



English 303-XX: Film & Literary Adaptation
7.5 Weeks Online

Semester:
Day(s):
Instructor:
Office Hours:
Phone Number:
Email:

Prerequisite/Co-Requisites: None



Course Description: This advanced English course provides students with a foundation in film studies through an intensive examination of the process of cinematic adaptation using films based on literature. These film and literary narratives will demonstrate a variety of genres and techniques. In addition to further developing reading strategies and academic writing skills, students will engage in scholarship associated with both narrative cinema and cultural studies. This includes an in-depth analysis of narrative, cinematography, composition, and audience as well as the application of critical theories. The class makes use of film screenings and academic research as the basis for critical essays that will allow students to become active readers, spectators, and critics.



Course Goal: Provide students with a foundation in film studies through the development of associated skills in academic writing, literary analysis, and cultural critique.



Required Texts: Library Research Starter
<https://goodwin.libguides.com/c.php?g=958998>



Recommended Text: Sikov, E. (2010). *Film studies: an introduction*. New York: Columbia UP. (Available via Research Starter.)



Required Films: (Available via course shell.)

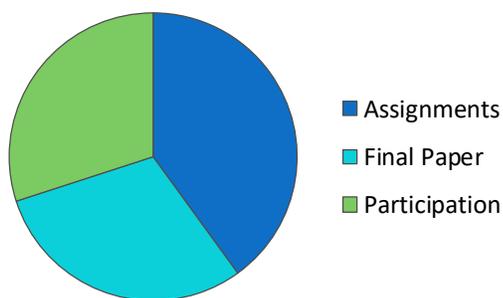


- *House of Usher* (1960). Dir. Roger Corman.
- "The Fall of the House of Usher" (2012). Dir. Raul Garcia.
- *Bartleby* (2001). Dir. Jonathan Parker.
- *Rashomon* (1950). Dir. Akira Kurosawa.

Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment Methods

<i>Learning Outcomes</i>	<i>Assessment Methods</i>
Demonstrate an understanding of literary genres, theories, and analysis	Evaluation of writing assignments and final research paper
Discuss dominant ideas and issues in film and cultural studies	Evaluation of discussion board
Identify the fundamental elements of filmmaking	Evaluation of discussion board and writing assignments
Analyze adaptation as a creative process	Evaluation of writing assignments
Demonstrate knowledge of the history and cultural significance of cinema	Evaluation of discussion board
Evaluate the relationship between fiction, film, and culture	Evaluation of discussion board and writing assignments

 **Grading Policy:** Your performance in this course is assessed using multiple, varied methods in the areas listed below and based on the expectations as described in the syllabus and outlined in assessment scoring guides or rubrics. If you do not understand the expectations, it is your responsibility to ask the instructor questions.



Writing Assignments	40%
Final Research Paper	30%
Class Participation	30%
Total:	100%

Coursework Expectations: This section of the syllabus contains a listing with brief descriptions of the assessment methods for this course. They are designed to align with the student-learning outcomes and provide you with varied ways to demonstrate mastery of the course content. *Additional instructions and related scoring guides or rubrics are posted to Blackboard.*

Blackboard



Discussion Board Participation

- Discussions will follow a Monday to Sunday schedule.
- A discussion prompt will be provided each week.
- Each student must post a response to the discussion prompt by Wednesday of each week. This post should be a minimum of two paragraphs in length and grammatically correct.
- Students must then post at least three responses to classmates throughout the rest of the week—for a total of four postings per week. These posts should be a minimum of at least one complete, substantive paragraph.
- You are required to post throughout the week, on at least three separate days. These are minimum requirements. You can post to each discussion as many times as you'd like.
- Each post should contribute to the discussion as well as illustrate that you have read the readings and have learned something from the readings or discussion.
- Members of the class are expected to maintain an environment of courtesy and respect at all times. The instructor reserves the right to remove any post in order to uphold the course's discussion standards.



Course Outline*

Date	Topics	Readings & Lectures	Assignments & Assessments
Unit 1	The Single Effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Edgar Allan Poe, “Review of Hawthorne’s <i>Twice-Told Tales</i>” (1842) ▪ Edgar Allan Poe, “The Philosophy of Composition” (1846) ▪ Edgar Allan Poe, “The Fall of the House of Usher” (1839) 	Writing Assignment 1: Analysis of the role of thematic unity in Poe’s “The Fall of the House of Usher”
Unit 2	The Film Narrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>House of Usher</i> (1960), Dir. Roger Corman (79 minutes) ▪ <i>Extraordinary Tales: “The Fall of the House of Usher”</i> (2015), Dir. Raul Garcia (15 minutes) 	Writing Assignment 2: Analysis of <i>mise-en-scène</i> and composition in Corman’s <i>House of Usher</i>
Unit 3	Point of View	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Herman Melville, “Bartleby the Scrivener” (1853) 	Writing Assignment 3: Creative proposal for a modern-day film adaptation of Melville’s “Bartleby the Scrivener”
Unit 4	Audience and Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Bartleby</i> (2001), Dir. Jonathan Parker (83 minutes) ▪ Gökşen Aras, “Literature and Film: Different Approaches to Two Narrative Forms” (2017) 	Writing Assignment 4: Analysis of adaptation and audience with regard to Parker’s <i>Bartleby</i>
Unit 5	Time and Memory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ryūnosuke Akutagawa, “In a Grove” (1922) 	Writing Assignment 5: Research proposal for final paper
Unit 6	Translation and Adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Rashomon</i> (1950), Dir. Akira Kurosawa (88 minutes) ▪ Stephen Prince, “The <i>Rashomon</i> Effect” (2012) ▪ Keiko I. McDonald, “Light and Darkness in <i>Rashomon</i>” (1982) 	Writing Assignment 6: Report on critical articles in film studies
Unit 7	Conclusions		Final Research Paper: Focused analysis of a major issue related to the process of cinematic adaptation

*This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

Class Policies



Blackboard: Blackboard contains class materials such as instructional videos, PowerPoints, worksheets, media, and links for submitting assignments. Be sure to **check Blackboard often** to stay up to date on announcements, new course materials, and other important information. **All assignments must be submitted on Blackboard.**



Timely Coursework Completion: Deadlines are an integral part of all professional careers. You are expected to manage your time and complete all coursework thoroughly and on time (e.g., readings, quizzes, exams, papers, projects, discussion board posts). Any coursework not submitted by the specified due date will result in a grade of “0” (zero) for that particular coursework, and a grade of “0” will be entered in the Blackboard gradebook. This practice provides you with real-time information on your grade for the course and maintains the integrity of the gradebook. In the absence of a medical excuse or prior arrangement with the professor, late submissions will be penalized 10 percentage points for every unit that the assignment is not turned in.



Course Decorum: We will create a positive learning environment in this online course. There is an expectation of respect and professionalism. The professional conduct policy includes but is not limited to:

1. Planning your schedule to avoid conflicts with the activities outlined in the syllabus.
2. Being an engaged and active participant in class discussions.
3. Demonstrating respect for instructors, peers, and self and treating others in a professional manner.
4. Abiding by Goodwin’s academic integrity policies.



Communication and E-mail: Students are expected to communicate in a professional manner (i.e., verbal, written, and electronic). The instructor will send course updates and announcements through Blackboard so **check your Goodwin e-mail account regularly.**



APA Style: This course follows APA style format for all written assignments. All written assignments must be produced using software that is compatible with Blackboard. Assessment of written assignments will include use of APA format, writing, grammar, quotations, and references. Academic Writer is also an available online for help with APA formatting:

<https://goodwin.libguides.com/academicwriter>



Academic Integrity: Plagiarism—presenting a text that is not your own as your own—will not be tolerated. Please review the Goodwin College Academic Integrity Policy and bring any concerns regarding research and citation to the instructor’s attention. Turnitin, an online service that provides various tools to prevent plagiarism, will be used to review assignments.



Expectations for Written Work: The following are basic expectations for all written work:

1. One-inch margin for all sides of the page (e.g., top, bottom, left, and right side of the page).
2. The font is 12 point.
3. The paper is double spaced.
4. The first page of the paper includes:
 - ✓ Your full name
 - ✓ The date of the submission
 - ✓ The course number and section
 - ✓ The name of the instructor

Goodwin University Policies and Services

This course adheres to all policies outlined in the Goodwin University catalog.

General academic policies of Goodwin University may be found on the university web site and in the university catalog:

<http://www.goodwin.edu/academics/catalogs.asp>

Student services information may be found on the Goodwin University website:

<https://www.goodwin.edu/student-affairs/> and <http://www.goodwin.edu/library/>