

Instructor: Dr. Yelizaveta Goldfarb Moss
Email: ygmoss@ung.edu

Office: Nesbitt 4226
Office Hours: M 1-3pm, T 12-2pm
(or by appointment)

Course Description

Content: This course introduces the fundamental elements of film artistry and production. Topics include film styles, history, production techniques, and social values reflected in film art. Upon completion, you will be able to critically analyze film genres, themes, styles, and historical contexts.

Course objectives:

Learn about film as *an art form* with a specific cultural impact through:

- * Developing critical thinking skills to interpret and evaluate films
- * Applying critical sensitivity to thematic and historical contexts of films

Learn how films *work*, both as an industry and as entertainment, through:

- *Analyzing evolving film technologies and formal film styles
- *Making educated judgments about film quality and contribution

Required Text: See D2L for textbook PDFs. We will be piloting a new, free textbook *Film Appreciation* in this class.

Course Expectations

You are expected to demonstrate your professionalism in this class.

Be respectful! No texting, web browsing, etc. during class.

Put your phone away entirely.

If you feel the urge to text or check texts, step outside.

If you plan to take notes using a laptop, be prepared to submit notes weekly.

Come prepared! Take notes on the reading. Write down questions to ask.

Take control of your education! Be engaged. Come to office hours. Ask questions. Check your email.

This is a discussion-based class. The course will be in part determined by your interests. You will be asked to contribute examples of the terms and methods that we discuss. Your engagement and sharing of work are essential to the class dynamic!

A significant component of this course lives online. You will use **D2L** to take quizzes and surveys, submit assignments, check grades, and find supplemental materials.

Grade Breakdown

Participation	20%
(attendance, discussion, professionalism)	
Quizzes (11)	15%
Discussion Qs (8)	15%
Paper	20%
Exams (3)	30%

Attendance guidelines

Poor attendance results in poor grades. It's this simple.

*You are allowed up to 3 absences during the semester, excused or unexcused.

*A heads-up email is always appreciated and exhibits professionalism.

UNG policy: A grade of 'W' may be automatically assigned after missing more than 3 classes before the semester midpoint (March 9th). A grade of 'WF' may be assigned when attendance stops after the midpoint.

There is no make-up policy for quizzes, exams, or discussion questions.

Papers lose a letter grade every 24 hours late.

Major Assignments

(Detailed guidelines in D2L)

Quizzes (Tuesdays)

All quizzes are on D2L and should be completed *before class* on the due date. Quizzes are designed to measure your reading comprehension. They are timed, but you may take each quiz twice. Quiz questions will be repeated in the exams' multiple choice sections.

Discussion Questions (Thursdays)

After watching each screening, respond to discussion questions with viewing notes and composed film analyses. Usually 3-5 questions per assignment. Due *before class* on the due date.

Sequence Analysis Paper (submit via D2L)

- (1) Shot list: Detailed shot list of a selected sequence (2-3 min). Due Tue, 4/28.
- (2) Sequence analysis (3-4 pgs): Analytical essay that explains how the documented techniques work in the sequence. Due Thurs, 4/30, by midnight.

Exams (Thursdays 2/13, 3/5, & 4/2)

Multiple choice questions (repeated from quizzes), matching terms, and short-answer questions. We will hold review sessions on Tuesdays before exams.

Resources and General Guidelines

EEO & Disability Statement

UNG will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students should notify Student Disability Services and their instructors of any special needs: <https://ung.edu/student-disability-services>. Your instructor should be notified on the first day of class with a current Accommodation Notification from SDS.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious offense. Do not submit work that has been copied in any way from another person or from a printed or internet source without naming that person or source. Any plagiarized paper will automatically receive an 'F', and any student who plagiarizes may receive an 'F' for the course. UNG students are expected to conduct themselves with the highest level of ethics and academic honesty at all times and abide by the terms set forth in the Academic Conduct Policy:

<http://ung.edu/dean-of-students/student-code-of-conduct/index.php>

Course Schedule

	<u>DUE (in D2L)</u>
W1: (T, 1/14) Intro (Th, 1/16) Read syllabus.....	Quiz #1
W2: (T, 1/21) Read Ch 1: Film History..... (Th, 1/23) Watch <i>Sherlock Jr.</i> (Keaton, 1924).....	Quiz #2 Discussion Qs #1
W3: (T, 1/28) Read Ch 2: Narration..... (Th, 1/30) Watch <i>Pulp Fiction</i> (Tarantino, 1994).....	Quiz #3 Discussion Qs #2
W4: (T, 2/4) Read Ch 3: Mise-en-scène..... (Th, 2/6) Watch <i>Beasts of the Southern Wild</i> (Zeitlin, 2012).....	Quiz #4 Discussion Qs #3
W5: (T, 2/11) Optional review session (Th, 2/13) EXAM #1	
W6: (T, 2/18) Read Ch 4: Cinematography: Camera placement & movement..... (Th, 2/20) Watch <i>Stutterer</i> (Cleary, 2015) (short).....	Quiz #5 Discussion Qs #4
W7: (T, 2/25) Read Ch 4: Cinematography: finish chapter..... (Th, 2/27) Watch <i>The Royal Tenenbaums</i> (Anderson, 2001).....	Quiz #6 Discussion Qs #5
W8: (T, 3/3) Optional review session (Th, 3/5) EXAM #2	
W9: (T, 3/10) Read Ch 5: Editing..... (Th, 3/12) Watch <i>The Graduate</i> (Nichols, 1967).....	Quiz #7 Discussion Qs #6
W10: (T, 3/17) Read Ch 6: Sound..... (Th, 3/19) Watch <i>Singin' in the Rain</i> (Kelly/Donen, 1952).....	Quiz #8 Discussion Qs #7

(M, 3/23) Spring break – No class

W12: (T, 3/31) Optional review session
(Th, 4/2) EXAM #3

W13: (T, 4/7) Read Ch 7: Genre.....[Quiz #9](#)
(Th, 4/9) Watch *The Matrix* (Wachowskis, 1999).....[Discussion Qs #8](#)

W14: (T, 4/14) Read Ch 8: Beyond Genre: Documentary[Quiz #10](#)
(Th, 4/16) Read Ch 8: Beyond Genre: Animation.....[Optional quiz](#)

W15: (T, 4/21) Read Ch 8: Beyond Genre: Experimental film.....[Quiz #11](#)
(Th, 4/23) Industry (no reading)

W16: (T, 4/28) CGI & digital cinema (no reading).....[Shot log](#)
(Th, 4/30) Conclusions.....[Sequence analysis paper](#)