

ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE
Humanities and Fine Arts Division
Mass Communication Program

COM 251 Film History and Appreciation PCS 1.1

IAI: F2 905

Film History and Appreciation is a survey of film as an art form and industry. Particular emphasis is placed on lighting, sound, genre characteristics, image composition, editing, criticism, and social implications.

Credit: 3 Lect: 3 Lab: 0

Course Objectives:

- To demonstrate an understanding of the history of film and terminology of the film trade.
- To analyze genre, director, purpose, subject matter, screen writer, editor, cinematographer, and talent factors in a film.
- To demonstrate an understanding of the social implications of films.
- To demonstrate an understanding of basic film theories

Course Topic Outline:

Early Film

- A. Camera Development
- B. Early Films
- C. Montage
- D. Silent Film
- E. Talkies

Modern Film

- A. The 40's
- B. The 50's
- C. The 60's
- D. The 70's
- E. The 80's
- F. The 90's
- G. Films of the new Millennium

Personnel Roles

- A. Producer
- B. Director
- C. Cinematographer
- D. Screen Writer
- E. Actors
- F. Editors

Film Theory

- A. The Auteur Theory
- B. Cinema Verite
- C. Direct Cinema
- D. Narrative

Method of Student Assessment:

Students will write a paper discussing an aspect of early film using proper film industry terminology.
Students will write a paper analyzing one film from the film list discussing film composition factors.
Students will view a series of films and analyze their social implications in written work.
Students will write reaction papers to basic film theories.

Required Readings (And Supplies):

Stanley, Robert. Making Sense of Movies. 1st edition. McGraw-Hill 2003.

Recommended Readings (And Supplies):

Several articles will be distributed in class.

Date Submitted: 10/2000

Review Dates: 02/2004