



Course Specification

— (Bachelor)

Course Title: Art of Cinema

Course Code: MD4315

Program: BA in English Language

Department: Department of English

College: College of Social Sciences

Institution: Umm Al-Qura University

Version: 2

Last Revision Date: 2023



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A. General information about the course:

1. Course Identification

1. Credit hours:

3

2. Course type

A. University College Department Track Others

B. Required Elective

3. Level/year at which this course is offered:

Level 7

4. Course general Description:

Offered by the Department of Media, this is a required course for students in the Literature and Cultural Studies Track.

This course provides an overview of the foundations of the art of cinema from the point of view of the filmmaker, paying equal attention to issues related to film form and content. Through the screening and technical analysis of excerpts from a variety of feature films, students will learn the basic cinematic tools, conventions and choices involved in film production. Contextual issues will also be addressed with the purpose of highlighting the function of cinema as a cultural force in contemporary society; these will be discussed not only in terms of the place of cinema in popular culture but also in terms of its superior status as “the seventh art”. The course includes a practical component that will enable students to get hands on experience in the process of creating a micro-short film, which will form one of the required assignments in this course.

5. Pre-requirements for this course (if any):

Introduction to Visual Culture: Art, Film and Theatre

6. Co-requirements for this course (if any):

None.

7. Course Main Objective(s):

This course aims to provide students with the foundations of the art of cinema from the point of view of the filmmaker, exploring the technical, conceptual, and contextual factors that influence film production.



2. Teaching mode (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	3 hours per week	100%
2	E-learning		
3	Hybrid <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Traditional classroom ● E-learning 		
4	Distance learning		
5	Others		

3. Contact Hours (based on the academic semester)

No	Activity	Contact Hours
1.	Lectures	28 hours
2.	Laboratory/Studio	
3.	Field	
4.	Tutorial	
5.	Others: Exams	2 hours
Total		30 hours

B. Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs), Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge and understanding			
1.1	Critique the professional practices as well as the ethical and legal principles involved in the various approaches to movie making.	K3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traditional lecturing - Class discussion - Online discussion. - Examining creative content 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Open-book quizzes - Midterms and Finals
1.2	Examine the historical, social and cultural contexts that influence the filmmaking process.	K3		
1.3	Evaluate the contemporary digital technology used in film production.	K3		





Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
2.0	Skills			
2.1	Apply the basic principles, techniques and professional practices of filmmaking in the creation of short narrative films that contribute to KSA's 2030 vision.	S3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traditional lecturing - Class discussion - Online discussion - Creative workshop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative assignment
2.2	Utilize various forms of audio-visual technology in the production of films.	S3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traditional lecturing - Class discussion - Online discussion. - Creative workshop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative assignment
2.3	Create short films with excellent scripts skillfully and artistically.	S3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Class discussion - Online discussion. - Creative workshop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative assignment
3.0	Values, autonomy, and responsibility			
3.1	Demonstrate ethical behavior in all professional, personal and academic contexts.	V1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traditional lecturing - Class discussion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Class discussion
3.2	Work responsibly and autonomously when performing a task individually or within a team.	V2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Online discussion. 	

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1	The emergence and development of cinema as an art form.	3
2	The importance of cinematic art, and the most significant schools in filmmaking.	3
3	Film genres	3
4	Film production, its various stages and requirements.	3
5	Narrative films and film documentaries.	3





6	Film screenplays.	3
7	American, European, and Asian Cinema.	3
8	An introduction to cinema in the Arab world.	3
9	Cinema in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.	3
10	Practical applications and the production of micro-short films.	3
Total		30

D. Students Assessment Activities

No	Assessment Activities *	Assessment timing (in week no)	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1.	Midterm Exam: The exam should contain at least 10% subjective questions dedicated to measuring the students' ability to analyze and think critically. Students should be held responsible for language mistakes. A "reasonable" percentage of the grade should be allocated to language and punctuation problems.	6	30%
2.	Quizzes Assignments or Quizzes: - Teachers have a choice between implementing quizzes and exams such as open-book exams and reading quizzes or assignments. - Assignments can include annotations, short written responses or analytical essays. -Topics, guidelines and deadlines should be specified at the beginning of the course. Assignments should be marked for structure, punctuation, content and proper citation of sources. -A clear rubric should be followed.	Week 9	10%
3.	Discussion in class and online: Students should be encouraged to speak up and express their opinion on a variety of topics and issues related to the course.	Weekly	10%
4.	Final Exam: The exam should contain at least 20% subjective questions dedicated to measuring the students' ability to analyze and think critically. Students should be held responsible for language mistakes. A "reasonable" percentage of the grade should be allocated to language and punctuation problems	13	50%

*Assessment Activities (i.e., Written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.).





E. Learning Resources and Facilities

1. References and Learning Resources

Essential References	Rabiger, Michael and Mick Hurbis-Cherrier. <i>Directing: Film Techniques and Aesthetics</i> , 6 th edn. (London: Routledge, 2020)
	Coppola, Francis Ford. <i>Live Cinema and Its Techniques</i> . (New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 2017)
	Block, Bruce. <i>The Visual Story: Creating the Visual Structure of Film, TV, and Digital Media</i> . 3 rd Edition. . (New York: Routledge, 2020)
	Brown, Blain. <i>Cinematography: Theory and Practice – Image Making for Cinematographers and Director</i> . 3 rd Edition. (New York: Routledge, 2016)
	Conrad, Peter. <i>The Mysteries of Cinema: Movies and Imagination</i> . (New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 2021)
	Cook, David A. <i>A History of Narrative Film</i> . (New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 2016)
	Cook, Eileen. <i>Build Better Characters: The Psychology of Backstory & How to Use It in Your Writing to Hook Readers</i> . (The Creative Academy, 2019)
	Curtis, David. <i>Artists' Film</i> . (New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 2021)
	Gaspard, John. <i>Fast, Cheap & Under Control: Lessons Learned from the Greatest Low-Budget Movies of All Time</i> . (Studio City, CA: Michael Wiese Productions, 2020)
	Mercado, Gustavo. <i>The Filmmaker's Eye: The Language of the Lens – The Power of Lenses and the Expressive Cinematic Image</i> . . (New York: Routledge, 2019)
Morgan, Usher. <i>Lessons from the Set: A DIY Guide to Your First Feature Film, From Script to Theatres</i> . (Library Tales Publishing, 2018)	
Nichols, Bill. <i>Engaging Cinema: An Introduction to Film Studies</i> . (New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 2010)	
Sikov, Ed. <i>Film Studies: An Introduction</i> , 2 nd edition. (New York, Columbia University Press, 2020)	
Supportive References	
Electronic Materials	
Other Learning Materials	

2. Required Facilities and equipment



Items	Resources
facilities (Classrooms, laboratories, exhibition rooms, simulation rooms, etc.)	Classrooms
Technology equipment (projector, smart board, software)	Projectors
Other equipment (depending on the nature of the specialty)	NA

F. Assessment of Course Quality

Assessment Areas/Issues	Assessor	Assessment Methods
Effectiveness of teaching	Students	Institutionally controlled questionnaires (Direct)
Effectiveness of Students assessment	Peer Reviewer	Institutionally controlled questionnaires (Direct)
Quality of learning resources	Students	Institutionally controlled questionnaires / Peer-review procedure (Direct)
The extent to which CLOs have been achieved	Course Instructor	Institutionally controlled questionnaires (Direct)
Other		

Assessors (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify))

Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

G. Specification Approval

COUNCIL /COMMITTEE	DEPARTMENT COUNCIL
REFERENCE NO.	424040414453 / 132022
DATE	2023 - 1445

