

**Bossier Parish Community College
Master Syllabus**

Course Prefix and Number: COMM 240 **Credit Hours:** 3

Course Title: American Cinema

Course Prerequisites: None

Textbook: Petrie, Dennis W. and Boggs, Joseph M. *The Art of Watching Film*. 9th Edition.

Course Description: This course develops an appreciation of American film from the silent era to the present day and is designed to enhance the student’s ability to think, speak, and write critically in an increasingly visual and technological culture.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course the student will

- A. recognize the changes from the earliest days of the cinema to present day film;
- B. write formal film criticism; and
- C. effectively conduct film related research.

To achieve the learning outcomes, the student will

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

- 1. identify the Kinetoscope, the rise of the nickelodeon, and the development of “talkies.” (A)
- 2. critique two movies involving the different film genres. (B)
- 3. research and write a paper on film concerning the history of the cinema or other film related topics. (C)

Course Requirements: This course requires attendance, class participation, assignments, exams, and projects as determined by the instructor.

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

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