.4 - 70 C, 69.9 - 60 D, 59.9 -0 F	
	<b>This syllabus may be subject to updates throughout the semester.</b>	
	RV: 9-8-23	