CURRICULUM GUIDE: OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE

Course Code	FILM 200	Course Title	Classical Hollywood Cinema			
Credit Value	3	Department	Humanities			
No. of weeks	14	Hrs. per week	*Lecture*	*Tutorial*	*Laboratory*	*Total*
			3	1	0	4

Course Description	This course transports students back in time to the Golden Age of Hollywood. Also known as Classical Hollywood, this course explores American cinema from the 1930s to 1960s, which is the most significant period of film production in American history. We begin with Classical Hollywood film form; students will learn how the studio and star systems informed the conventions and stylistic features of Classical Hollywood filmmaking. Students will also examine important American cultural and historical events while encountering different American genres, such as the western and the musical. We conclude by tracing the decline of the Studio System, as well as the emergence of the film school generation and the blockbuster.
Prerequisite(s)	ENGL 100, FILM 101 or FILM 102

Initial Articulation Targets	*UBC*	*SFU*	*UVic*	*UNBC*	*TRU*
	FIST 220 (3)	CA 237 (3)	AHVS 2XX (1.5)	ENGL 298 (3)	FILM 2300 (3)
	For updated information on the transferability of this course, please consult the BC Transfer Guide, www.bctransferguide.ca				

Learning Outcomes	Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to: • Identify the conventions and stylistic features of Classical Hollywood film form. • Explain how the Studio and Star System informed Classical Hollywood film form. • Analyze film from three different perspectives: historical, aesthetic, and cultural. • Trace major events that contributed to the development of Classical Hollywood filmmaking. • Explain why Classical Hollywood is the most significant period of film production in American history. • Differentiate between American genres and explain how they reflect American culture. • Describe how important historical and cultural events in American history like the Great Depression and the Cold War impacted the American film industry. • Deconstruct Classical Hollywood films through the lenses of gender and race, and in the context of Black and Indigenous histories. • Describe how Classical Hollywood cinema expresses and negotiates American identity. • Critically examine cultural representation in Classical Hollywood cinema. • Recognize Classical Hollywood's impact on and place within national and global film cultures today.

	• Synthesize cultural and historical knowledge with aesthetic and theoretical concepts while writing critical analyses of film.
Content	**Core** topics – all of the following will be covered: • Early Hollywood and the emergence of film sound; Singin' in the Rain (Gene Kelly & Stanley Donen 1952) • Classical Hollywood narration; His Girl Friday (Howard Hawks 1940) • Classical Hollywood style; Shadow of a Doubt (Alfred Hitchcock 1943) • The studio system; The Lady Eve (Preston Sturges 1941) • The star system; Gentlemen Prefer Blondes (Howard Hawks 1953) • The musical; Meet Me in St. Louis (Vincente Minelli 1944) • Film noir; Double Indemnity (Billy Wilder 1944); Detour (Edgar G. Ulmer 1945) • Horror; Night of the Living Dead (George Romero 1968) • The western; The Searchers (John Ford 1956); Sergeant Rutledge (John Ford 1960) • Hollywood and the Cold War; Invasion of the Body Snatchers (Don Siegel 1956) • The big decline; Bonnie and Clyde (Arthur Penn 1967) • The film school generation and the blockbuster; Jaws (Steven Spielberg 1975) Additional topics may also be covered, at the discretion of the instructor.
Methods of Instruction	Lectures and film screenings; class discussions and small group activities; one-on-one term paper consultations
Required Textbook(s)	The following textbook(s) is/are required, or approved equivalent(s). Belton, John. American Cinema/American Culture. 6th ed., McGraw-Hill, 2021.
Required Equipment and Technology	Students are required to have a computer with internet access. The following resources are provided by the College: • Office 365 • Student email
Homework Hours	At minimum, students can expect one hour of homework for every hour of instructional time.

	Component	% Value
Evaluation	Quizzes	20-30%
	Essay(s)	20-35%
	Final Exam	20-30%
	Tutorial Discussion Contribution	10-15%

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)	Molly Lewis, M.A., Alexander College	Consultant(s), *if applicable*	Dr. Christine Evans, Ph.D., University of British Columbia

Dean's Approval	Steven Roe, Ph.D., Dean of Arts and Sciences, Alexander College	Dean's Approval Date	February 23, 2022
Curriculum Committee Approval Date	February 23, 2022	First Term Offered	Fall 2022
Last Review Date	February 23, 2022	Next Review Date	February 23, 2027
Revision History	January 2, 2025 – English prerequisite increased to ENGL 100, effective Winter 2025		