

ENGL 4337-110 Film Auteurs

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Office Hours:

Available by appointment. Appointments can be made over email.

Mode of instruction and course access:

This course is a face-to-face course, although some material will be posted in the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>]. This means that you will need to be able to log into the Canvas learning system. Those who have problems with Canvas should contact Help Desk Central.

24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]

Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.

911 Cellular:

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas
911Cellular is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in 911Cellular through their myCT email account.

Connect at [911Cellular](https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Texas-AM-Central/alert-management) [<https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Texas-AM-Central/alert-management>] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in 911Cellular, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

Course Information:

Overview and description:

This course introduces students to the concept of the auteur. Attention will be given to the critical discussion of this concept and the ways that it has impacted film scholarship. Toward the end of the course, we will apply these critical insights to four sets of films.

Course Objectives (by the end of the course, students will be able to):

- Define several different concepts of authorship
- Describe the ways ideas of authorship have influenced film study
- Use auteur theory to identify a host of authors in one film
- Support an argument over some set of films relevant to auteur theory
- Develop an original essay over a well-defined auteur

Textbook:

Auteurs and Authorship: a film reader, edited by Barry Keith Grant, Blackwell Publishing, 2008, ISBN 9781405153348

Assignments--this course will have two types of assignments:

- 1) Daily assignments—a daily assignment will be due at the beginning of each class session where the assignment is to “read” some chapter. We have 16 such class sessions. On these days, in addition to arriving to class having read your chapter, you will also need to bring with you a typed discussion of the most useful idea from our reading. These discussions will exist in two parts. Part one will present the idea you found most promising from our reading. Part two will explain what makes the idea useful. Both parts should be around 100 words. The entire response should be around 200 words. Your response should be typed and ready to submit at the beginning of the class. Each daily assignment is worth up to ten (10) points.
- 2) Essays—an essay will be due at the beginning of each class session marked “reflections.” We have three such classes. The specifics for each essay will be presented, negotiated and finalized in the class before the essay is due. The first two essays will be theoretical. The last essay will balance some theoretical discussion with some application. All three essays will be argument driven and will use the chapters we read and, in the case of the last essay, the movies we watch, as our evidence. Each essay is worth up to one hundred (100) points.

Grade Calculations—collectively, these assignments can total up to 460 points:

Daily Assignments (10x16): 160 possible points

Essays (3x100): 300 possible points

A student needs 414 points to earn an A; 368 points to earn a B; 322 points to earn a C; and, 276 points to earn a D. Any point total below 276 earns an F

A point system like this does not result in borderline grades. Please take every assignment as seriously as you can to avoid the frustration of “just missing” a letter grade.

Course Calendar:

8-28	Discussing Film and Author(ed/less) texts
8-30	Read the Intro and Present an authored and an anonymous text
9-4	Read Truffaut and Bazin
9-6	Read Cameron and Sarris
9-11	Read Perkins
9-13	Read Buscombe
9-18	Read Wood
9-20	Discuss Essay One
9-25	Reflections
9-27	Read Petrie
10-2	Read Johnston and Martin
10-4	Read Koszarski
10-9	Read Corliss
10-11	Read Vidal
10-16	Read Lehman
10-18	Read Christensen
10-23	Read Bernstein
10-25	Discuss Essay Two
10-30	Reflections
11-1	Networks (Introduce Essay Three)
11-6	Read Yacowar
11-8	Discuss first set of films
11-13	Continue discussion of first set of films
11-15	Read piece from the Editors of <i>Cahiers du Cinéma</i>
11-20	Discuss second set of films
11-27	Continue discussion of second set of films
11-29	Read Watkins
12-4	Discuss third set of films
12-6	Continue discussion of third set of films
12-11	Final Reflections

Course Policies:

Late Work

This course does not accept late work. A zero will be recorded for any assignment is not ready to be submitted at the time an assignment is collected. Should a student know a class will be missed, that student can send an email with an attachment of the work due for that particular day. Emails must arrive at or before 2:29pm on the day the class meets to be accepted.

Drop Policy

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete a [Drop Request Form](https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop_Request_Form.pdf) [https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop_Request_Form.pdf].

Professors cannot drop students; drops are the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide on the University Calendar a deadline for which the form must be completed, signed and returned. Once you return the signed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. Attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Students that find themselves facing an unexpected, life altering circumstance before the drop deadline published on the academic calendar should drop the course. Should a student encounter an unexpected, life altering circumstance after the drop deadline, that student may be eligible for an incomplete so long as all work due before the circumstance has been submitted and the student has a reasonable chance to pass the course should the work be completed as soon as the circumstance resolves itself. No student should expect to receive an incomplete.

Academic Integrity

Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the course.

Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student's academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student's work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be reported to the university's Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university's standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity.

University Resources:

The University Writing Center

Located in 416 Warrior Hall, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University-Central Texas is a free workspace open to all TAMUCT students. Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. Ideally, by providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, the tutors can highlight the ways in which a text will be read and interpreted, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process.

If you have any questions about the University Writing Center, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu.

University Library

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 72,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On-campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available twenty-four hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](https://tamuct.libguides.com/) [https://tamuct.libguides.com/].

Academic Accommodations

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier free education. The Department of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the University's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Department of Access and Inclusion at (254) 501-5831. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such. For more information please visit our [Access & Inclusion](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html) webpage [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html].

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. For more information, please visit <https://www.tamuct.departments/index.php>. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines online](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf), please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who

are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit the [Student Affairs](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html) web page [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html]. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines online](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf), please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title IX Coordinator.

Program Assessment

The English program uses student assignments to determine if they are meeting departmental learning outcomes. To that end, some of the projects you complete for this course may be used for programmatic assessment. An effort is made to remove all identifying markers from any artifact used in this manner. Your identity should, therefore, be protected. Still, please let your instructor know by the end of the first week if you do not want your work used in this way. Contact your instructor if you have any questions or concerns about this process.

Copyright Notice

Assume that all course material is copyrighted by the respective author. Reproduction of course material is prohibited without consent by the author (instructor). Violation of copyright is against the law and Texas A&M University-Central Texas' Code of Academic Honesty. All alleged violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. All changes will be announced in class. Failure to hear an announcement is not grounds for failing to respond to an announced change.