



**Course Outline**

**UNIVERSITY STUDIES**

**FST 210**  
**An Introduction to Film Analysis**  
**Winter, 2014**

**3 CREDITS**  
**3 HOURS PER WEEK**

**INSTRUCTOR: Ryan J. Cox**

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**PHONE NUMBER:** (780) 791-4837  
**E-MAIL:** ryan.cox@keyano.ca  
**OFFICE NUMBER:** 211C  
**OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday	9:00 – 11:00 PM
Tuesday	1:00 – 2:00 PM
Friday	10:00 – 11:50 AM

Dr. Cox will be monitoring the Moodle chat room for the course during office hours. He will also be monitoring and communicating with students via twitter: @RyanJCoxPhD

**HOURS OF INSTRUCTION:**

This course is being offered via distance learning.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course introduces students to the critical analysis of films and filmmaking, with an emphasis on the art of the director. The course offers a survey of styles and genres from Canadian and international feature film. The majority of films are contemporary, but we will also examine a few classics to better understand on-going conventions, such as continuity editing.

**PRE-REQUISITE(S):**

6 credits in junior English or ARTH 101 and ARTH 102, or equivalent

**COURSE OUTCOMES:**

The successful student will be able to:

1. Define key theoretical and cinematic terms
2. Recognize and explain the technical aspects of filmmaking
3. Analyze and critique film as an art form
4. Write essays using one or more of the four basic approaches to film history

**REQUIRED RESOURCES:**

Bordwell and Thompson. *Film Art: An Introduction*. 10<sup>th</sup> ed. Toronto: Mc-Graw Hill  
 Gocsik, Barsam and Monahan. *Writing about Movies*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. New York: Norton  
 Jones, Zinnes, and Jolliffe. *The Guerilla Film Makers Pocketbook*. New York: contunuum

**Technical Requirements:**

- Computer with access to the Internet
- Web-browser compatible with Moodle
- Word Processing program
- DVD player and screen

**TOPICS TO BE COVERED:****Please Note:**

This course outline may be modified to facilitate unforeseen time constraints. Date and time allotted to each topic is subject to change.

Date	Topic/Film	Reading	Assignments	Notes
Jan 6-10	Introduction	Bordwell, Chapter 1; Gocsik, Chapters 1-2	Sign up for viewing notes	
Jan 13-17	Film Form <i>Notorious</i> (Hitchcock)	Bordwell, Chapters 2-3; Gocsik, Chapter 3		Jan 17: Courses dropped after this date will be designated “W”. (A withdrawal (W) is not reflected in your GPA)
Jan 20-24	The Mise <i>Double</i> <i>Indemnity</i> (Wilder)	Bordwell, Chapter 4; Jones, 118-141, 148-152		
Jan 27-31	Cinematography <i>Pulp Fiction</i> (Tarantino)	Bordwell, Chapter 5; Jones, 104	Film and video making workshop	
Feb 3-8	Editing <i>Halloween</i> (Carpenter)	Bordwell, Chapter 6; Jones, Chapter 4		
Feb 10-14	Sound <i>Singin’ in the Rain</i> (Donen and Kelly)	Bordwell, Chapter 7		

Feb 17-21	Style and Genre <i>Cry Baby</i> (Waters)	Bordwell, Chapter 8 (to pg 316) and Chapter 9; Sontag, “Notes on Camp”	Film #1 due Feb 21	Feb 17 Family Day
Feb 24-28				Reading Week
Mar 3-7	The Critical Discussion <i>The Big Lebowski</i> (The Coens)	Bordwell, 450- 454; Gocsik, Chapters 4, 6-7		March 7: Last day to Withdraw without Academic Penalty
Mar 10-14	Avant-Garde Film “Fireworks” (Anger); “Meditation on Violence” (Deren); On <i>Avant Garde: Experimental Cinema</i> : “Ballet Mechanique” (Leger),	Adorno and Horkheimer, “The Culture Industry;” Benjamin, “The Work of Art in Age of Mechanical Reproduction”	Essay due Mar 16	
Mar 17-21	Animation <i>My Neighbour Totoro</i> (Miyazaki)	Bordwell, Chapter 10		
Mar 24-28	Documentary <i>Grey Gardens</i> (The Maysles)	Rabinowitz, selections from <i>They Must Be Represented;</i>	Screening report Due Mar 28	
Mar 31-Apr 4	Canadian Film <i>Mon Oncle Antoine</i> (Jutra)	Monk, “Rooted in Realism;” Leach, “Not Just Another National Cinema”		Apr 1 Easter Monday
Apr 7-11	History/Analysis <i>Children of Men</i> (Cuaron)	Bordwell, Chapter 12	Film #2 due Apr 11	
Apr 14-18	The Big Finish/The Floor Show <i>Rocky Horror Picture Show</i>			April 17, Last day of classes April 18 Good Friday
April 22-30				Final Exams

**MOODLE**

Go to <http://ilearn.kevano.ca>

This course is supported through Moodle. Assignments, readings and handouts will be posted on Moodle. Login information will be provided by your instructor. For further instructions please see the Moodle handout.

**EVALUATION:**

Assignment	Percentage	Due Date
Response papers	20%	Ongoing
Screening Report	5%	March 28, 2014
Short Films	20%	April 11, 2013
Tumblr	10%	weekly
Essay	15%	Mar 16
Final Examination	30%	TBD

**Response Essays:** Students are required to complete a series of 4 short essays of 2-3 pages each in which they explore that week's reading in greater detail. Response papers are to be written about the readings in advance of classroom discussion. These essays should advance an argument about the text. These four essays are to be written at your discretion throughout the semester, however, only one paper can be submitted at a time and at least one response essay must be submitted by the week of Feb. 18. Marked out of 5. Participation in the Arts and Humanities Conference may be deemed equivalent to one response paper.

**Short Films:** Over the course of the semester students will make two short films. These films are to demonstrate student's understanding and application of the technical aspects of film as they have encountered them in the readings and the films viewed for this course. Each film is to be accompanied by a director's note (2-3 pgs) in which you explain what you did and how you did it. It is recommended that you pay close attention to the readings from Jones for a guide of how to construct a film on a budget. There will be a workshop the week of Jan. 27 on how to make movies/videos. There will also be an opportunity to screen your work at the Art and Humanities conference. Each film is worth 10%.

**Screening Report:** Students are expected to attend a public screening of a film (whether through the TIFF Series, Other Public Screenings or at the local theatre). After attending the screening, the student is expected to produce a short (3-4 pages) report on the experience describing what it is like to watch a film in a public theatre with an audience. It may be useful to compare the experience with the home viewing experience and to be aware of the material conditions under which you view the film. This is not about the film you watch, but about the viewing experience.

**Tumblr:** Students will make weekly contributions to a class Tumblr site. These contributions can take the form of film commentary, engaging the material that Dr. Cox has posted, discussing films that you have viewed outside of class or important film news, video or photo submissions

(these should always be accompanied by some text explaining why this is significant or interesting, the exception being links to vlogs or short films you've made and posted to youtube). Contributions will be graded as unsatisfactory, satisfactory or exemplary. The web address is: <http://filmkeyano.tumblr.com> (Use the submission option in the upper left, be sure to check the site regularly as Dr. Cox will be using it to offer analysis of the films).

**Essay:** For this assignment, you this expected to write an analytical essay on one of the films from the course. By analytical, I mean that you will write a thesis-based academic essay that analyzes some aspect of your particular text. This means you will be responsible for choosing a text and formulating a cogent argument about it. This assignment requires no research or secondary sources. Length 4-5 pgs. Use The readings from Gocsik to help develop your essay.

**Examinations:** The final exam will be a take home essay written during the University Studies examination period. A detailed, well researched, thesis driven essay on a text or texts from the course will be a key component of the exam.

### IMPORTANT NOTES

**Screenings:** Each week, there will be a screening of the film(s) that we are examining that week. While you are expected to view all of the films on the course, these screenings are optional. They do represent, however, an opportunity to view the film with the instructor and discuss your thoughts and feelings about the film with him and your colleagues in person. Where possible, films will be provided to you via the library. Some of the films are also available via the internet (whether through Netflix, YouTube, or the National Film board). If you choose, all of these films are in print and available for purchase. During the first week of classes, the instructor will email you to see if there is a time that works best for the group to have screenings. These screenings will be open to the public (unless otherwise indicated) so bring your friends.

**Late Policy:** Late work will be accepted, however, it will be penalized at a rate of 10%/Business Day. If it is turned in a week or more late, it will not be accepted. It should also be noted that late material will receive no feedback from the instructor. It is your responsibility to meet the due dates for the assigned material.

**Submitting Work:** There are three ways for you to submit written work to me for this class. Major assignments will be submitted electronically through moodle. Response papers and the like can be submitted in the following two ways: the first is to email the paper as an attachment (PDF or DOCX only please) and I will confirm receipt. The second is to drop the paper off to my office on campus. If I am not in slip it under the door. Either method is acceptable.

**Standards for Written Assignments:** Learning how to follow house style sheets is one of the most important skills a writer can develop. To aid you in your quest to learn these skills I have provided a document entitled "Standards for Written Assignments" on Moodle. If your paper does not conform to these standards, expect to lose marks.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TALK WITH ME. If you are experiencing difficulty with the material, I can't help if you don't let me know. If you are going to miss class or a due date for a legitimate reason I will accommodate you if possible, but only if I know.

**GRADING SYSTEM:**

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Grade Points</b>
<b>A+</b>		<b>4</b>
<b>A</b>	Excellent	<b>4</b>
<b>A-</b>		<b>3.7</b>
<b>B+</b>		<b>3.3</b>
<b>B</b>	Good	<b>3</b>
<b>B-</b>		<b>2.7</b>
<b>C+</b>		<b>2.3</b>
<b>C</b>	Satisfactory	<b>2</b>
<b>C-</b>		<b>1.7</b>
<b>D+</b>		<b>1.3</b>
<b>D</b>	Minimal Pass	<b>1</b>
<b>F</b>	Failure	<b>0</b>

Students intending to transfer to other institutions require a ‘C-’ as a minimum grade. Transfer information on each course is available at the [Alberta Council on Admission and Transfers](#).

Students who do not complete all the required work should not expect to pass the course. Students should consult:

<http://keyano.ca/current-students/students/exams>

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

January 10, 2014	Last day to Add for Academic Programs
January 17, 2014	Last Day to Drop Academic Programs
February 17, 2014	College Closed (Family Day)
February 24-1, 2014	Reading Week
March 7, 2014	Last Day to withdraw without Academic penalty
April 18, 2014	College Closed (Good Friday)
April 21, 2014	College Closed (Easter Monday)
April 17, 2014	Last day of classes
April 22-30, 2014	Final Exams



## COLLEGE POLICIES

### Equality, Equity and Respect

The Keyano College is committed to providing an environment of equality, equity and respect for all people within the College community. All members of this community are considered partners in developing teaching and learning contexts that are welcoming to all. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to use inclusive language to create a classroom atmosphere in which students' experiences and views are treated with equal respect and valued in relation to their gender, ethnic and cultural background, and sexual orientation.

*Students should consult:*

<http://keyano.ca/current-students/individual-rights>

### Plagiarism and Cheating

Every student expects to be treated and evaluated fairly in a course. Plagiarism and cheating robs everyone of this right.

No student may submit words, ideas or data of another student or person as his or her own in any writing, project, assignment, quiz, electronic presentation, exam etc. Any work used that is not the student's own must be clearly cited as belonging to someone else. There are penalties for using other's work and not citing it. The Student's Rights & Responsibilities document clearly outlines these penalties and the appeal process.

- No learner can obtain information from another student during an exam.
- No learner can bring unauthorized information (paper or electronic) into an exam or quiz.
- No student can submit work done in another course for grading in this course without the written prior approval of the course instructor.
- No student can submit copyright protected or commercially produced materials as part or all of an assignment without proper citation & permission.

### Student Rights & Responsibilities

Students should consult the Keyano College Credit Calendar or online at:

<http://www.keyano.ca/Media/Collections/Calendars/Keyano.Calendar1112-10-full.pdf>

### Specialized Supports and Duty to Accommodate

*Disability Support Services: Learner Assistance Program*

If you have a documented disability or you think that you would benefit from some assistance from a Disabilities Counsellor, please call or visit the Disability Supports Office 780-792-5608 to book an appointment (across from the library). Services and accommodations are intended to assist you in your program of study, while maintaining the academic standards of Keyano College. We can be of assistance to you in disclosing your disability to your instructor, providing accommodations, and supporting your overall success at Keyano College.

*Specialized Supports and Duty to Accommodate*

Specialized Support and Duty to Accommodate are aligned with the office of Disability Support Services: Learner Assistance Program (LAP) guided by federal and provincial human rights legislation, and defined by a number of Keyano College policies. Keyano College is obligated by legislation to provide disability-related accommodations to students with identified disabilities to the point of undue hardship.



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**UNIVERSITY STUDIES**

**FST 210 I**

**An Introduction to Film Analysis**

**Winter, 2014**

**3 CREDITS  
3 HOURS PER WEEK**

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**Ryan J. Cox, Instructor**

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**Date**

**Reviewed and approved by:**

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**Vincella Thompson, Chairperson**

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**Date**

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**Guy Harmer, Dean**

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**Date**