

# ENGL 3335-115 - Fall 2022

## Introduction to Film Studies

# Texas A&M University-Central Texas

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**Office Hours:** Available online by appointment. Appointments can be made over email or text.

**Phone:** (903) 573-5124 (Text first or I won't answer.)

### Mode of instruction and course access:

This course is a 100% online course, which means that all required interactions will occur in the Texas A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>]. This course will not have any synchronous components, which means that all requirements can be met without meeting regularly. That said, this is not a self-paced class. Students will need to meet the stated deadlines to earn credit for assignments. Those who fail to meet a deadline will forfeit all credit for that assignment. Revisions are allowed, but only for assignments that first meet the required deadlines.

### Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas

**SAFEZONE.** SafeZone provides a public safety application that gives you the ability to call for help with the push of a button. It also provides Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate emergency information quickly via push notifications, email, and text messages. All students automatically receive email and text messages via their myCT accounts.

Downloading SafeZone allows access to push notifications and enables you to connect directly for help through the app.

You can download SafeZone from the app store and use your myCT credentials to log in. If you would like more information, you can visit the [SafeZone](http://www.safezoneapp.com) website [[www.safezoneapp.com](http://www.safezoneapp.com)].

To register SafeZone on your phone, please follow these 3 easy steps:

1. Download the SafeZone App from your phone store using the link below:
  - [iPhone/iPad](https://apps.apple.com/app/safezone/id533054756): [<https://apps.apple.com/app/safezone/id533054756>]
  - [Android Phone / Tablet](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.criticalarc.safezoneapp) [<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.criticalarc.safezoneapp>]
2. Launch the app and enter your myCT email address (e.g. {name}@tamuct.edu)
3. Complete your profile and accept the terms of service

**For updates on COVID information, please monitor the University [website](https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/) [<https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/>]**

### Course Description:

This course examines movies both as dramas – involving plot, characterization, theme, etc. – and artistic productions – involving shots, cuts, and other cinematic techniques.

### Course Objectives:

#### Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Define and discuss cinematic techniques of narrative and style
- Utilize the concepts of cinematic narrative and style to produce informed descriptions of film
- Situate films within the technological, industrial, and economic concerns in which they exist
- Demonstrate an ability to assign form (the final shape of film) rather than simply receive it
- Criticize the cultural ideologies at work within a film
- Relate a film to the narrative strategies used in Classic Hollywood films
- Compose a descriptive analysis of the stylistic choices made in a film

### Required Text:

Bordwell and Thompson, *Film Art: an introduction*, 12<sup>th</sup> edition, McGraw-Hill, 2020,

ISBN 9781260056082

This course also makes use of a number of other texts and film clips. These can be found in the professorial remarks for each unit. Please regard each of these materials as an important part of our class.

### Course Requirements:

This course has five gradable categories of assignments:

#### Definition Assignments

The definition assignment offers you the opportunity to prepare a very specific type of academic paragraph over one of twenty key concepts discussed in an assigned chapter. Specifics for this assignment are in the assignment overview in Canvas. Each presentation is worth up to 25 points. We have seven definition assignments, one for units two-seven, which means that the definition assignment can contribute up to 250 points toward your final point total.

### Discussions

Discuss something you consider important or that you found interesting in the chapter. Use examples from the chapter and/or from a film of your choice. Be sure to cite information you use from the chapter. (Initial post due Fridays by 6 a.m. - 2 responses due by 6 a.m. Mondays). Responses should be substantive and address the other students by name. Each response is worth up to 25 points. We have 10 initial posts and responses, which means that short responses can contribute up to 250 points toward your final point total.

### Short Responses

Short Responses are similar to practice responses in that they offer you the opportunity to connect the ideas in the reading to a specific moment in film. Specifics for these assignments are in the Assignments and Pages overviews in the Index on the class page. Carefully read both before beginning the assignment. Each original response is worth 25 points. We have 10 original responses, one for units one, two, and four through seven, which means that original responses can contribute up to 250 points toward your final point total.

### Section Essays over Narrative, Style, and Types of Films

These Section Essays offer you the opportunity to measure your film (anything released after 1980) against the characteristics of classic Hollywood films. The emphasis of this assignment is to measure a film against these characteristics rather than to just compare and contrast traits. Few films fully align or fully depart from these traits. Most films follow these traits in degrees and depart from them in similar fashion. Your job on Section Essay is to discuss these consistencies and departures in the film of your choice.

Specific guidelines for these assignments are provided in the assignment tab in CANVAS. These Section Essays are worth up to 50 points each.

### Final Summative Essay

The final essay offers you the opportunity to measure your film against the societal, political, religious, and cultural characteristics of narratives of the time period you choose. The emphasis of this assignment is also to measure a film against the characteristics defined in the readings rather than just compare and contrast traits. Few films fully align or fully depart from these traits. Most films follow these traits in degrees and depart from them in a similar fashion. Your job in the Final Essay is to discuss these consistencies and departures in the film of your choice.

**As I stated at the beginning of the course, if you can, pick a film(s) and director you love to watch and gather information about those films and director throughout the semester. (Feel free to use Eastwood, the research I have provided, and to draw from your previous responses if you want.)**

Specific guidelines for this assignment are also provided in the assignment tab in CANVAS. You will submit your assignment in the way you submit your original responses. Please use only Microsoft Word and APA or MLA styles for this assignment. The Final Essay has averaged between 1500 and 2500 words (just an arbitrary figure), should contain in-text citations, a References or Works Cited page, and is worth up to 300 points.

### Grading

Final Grades will be calculated using the following assignment points:

Discussion Posts	10@25	250
Definitions	10@25	250
Short Responses	10@25	250
Section Essays	3@50	150
<u>Final Summative Essay</u>		<u>300</u>
<b>Total Points Available</b>		<b>1200</b>

### Posting of Grades

Students will be able to track their grades throughout the semester using the grade book in CANVAS.

### Course Outline and Calendar

<b>Week 1</b>	Personal Introduction Discussion and - Part 1 - Chapter 1 (not graded)
<b>Week 2</b>	Short Response - Chapter 2 - 150 - 300 words, Due by 6 a.m. Monday Definition and Discussion Due by 6 a.m. Friday
<b>Week 3</b>	Short Response - Chapter 3 - 150 - 300 words, Due by 6 a.m. Monday Definition and Discussion Due by 6 a.m. Friday
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>1st Section Essay (Part 2 - Chapters 2-3) Due by 6 a.m. Monday</b> No Definition or Discussion
<b>Week 5</b>	Short Response - Chapter 4 - 150 - 300 words, Due by 6 a.m. Monday Definition and Discussion Due by 6 a.m. Friday
<b>Week 6</b>	Short Response - Chapter 5 - 150 - 300 words, Due by 6 a.m. Monday Definition and Discussion Due by 6 a.m. Friday

- Week 7** Short Response - Chapter 6 - 150 - 300 words, Due by 6 a.m. Monday  
Definition and Discussion Due by 6 a.m. Friday
- Week 8** Short Response - Chapter 7 - 150 - 300 words, Due by 6 a.m. Monday  
Definition and Discussion Due by 6 a.m. Friday
- Week 9** Short Response - Chapter 8 - 150 - 300 words, Due by 6 a.m. Monday  
Definition and Discussion Due by 6 a.m. Friday
- Week10** **2nd Section Essay (Part 3 - Chapters 4-8) Due by 6 a.m. Monday**  
No Definition or Discussion
- Week 11** Short Response - Chapter 9 - 250 - 500 words, Due by 6 a.m. Monday  
Definition and Discussion Due by 6 a.m. Friday
- Week 12** Short Response - Chapter 10 - 250 - 500 words, Due by 6 a.m. Monday  
Definition and Discussion Due by 6 a.m. Friday
- Week 13** Short Response - Chapter 11 - 250 - 500 words, Due by 6 a.m. Monday  
Definition and Discussion Due by 6 a.m. Friday
- Week 14** **Work on 3rd Section Essay Due by 6 a.m. Tuesday Dec. 29 (Part 4 - Chapters 9-12)** No Definition or Discussion
- Week 15** **3rd Section Essay - Due by 6 a.m. Tuesday Dec. 29**  
No Definition or Discussion
- Week 16** **Final Summation Essay - Due Friday Dec. 9 by Midnight.**

### Important University Dates can be found by following the link below:

<https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html>

### 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.

### Technology Requirements

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. **We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers. Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.**

Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [<https://tamuct.onecampus.com/>]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address. Password: Your MyCT password

### Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select "Chat with Canvas Support," submit a support request through "Report a Problem," or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

### Online Proctored Testing

A&M-Central Texas uses Proctorio for online identity verification and proctored testing. This service is provided at no direct cost to students. If the course requires identity verification or proctored testing, the technology requirements are: Any computer meeting the minimum computing requirements, plus web camera, speaker, and microphone (or headset). Proctorio also requires the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in.

### Other Technology Support

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Email: [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.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.

## UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

### 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 Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity 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 Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information, please visit our [Access & Inclusion](https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717) Canvas page (log-in required) [https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717]

### 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. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more [information regarding the student conduct process](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html), [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html] and <https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-integrity.html>.

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may [submit a referral](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0), [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout\_id=0].

### Drop Policy

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the [Drop Request](#) Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[https://federation.ngwebsolutions.com/sp/startSSO.ping?PartnerId=https://eis-prod.ec.tamuct.edu:443/samlso&SpSessionAuthnAdapterId=tamuctDF&TargetResource=https%3a%2f%2fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2fSubmit%2fStart%2f53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed 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. You are to 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.

### Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant, experiencing pregnancy-related conditions, 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 [Student Affairs](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html]. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines](#) online, 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.

### Tutoring

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both virtually and in-person. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question, are interested in becoming a tutor, or in need of success coaching contact the Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity and Inclusion at (254) 501-5836, visit the Warrior Center at 212 Warrior Hall, or by emailing [WarriorCenter@tamuct.edu](mailto:WarriorCenter@tamuct.edu).

To schedule tutoring sessions and view tutor availability, please visit [Tutor Matching Services](https://tutormatchingservice.com/TAMUCT) [https://tutormatchingservice.com/TAMUCT] or visit the Tutoring Center in 111 Warrior Hall.

Chat live with a remote tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

### University Library & Archives

The University Library & Archives provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 400,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 96,000 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 24 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 virtually through WebEx, Microsoft Teams or in-person at the library. [Schedule an appointment here](#)

[https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments/?g=6956]. 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](#)

[http://tamuct.libguides.com/index]

University Writing Center

University Writing Center: Located in Warrior Hall 416, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (A&M–Central Texas) is a free service open to all A&M–Central Texas students. The hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday in Warrior Hall 416 (with online tutoring available every hour as well) with satellite hours available online only Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via [WOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at [bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu](mailto:bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu) if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor.

## OPTIONAL POLICY STATEMENTS

### A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Wellness and Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don't agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don't be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html].

### Behavioral Intervention

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the [referral](#) online

[[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout\\_id=2](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2)].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](https://www.tamuct.edu/bit) website for more information [https://www.tamuct.edu/bit]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5805.

### Copyright Notice

Students should assume that all course material is copyrighted by the respective author(s). Reproduction of course material is prohibited without consent by the author and/or course 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.

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