I. INTRODUCTION

A. This course when completed with a passing grade fulfills three semester hours credit. It counts toward fulfillment of the Performing Arts requirement in many performing arts related fields and is required for most Theatre Arts degrees. Various components of Cinema are explored.

B. This course will fulfill the Humanities requirement at Central Texas College and is a recommended elective in some areas. Intro to Motion Picture Art is a foundation course for all Theatre majors and serves as a general elective for any student.

C. This course is related to all Theatre & Cinematic Arts occupations and to any liberal arts study field.

D. Prerequisite: none

E. Alphanumeric coding used throughout the syllabus denotes the integration of SCANS occupational competencies (C) and Foundation skills (F).

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

A. Identify significant films of motion picture history.

B. Demonstrate an understanding and identify various cinematic themes.

C. Explore and examine film’s impact & relationship to society.

D. Discuss and identify cinematic and film making techniques.

E. Develop critical analysis relative to the art of film & criticism.

F. Comprehend major eras of film making.
III. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

A. The instructional materials identified for this course are viewable through www.ctcd.edu/books

B. References: (can be found at the Library’s Reserve Desk)

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Reading Assignments: students are expected to read all assigned work. Chapters will be announced and are included in the course outline.

B. Reviews: A number of films will be presented in class. Students will be expected to bring 10 newspaper or online reviews they’ve found for discussion. I will not accept a lump sum.

C. Clip Quizzes: Approximately 14 clip quizzes will be administered throughout the semester.

D. Film Screenings: a number of films will be viewed during the semester. Students are responsible for the content of all films screened.

E. Short Film Group Project: students will participate in a short film project as part of the grade for this class.

F. Class Participation: Students are expected to practice the following guidelines to ensure positive class participation:

1. Students are expected to attend every class, be on time, and remain throughout the class.
2. Students are expected to maintain civility, courtesy, and scholastic honesty. Any activity suggestive of scholastic dishonesty will result in a failing grade.
3. Students are expected to participate fully in class.
4. Students will be expected to maintain their work area.

V. EXAMINATIONS

In addition to the course requirements, there will be two examinations. You must obtain and use Scantron/NEC 19641 (blue form with 50 answers on front and back) for the exams. Examinations and Paper assignments are announced in advance on the following pages.

A. Mid-term (Textbook based)
VI. SEMESTER GRADE COMPUTATIONS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade Scale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>90-100= A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clip Quizzes (14)</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>80-89= B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film Reviews (10)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>70-79= C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Short Film</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>60-69= D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>59 or below=F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VII. NOTES & ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS

A. Withdrawal from course: If a student is unable to continue in the class, it is his/her responsibility to properly withdraw.

B. Administrative Withdrawal: Students may be administratively withdrawn from the class when their absentee exceed a total of four (4) class meetings in a sixteen week semester. Three times tardy will count as one absence.

C. Incomplete Grade: The college catalogue states, “an incomplete grade may be given in those cases where the student has completed the majority of the course work, but, because of personal illness, death in the family, or military orders, the student is unable to complete all the requirements for the course… It is the responsibility of the student to arrange with the instructor…to complete the course and change the “I” grade within the specified time.”

D. Make-ups: The student will be present and on time for all exams and exercises. If an emergency should occur and you are required to be absent from class, special arrangements should be made with the instructor.

E. Final Exam: will be administered on the scheduled day and time as published in the schedule bulletin unless noted otherwise.

F. Topic Approval: Films other than those listed in your book must be approved by the instructor.

G. Audience Behavior: Being a good audience member and team player is essential to understanding and discussing the nature of film.
II. Grading: Grading is highly subjective in theatre courses due to the artistic nature.

II. Tardy: Students are expected to arrive on time. If you are tardy check with the instructor at the end of class for missed important announcements. 3 times tardy equal 1 class absence. Only 4 absences are allowed during a sixteen-week semester.

J. Disability Support Services provide services to students who have appropriate documentation of a disability. Students requiring accommodations for class are responsible for contacting the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) located on the central campus. This service is available to all students, regardless of location. Explore the website at www.ctcd.edu/disability-support for further information. Reasonable accommodations will be given in accordance with the federal and state laws through the DSS office.

K. VIII. CLASS GROUND RULES

1. All discussions of your grade including assignments, attendance, tardiness, etc. should take place during office hours.

2. Turn off all cell phones, pagers, & other devices.

3. Although we are in an auditorium, proper classroom practices will be the student’s responsibility. Please do not leave the room during class. If you must leave, leave quietly. Do not allow the classroom doors to slam! Occasionally, you are given breaks—utilize these wisely and return promptly! If you should return from break after the agreed upon time you will be counted tardy.

4. NO FOOD OR BEVERAGE IN CLASS!

5. READ YOUR SYLLABUS! This is the first item I turn to when I am trying to help you with the class.

6. The classroom is an inappropriate place for children.

IX. COURSE OUTLINE

A. Lesson One: Themes & Narrative Structure in Cinema

1. Learning Outcome: Upon successful completion of this unit the student will demonstrate an understanding of themes in American Cinema. Also, the student will demonstrate an understanding of how a film tells a story. Both the Director’s concept and the Director’s expression will be explored.

2. Learning Activities:
   a. Instructor lecture & demonstration
b. Class discussion
c. Reading assignments: handouts
d. Written class exercises
e. Group discussion

(C1, C5, C6, C7, F1, F2, F5, F6, F7, F10, F11, F12, F13, F14)

3. Equipment & Materials:

4. Audio Visual Aids:
   Various VHS & DVD presentations

5. Lesson Outline:
   a. Introduction
   b. Exploration of Cinematic Themes
   c. Identifying themes
   d. Critical analysis techniques
   e. Group discussion

B. Lesson Two: Cinematic techniques, visual design, cinematography, Director’s Style, technical aspects.

1. Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this unit the learner will be able to identify various film techniques utilized by cinematographers.

2. Learning Activities:
   a. Instructor lecture
   b. Class discussion
   c. Reading assignments
   d. Written exercises over reading

   (C1, C5, C6, C7, F1, F2, F5, F6, F7, F10, F11, F12, F13, F14)

3. Equipment & materials
   as necessary

4. Audio-Visuels
   Various VHS & DVD films

5. Lesson Outline:
   a. Introduction to film stock
   b. Introduction to cinematic point of view
   c. Introduction to camera techniques
d. Color & light
e. Location & set shooting
f. Symbolism, motifs, metaphors
g. Integrating cinematic expression into critical analysis
h. Production process

**Lesson Three:** (laboratory component) 1 min. Group Film Exercise

2. **Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this unit the learner will be able to utilize and appreciate various film techniques utilized by cinematographers.

3. **Learning Activities:**
   e. Instructor lecture
   f. Class discussion
   g. Reading assignments
   h. Group exercise
   i. Production process

   (C1, C5, C6, C7, F1, F2, F5, F6, F7, F10, F11, F12, F13, F14)

4. **Equipment & materials**
   *as necessary*

5. **Audio-Visuals**
   Various VHS & DVD films

6. **Lesson Outline:**
   i. 1 min. Group Film lecture outline
   j. Pre-production process
   k. Production process
   l. Post-production process
   m. Integrating cinematic expression into critical analysis
   n. Film analysis and discussion