Movies and the American Experience
Summer 2018
Fordham University at Lincoln Center
Dept. Of Communication and Media Studies
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Movies and the American Experience

Objectives:

1. To provide students with an historical and aesthetic views of films that depict the American Experience, politically, culturally, and sociologically.

2. To show how films have influenced American society, politically, culturally, and sociologically.

Text:


The New York Times Arts and Business section should be read each week. You can get a digital subscription of the New York Times at NYTtimes.com.

Requirements:

There will be two exams, a midterm and a final. Students will also do a five (5) page paper of the film of their choice. It must be American and must be a recent film that is seen in a movie theater not via Netflix, streaming, etc. The paper will be handed in on July 25th. For each class it is late I will deduct a grade (i.e. one class late the highest grade will be an A-). You must hand in a paper or you will fail the class no matter how well you do on exams.
Attendance and lateness:
Since this is a Summer School class and only meets three times a week. Only two unexcused absences will be permitted. After the third I will need a doctor’s note, etc.

Lateness is disruptive. Please come on time. If there is some reason you can’t come on time inform me as to the reason.

Office Hours:

I am usually in my office a half hour before class. You can come and see me then or after class. If these times are inconvenient, let me know and we can set up a mutually convenient time.

I can be reached at 212-636-7568 or at Auster@Fordham.edu

No laptops or cell phones are permitted in class.

Readings:

Week One: Q&A Chapters 1&2.
Week Two: Q&A Chapters 3&4.
Week Three: Q&A Chapters 5&6.
Week Four: Q&A Chapters 7&8.

Statement on Disabilities:

If you believe that you have a disability that interferes with your ability to participate in the activities, coursework, or assessment of the object of this course, you may be entitled to accommodations. Please schedule an appointment to speak to me immediately, or you may go to the office of Disability Services (33 W.60th street, second floor). Under the Americans with Disability Act of 1973, all students, with or without disabilities are entitled equal access to the programs and activities of Fordham University.

Statement on Academic Integrity:

A University, by its nature strives to foster and recognize originality of thought. Originality can only be recognized, however, when people acknowledge the sources of ideas or works that are not their own.
Therefore, students must maintain the highest standards with regard to honesty, effort and performance. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to plagiarism, cheating on exams, and false authorship and destruction of library material needed for a course.

**Outside Film List**

1. The Searchers-John Ford

2. Rebel Without a Cause-Nicholas Ray

3. Easy Rider-Dennis Hopper

4. Nashville-Robert Altman

5. Jaws-Steven Spielberg