

# JINAN UNIVERSITY

## Introduction to Film History

**Lecturer:** Dr. Guillermo Gibens

**Time:** Monday through Friday (June 18, 2018-July 20, 2018)

**Office hours:** 2 hours (according to the teaching schedule)

**Contact Hours:** 60 (50 minutes each)

**Credits:** 4

**Location:** Huiquan Building

**Office:** Huiquan Building 518

**E-mail:** [ggibens@gmail.com](mailto:ggibens@gmail.com)



### **Course Description:**

This course is an introductory survey of film history. Looking at major developments, explains concepts, summarizes debates in film studies, defines technical terms, describes major periods and movements, and discusses historical situations. The emergence of new artistic media, subject matter, and strategies of making and viewing will be also discussed. Emphasis will be placed on the methods of interpreting the works, especially in relation to then-current social practices and cultural values.

### **Course Objectives:**

To gain knowledge of major periods and movements in film history.

To develop skills in critical thinking.

### **Required Text**

A Short History of Film – 2nd Edition

by [Wheeler Winston Dixon](#) (Author), [Gwendolyn Audrey Foster](#) (Author)

Rutgers University Press

### **Course Hours**

The course has 25 sessions in total. Each class session is 120 minutes in length. The course meets from Monday to Friday.

### **Course Assignments:**

Group Presentation 20%

2 Exams 30% = 15% each

2 Film analysis 30% = 15% each

Cooperative learning = 20%

### **Grading Policy**

This course is worth 100 points. Each student is responsible for demonstrating development and self-direction. Students are expected to attend all classes and complete all assigned work. Students are encouraged to set goals beyond those laid out in the syllabus. Absences beyond 4 class meetings will result in the course grade being lowered to the next lower letter for each additional absence. For example a

course grade of B will be lowered to C/D/F after 4 absences and depending on the number of additional absences.

You will be given qualitative feedback in addition to your number score. Letter grades correspond to your number score according to the following scale:

### Grading Scale

The instructor will use the grading system as applied by JNU:

Definition	Letter Grade	Score
Excellent	A	90-100
Good	B	80-89
Satisfactory	C	70-79
Poor	D	60-69
Failed	E	Below 60

### Course Schedule

#### Week I

1. Mon. Introduction. Chap. 1: The Invention of the Movies
2. Tue. Chap. 2: The Birth of an American Industry
3. Wed. Movie and discussion
4. Thu. Chap. 3: World Cinema and the Silent Era
5. Fri. Review/Movie analysis

#### Week II

1. Mon. Chap. 4: The Hollywood Studio System in the 1930s and 1940s
2. Tue. American Cinema in the 1940s.
3. Wed. Movie and discussion
4. Thu. Chap. 5: International Cinema through WWII
5. Fri. Review/First exam

### **Week III**

1. Mon. Chap. 6: Postwar Challenges to the Movies
2. Tue. Chap. 7: World Cinema in the 1950s
3. Wed. Movie and discussion
4. Thu. Group meetings for presentations
5. Fri. Review/Second exam

### **Week IV**

1. Mon. Chap. 8: The 1960s Explosion
2. Tue. Chap. 9: World Cinema 1970 to the Present
3. Wed. Movie and discussion
4. Thu. Chap. 10: The New Hollywood
5. Fri. Group meetings for presentation.

### **Week V**

1. Mon. Latin American Cinema
2. Tue. Movie and discussion
3. Wed. Final Review
4. Thu. Final presentations
5. Fri. Final presentations

NOTICE: In order to provide students with an interesting and enjoyable educational experience, this syllabus may be changed at the discretion of the instructor at any time with notification.

### **Academic Honesty**

Jinan University defines academic misconduct as any act by a student that misrepresents the students' own academic work or compromises the academic work of another. Scholastic misconduct includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing (i.e. misrepresenting as one's own work any work done by another); submitting the same paper or substantially similar papers to meet the requirements of more than one course without the approval and consent of

the instructors concerned; or sabotaging another's work. Within these general definitions, however, instructors determine what constitutes academic misconduct in the courses they teach. Students found guilty of academic misconduct in any portion of the academic work will face penalties ranging from lowering of their course grade to awarding a grade of E for the entire course.