

Bossier Parish Community College  
Master Syllabus

**Course Prefix and Number:** HMAN 203 **Credit hours:** 3

**Course Title:** Film and Culture

**Course Prerequisites:** None

**Textbook(s):** Bill Nichols, *Engaging Cinema: An Introduction to Film Studies*

**Course Description:** An introductory course in understanding the appreciation of film aesthetically, as an art form, and culturally, as a reflection of social values. Knowledge of film and of literature will be enhanced by the readings which accompany the presentation of each film.

**Learning Outcomes:**

At the end of this course, the student will be able to

- A. gain an appreciation of a variety of cinematic works as products of historical context, geographic locations and social values;
- B. demonstrate an ability for critical commentary about film from a multi-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary perspective;
- C. develop his or her capacity to analyze, write about, and discuss cinema as a cultural artifact; and
- D. gain an understanding of film formally, demonstrating the ability to distinguish between genres, and a mastery of concepts and vocabulary related to film studies.

To achieve the learning outcomes, the student will

(The letter designations at the end of each statement refer to the learning outcome(s).)

- 1. watch and analyze selected cinematic works, identifying the historical context, geographic location, and social values reflected within the film (A)
- 2. read multi-disciplinary contextual material relevant to selected films in order to develop critical commentary skills(B)
- 3. create informal written evaluations, discussion points, as well as a formal paper or presentation related to the selected films (C)
- 4. engage in critical thinking via the interpretation of film related to content, focusing on formal elements, genre, historical context, geographic locations, and social values (A, B, C, D).

**Course Requirements:** Students are responsible for completing all course assignments, including plot summaries, film dialogues, a critical paper or presentation, quizzes, and tests. Evaluation of assignments and tests will be based on accuracy of knowledge, effectiveness of communication, and timeliness of work completed. Attendance and participation in class discussions are required for this course.

**Course Grading Scale:**  
90 – 100 A  
80 – 89 B  
70 – 79 C  
60 – 69 D  
0 – 59 F

**Course Fee:** None

**Nondiscrimination Statement**

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