

**Film 2700 – History of Motion Pictures**  
**Spring 2005**

Mondays & Wednesdays, 12 pm to 1:15 pm  
5 Aderhold Learning Center

Mr. Bryan Cardinale–Powell  
Room 729, One Park Place  
Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays, 10 to 11:30 am, or by appointment

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**Course Description:**

This course acquaints students with an historical perspective on some of the aesthetic, cultural, economic, and technological trends affecting motion pictures from their origins in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century through the present.

**Required Text:**

Mast and Kavin, *A Short History of the Movies, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition*. Longman: New York, 2002.

Readings assigned for this course were carefully selected to complement class activities and screenings. Therefore, **reading assignments should be completed before attending class.**

**Course Requirements:**

As outlined below, there will be four exams in this class. Each exam will likely consist of multiple-choice items derived from the text, screenings, and lectures. **No cheating and/or academic dishonesty in any form will be tolerated in this course.** Please refer to the Policy on Academic Honesty explained on pages 103 through 109 of the online student handbook available at <http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwcam> for further details.

The last exam will be comprehensive in the sense that some exam questions will be designed to test your knowledge of topics covered throughout the semester, though the majority of questions will pertain to the material covered in the last quarter of the course.

As an alternative, you may choose to submit a 5–7 page Essay in lieu of Exam 3. If you choose to exercise this option, you must declare your intention on or before the date of Exam 2, and the Essay will be due on or before the date of Exam 3. **No late Essay submissions will be accepted, and you may not submit both the Essay and Exam 3.** Additional details regarding the Essay will be distributed in class.

A record of your attendance will not be kept for grading purposes. However, you will no doubt find that your Exams will be much easier to complete successfully if you regularly attend class.

Make-up exams and grades of Incomplete (I) are reserved solely for verifiable, extreme situations.

**Grading:**

The grading scale is consistent with the scale administered by the University:

90–100	A
80–89	B
70–79	C
60–69	D
0–59	F

Students will earn final grades based on the following formula:

25%	Exam 1
25%	Exam 2
25%	Exam 3 or Essay
25%	Exam 4 (Final)

**March 4<sup>th</sup> is the last day students can withdraw from this class and receive a grade of W.** If you choose to withdraw from this course, please be sure to follow the Registrar's procedure to make sure your withdrawal is official before the deadline, otherwise you will receive an F for the course.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time during the semester to discuss your classroom performance. **They're your grades. You earn them.**

**Tentative class schedule**

Changes may be necessary due to unforeseen circumstances

January 10	<b>Course introduction</b> <b>Origins of motion pictures</b>		7	<b>SPRING BREAK **NO CLASS**</b>
12	<b>Early audiences and the development of narrative technique</b> Read: Chapters 2, 3		9	<b>SPRING BREAK **NO CLASS**</b>
17	<b>MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY</b> <b>**NO CLASS**</b>		14	<b>American cinema in transition</b> Read: Chapter 12
19	<b>American accomplishments in the silent era</b> Read: Chapters 4, 6		16	<b>Italian Neorealism</b> Read: Chapter 13, pgs. 325-345
24	<b>German cinema of the 1920's</b> Read: Chapter 7		21	<b>Screen: <i>Rome, Open City</i> (1945, 100 min.)</b>
26	<b>Screen: <i>The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari</i> (1920, 67 min.)</b>		23	<b>French New Wave</b> Read: Chapter 13, pgs. 348-379
31	<b>Soviet Montage</b> Read: Chapter 8		28	<b>Screen: <i>The 400 Blows</i> (1959, 94 min.)</b>
February 2	<b>EXAM 1</b>		30	<b>British Free Cinema</b> Read: Chapter 14, pgs. 391-405
7	<b>Sound and the 1930's</b> Read: Chapter 9		April 4	<b>Asian cinema</b> Read: Chapter 14, pgs. 415-455
9	<b>French cinema of the 1930's</b> Read: Chapter 10		6	<b>EXAM 3</b>
14	<b>Screen: <i>La Grande Illusion</i> (1937, 114 min.)</b>		11	<b>American Renaissance</b> Read: Chapter 15
16	<b>Hollywood Heyday</b> Read: Chapter 11		13	<b>Screen: <i>Shadows</i> (1959, 87 min.)</b>
21	<b>Hollywood censorship &amp; auteurs</b>		18	<b>Film school generation</b>
23	<b>Screen: <i>His Girl Friday</i> (1940, 92 min.)</b>		20	<b>The Blockbuster &amp; alternatives</b> Read: Chapter 17
28	<b>Hollywood Studio Era wrap-up</b>		25	<b>Screen: <i>To Sleep with Anger</i> (1990, 101 min.)</b>
March 2	<b>EXAM 2</b> <b>**MARCH 4<sup>th</sup> IS LAST DAY FOR WITHDRAWAL**</b>		27	<b>Final wrap-up</b>
			May 2	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>