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INTRODUCTION TO FILM (ENG 2100) — SPRING 2014
Tuesdays (through March 25), 6-9:45 p.m., West Campus, Bldg. 5, Room 111

CORE COMPETENCIES

Valencia College has established four core competencies that describe the learning outcomes for a Valencia graduate. They are:

- **Think:** Think clearly, critically, and creatively; analyze, synthesize, integrate and evaluate in many domains of human inquiry.
- **Value:** Make reasoned judgments and responsible commitments.
- **Communicate:** Communicate with different audiences using varied means
- **Act:** Act purposefully, effectively, and responsibly.
- For more on Valencia's core competencies: <http://www.valenciacollege.edu/competencies>

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce the study of American and international feature and documentary films, with emphasis on films of 1920s through contemporary cinema. Students will learn to identify filmmaking techniques, recognize seminal events and influential people in global film history, recognize concepts in film theory, and develop an appreciation for quality films.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required: "Looking at Movies," (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 10 & 11) by Barsam & Monahan (4th edition)
"The Reader," by Bernhard Schlink (translated by Carol Brown Janeway)
A subscription to Netflix

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance (11 class sessions @ 15 points, 165 total; 33% of total): You are expected to attend all classes and to be on time. Each absence reduces your attendance grade by 20% (33 points), up to a 66-point reduction for two absences. On your third absence, you will be withdrawn from the course. THERE ARE NO EXCUSED ABSENCES.

Quizzes on at-home screenings (10 at 10 points each; 100 points, 20% of grade): Students will watch assigned films outside of class, via Netflix or other sources, and prepare for 10-question quizzes.

Quizzes on the novel "The Reader" (3 totaling 35 points, 7% of the grade): Students will read "The Reader" and prepare for three quizzes of varying length, totaling 40 questions.

Term Paper (50 points; 10% of grade): Students will read "The Reader" by Bernhard Schlink, and watch the film "The Reader," directed by Stephen Daldry and written by David Hare. They will then write a 1,200-word essay about the adaptation of the novel to the screen, which should include their observations and opinions about the adaptation, plus outside-source material speaking to the collaboration between novelist, screenwriter and director. (See detailed instruction sheet.)

Group Screening (50 points; 10% of grade): Students will be organized into small groups and will be required to attend an assigned screening with the instructor outside of class, scheduled at the students' convenience. Attendance and group participation factor into the grade.

Mid-term Exam (50 points; 10% of grade): A 50-question, multiple-choice exam on chapters 1, 2 and 3 from “Looking at Movies.”

Final Exam (50 points; 10% of grade): A 50-question, multiple-choice exam on chapters 10 and 11 from “Looking at Movies.”

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance: You are expected to attend all classes and to be on time. Each absence reduces your attendance grade by 20% (33 points), up to a 66-point reduction for two absences. Upon your third absence, you will be withdrawn from the course. THERE ARE NO EXCUSED ABSENCES. (Link to journalism department attendance policy: <http://powerfade.com/Valencia/attendance3.pdf>)

Plagiarism / Cheating: If you plagiarize or cheat in any way, you will receive a zero for the work in question. In some cases, the college may punish plagiarism with suspension or expulsion. (Link to Valencia College academic dishonesty policy: <http://valenciacollege.edu/policies/PDF/10-16.pdf>)

No Make-up Work: If you miss any assignment deadline, THERE IS NO MAKE-UP WORK.

GRADING

Attendance: 11 classes @ 15 points	165	33%	450-500 = A
Quizzes (films): 10 @ 10 points	100	20%	400-449 = B
Quizzes (“The Reader”): 3 totaling 35	35	7%	350-399 = C
Group Screening:	50	10%	300-349 = D
Term paper:	50	10%	000-299 = F
Mid-term Exam:	50	10%	
Final Exam:	50	10%	
TOTAL:	500		

STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM — 1-800-878-5470

Valencia College offers a free, confidential student assistance program. Sometimes the pressure from college and life can snowball. Don’t be afraid to call if you’re feeling overwhelmed by:

- Academic stress
- Alcohol/drug use
- Peer pressure
- Problems at home
- Work/study schedule

The confidential toll-free number is available to help you 24 hours a day, seven days a week: 1-800-878-5470. (Link: http://net4.valenciacollege.edu/promos/Internal/documents/Valencia_SAP.pdf)

(All content of this syllabus is subject to change with prior notification from the professor.)