Spring, 2016   FILM 180   Bruce G. Nims

Handouts

There will be no assigned text for this course. There will be required and testable readings, but the
instructor will provide them in the form of printed handouts and links to online materials. All
handouts and links will be accessible through the instructor’s Faculty Web Page.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will gain a basic knowledge of the international history of film and the
   works of representative filmmakers by means of film viewing, discussion, lecture,
   and background reading.

2. Students will gain a broader knowledge of other cultures and their dramatic heritage
   by viewing and discussing at least one foreign film.

3. Students will demonstrate an ability to analyze films both dramatically and technically
   by identifying crucial creative figures and trends, responding to essay prompts on
   content and technique, and preparing a critical review of a contemporary film.

Course Outline

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March

Feb.29-Mar. 2  Stagecoach  Test #2

7-9  Spring Break

14-16  Wages of Fear

21-23  Wages of Fear

28-30  Test #3

April

4-6  2001: A Space Odyssey

11-13  2001: A Space Odyssey

18-20  Film TBA

25  Test Review  Critical Review Due

27 (Final Exam Day)  Test 4

Policies

Testing: All the major tests will consist of definition, identification, and essay questions, with the essay questions given the greater weight. Test questions will be drawn from the assigned text, the lectures, and the films themselves. I will accept a 750-word essay in lieu of one of the major tests. Each essay's grade will count the same as the test grade. Arrangements for such an essay must be made at least one week in advance of the test for which the essay will be substituted. The final examination will not be cumulative.

Grading: Each of the three major tests, the final examination, and the critical review will count one-fifth of the final grade. The final examination will simply be a fourth major test on the material covered from April 4 to 25. The grading scale is as follows: A, 90-100; B, 80-89; C, 70-79; D, 60-69; F, below 60.

The Critical Review: A requirement of this course is to see one of the movies nominated in a major category at the Academy Awards (Best Picture, Best Actor or
Actress, Best Director) and write a critical review of it using the knowledge that you have gained from the course. Your essay should 800-1200 words, typed or word-processed.

**Film Viewing:** After they are shown in class, all of the films for the course will be available to check out to view in the library. All of the films (except some of the early silent shorts) should also be accessible through online services as well.

**Academic Honesty:** All tests will be administered under an honor system. To help the honor system work, the following policies are in effect: (1) On test days do not bring any books, notes, or paper to the classroom—only your pen. I will provide all paper. (2) If you observe dishonesty of any kind during the test, please report it to me. I will protect your anonymity. (3) I will investigate any evidence of dishonesty, to include plagiarism on out of class papers, and if such dishonesty is proved, I will impose sanctions. These sanctions may involve failure for the test or essay, failure for the course, or dismissal from the course.

**Academic Disturbance Policy:** Disturbances in classes, labs, during field trips, lectures, presentations, and other academic activities may result in one or more of the following sanctions: verbal reprimand, written warning, permanent dismissal from the class, suspension from the University for a period of time, or permanent suspension from the University. If a student is dismissed from a class after the last day to withdraw from classes, the student will receive an F grade in the class. A student may appeal verbal reprimand, written warning, or permanent dismissal from the class to the Academic Dean. A student may appeal suspension from the University for a period of time or permanent suspension from the University to the Vice Provost for Regional Campuses.

**Attendance:** Because class attendance is essential for the film viewings, **anyone with more than three unexcused absences will be subject to a grade penalty.** You can be excused for an absence in three ways: (1) prior agreement with the instructor; (2) legible physician’s or clinic excuse for illness or injury; (3) obituary or funeral program for a death in the family. Once I have warned you about habitual tardiness, each tardiness to class will count as one-half an absence. If, for any reason, you believe that you will have difficulty attending classes or completing the requirements for the course, drop this class by the official drop date (March 3) to save your GPA.

**Electronic Media Policy**

Turn off and stow away all cell phones and other electronic media devices, including laptop computers, before class starts. If you are expecting an important call, let me know before class, and I will give permission to keep your phone on and answer it if necessary. You can also use your device at the end of class to record assignments or photograph the whiteboard. If I see or hear your electronic communication device, you will be warned; you can be dismissed for the day if you do not heed the warning.
Office Hours (Bradley 218):

MW: 10:00-11:30 a.m.; 2:00-3:00 p.m.
TTh: 11:00 a.m-12 noon, 2:00-3:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:00 -9:00 a.m.
Office Phone-- 803-313-7047
Home Phone-- 803-547-0291 (before 9 p.m.)
E-Mail-- Bnims@mailbox.sc.edu