

**Bossier Parish Community College  
Master Syllabus**

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

**Course Title:** American Cinema

**Course Prerequisites:** None

**Textbook:** Cook, David. *A History of Narrative Film*. 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

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

**Attendance Policy:** The college attendance policy is available at <http://www.bpcc.edu/catalog/current/academicpolicies.html>

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#### COORDINATOR FOR SECTION 504 AND ADA

Angie Cao, Student and Disability Services Specialist

Disability Services, F-254, 6220 East Texas Street, Bossier City, LA 71111

318-678-6511

[acao@bpcc.edu](mailto:acao@bpcc.edu)

Equity/Compliance Coordinator

Teri Bashara, Director of Human Resources

Human Resources Office, A-105

6220 East Texas Street

Bossier City, LA 71111

Phone: 318-678-6056

Hours: 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday, excluding holidays and weekends.