



CURRICULUM GUIDE: OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE

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|------------------------------|---|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Course Code | ENGL 223 | Course Title | Fiction into Films | | | |
| Credit Value | 3 | Department | English | | | |
| No. of weeks | 14 | Hrs. per week | <i>Lecture</i> | <i>Tutorial</i> | <i>Laboratory</i> | <i>Total</i> |
| | | | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Course Description | <p>The course is designed to help students analyze, understand, and appreciate works of literature and their film adaptations. Students will deepen their knowledge of the elements of fiction—plot, theme, character, setting, symbolism, point-of-view, style; as well as explore the elements of film—plot, theme, character, setting, symbolism—and film analysis—cinematography, lighting, acting, sound, directing. Students will apply these elements to enhance enjoyment and understanding of both literature and film. Students will read/view and compare and contrast selected novels, novellas, and short stories and their film adaptations. The course will focus on the basics of the adaptation theory, which will enable students to examine comparatively the media of writing and film.</p> | | | | | |
| Prerequisite(s) | 6 credits of first-year English | | | | | |
| Initial Articulation Targets | <i>UBC</i> | <i>SFU</i> | <i>UVic</i> | <i>UNBC</i> | <i>TRU</i> | |
| | ENGL 246 (3) | ENGL 2XX (3) | ENGL 2XX (1.5) | ENGL 2XX (3) | ENGL 2XXX (3) | |
| | For updated information on the transferability of this course, please consult the BC Transfer Guide, www.bctransferguide.ca | | | | | |
| Learning Outcomes | <p>Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read a work of fiction actively and critically. • Watch a film actively and critically. • Discuss, orally and in writing, the work of fiction in relation to its film adaptation. • identify and apply to a critical analysis the elements of fiction, including plot, theme, genre, character, symbolism, style, setting, point-of-view. • Identify and apply to a critical analysis the elements of film, including plot, theme, genre, setting, character, symbolism, cinematography, acting, directing, mise-en-scene. • apply critical thinking and analytical skills and abilities, while reading a work of fiction and viewing a film. • Discuss orally and write clear and fluent analyses and reviews of works of fiction and films. • Assess the relevance of the fiction and films studied to their own life and times. • Compare and contrast plot, form, aesthetics, character of a work of fiction and its film adaptation. • Identify valid and reliable sources, relevant to course content, in libraries and online and use sources ethically to reinforce the content of course assignments. • Develop and improve ability to assess the relevance of novels and films studied to students' own life and times, through writing assignments, small-group discussions and projects. | | | | | |



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| <p>Content</p> | <p>Core topics – all of the following will be covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review, with definitions, explanations, and examples, of the elements of fiction: plot, theme, character, setting, point-of-view, genre. • Instruction, with definitions, explanations, and examples, in the elements of film and filmmaking: plot, theme, character, setting, structure, genre, cinematography, acting, mise-en-scene, directing, lighting. • Instruction / explanation in the processes and the art of adapting a work of fiction for a screenplay. Issues the screenwriter must consider. Challenges they need to overcome. <p>Additional topics may also be covered, at the discretion of the instructor.</p> |
| <p>Methods of Instruction</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructor presentations / lectures/lessons. • Whole-class discussion on content of selected stories and films. • Small-group discussion and projects on course related issues. • Instructor assessment of and feedback on students' writing assignments. • Peer review of students' written work. • Canvas learning management system. • Orientation from College librarians. • Audio-visual presentations on course-related content. |
| <p>Required Textbook(s)</p> | <p>The following textbook(s) is/are required, or approved equivalent(s).</p> <p>Students will study in depth six to seven short stories/novellas/novels and view the films based upon these works of literature. Specific stories/novellas/novels and their corresponding films could be chosen from a wide range of texts representing various genres, styles, and historical periods of film and fiction; and showcasing various approaches to adaptation.</p> <p>The following list, not intended to be exhaustive, exemplifies texts that have been successfully used in the course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> by Jane Austen (1813). Film version directed by Joe Wright (2005). • <i>Wuthering Heights</i> by Emily Bronte (1847). Film version directed by Andrea Arnold (2011). • <i>Heart of Darkness</i> by Joseph Conrad. Film version <i>Apocalypse Now</i> directed by Francis Ford Coppola (1979). • <i>The Great Gatsby</i> by F. Scott Fitzgerald (1925). Film version directed by Baz Luhrmann (2013) and/or version directed by Jack Clayton (1974). • <i>The Maltese Falcon</i> by Dashiell Hammett (1930). Film version directed by John Huston (1941). • <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> by Harper Lee (1960). Film version directed by Robert Milligan (1962). • <i>The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie</i> by Muriel Spark (1961). Film version directed by Ronald Neame (1969). • <i>The Wonderful Wizard of Oz</i> by Frank Baum (1900). The classic technicolor film version directed by Victor Fleming (1939) and other versions. • <i>Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep</i> by Philip K. Dick. Film version <i>Blade Runner</i> directed by Ridley Scott (1982) along with a sequel <i>Blade Riddley 2049</i> directed by Denis Villeneuve (2017). • <i>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</i> by Lewis Carroll (1865), Various film versions including Tim Burton's <i>Alice in Wonderland</i> (2010). |



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sentinel by Arthur C. Clarke (1951); the novel version (1968) and film, 2001: A Space Odyssey directed by Stanley Kubrick (1968). • Super-toys Last All Summer Long by Brian Aldiss (1969). Film version AI: Artificial Intelligence directed by Steven Spielberg (2001). • The Secret Life of Walter Mitty by James Thurber. Film version directed by Ben Stiller (2013). • The Legend of Sleepy Hollow by Irving Washington (1820). Film version Sleepy Hollow directed by Tim Burton (1999). • The Curious Case of Benjamin Button by F. Scott Fitzgerald. Film version directed by David Fincher (2008). • Eisenheim the Illusionist by Steven Millhauser. Film version The Illusionist directed by Neil Burger (2006). • Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption by Stephen King (1982). Film version The Shawshank Redemption directed by Frank Darabont (1995). • Conclave by Robert Harris (2016). Film version directed by Edward Berger (2024). | | |
| Required Equipment and Technology | <p>Students are required to have a computer with internet access.</p> <p>The following resources are provided by the College:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office 365 • Student email | | |
| Homework Hours | At minimum, students can expect one hour of homework for every hour of instructional time. | | |
| Evaluation | <i>Component</i> | <i>% Value</i> | |
| | 3 x In-Class Writing Assignment/Take-Home Essay: compare and contrast a work of literature and its film adaptation | 25-30% | |
| | Midterm Examination | 15-20% | |
| | 3 x Oral Presentations | 15-20% | |
| | In-Class Activities/Participation | 10-15% | |
| Final Examination | 20-30% | | |
| Completion Requirements | The minimum grade to pass this course is D (50%). Unless otherwise stated, a minimum grade of C- (55%) is required for this course to fulfil a prerequisite. | | |
| Course Designer(s) | Derek Soles, Ph.D. Head, Department of English, Alexander College | Consultant(s), if applicable | Alexander College English instructors |
| Dean's Approval | Barbara Moon, Ph.D. Dean of Arts and Sciences, Alexander College | Dean's Approval Date | June 5, 2019 |
| Curriculum Committee Approval Date | June 5, 2019 | First Term Offered | Winter 2020 |
| Last Review Date | February 15, 2025 | Next Review Date | February 15, 2030 |



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Revision History

February 15, 2025- Course title changed from “Novels into Fiction” to “Fiction into Films”. Minor updates to the content and required textbooks by Derek Soles, Graeme Abernathy and Tomasz Michalak.

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