

Philosophy Course #PHI 202 Section #621

Instructor: Briel, Jan Summer 2019

PHI 202: Religion and Film

Summer 2019 Syllabus

Part 1: Course Information

Instructor Information

Instructor: Jan Briel

Section: 621 F 5:00-10:00pm

S 8:00am-5:30pm

Email: Jan.Briel@rrcc.edu

Required Textbook/Course Materials

Myth and the Movies, Stuart Voytilla. (Michael Wiese Productions, 1999.)

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to examine the variety of religious experience and expression that is found in the leading modern art form. This will be accomplished by examining films which have either/both an overtly religious subject matter, or a religious subtext in their style. The basic concepts, ethics and symbolism of religion systems will be applied to the study of film in order to show how film itself may serve as religious experience.

Credit hours: 3

Topical Outline

- Representation of religion in film
 - Specific: histories, biographies.
 - Implied: symbolic, mythological, or philosophical.

- Approaches
 - Film as hierophany: religious interpretation of film.
 - Film and the quest for meaning.
- Mythological themes
 - Joseph Campbell's Hero cycle.
- World Cinema
 - Visual symbolism and ethical implications in non-Western Films,

Part 2: Course Objectives

REQUIRED COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

- > Open the students' film-going experience to the possibilities of a symbolic/religious dimension.
- > Acquaint the student with the technical and historical background necessary to examine the symbolic and metaphoric connection between film and religious expression.
- > Expose students to religious and cultural expressions which may be unfamiliar.

GUARANTEED TRANSFER (GT) PATHWAYS COURSE STATEMENT

The Colorado Commission on Higher Education has approved PHI 111 for inclusion in the Guaranteed Transfer (GT) Pathways program in the GT-AH3 category. For transferring students, successful completion with a minimum C– grade guarantees transfer and application of credit in this GT Pathways category. For more information visit the GT Pathways program website
[\http://highered.colorado.gov/academics/transfers/gtpathw

ays/curriculum.html]

ARTS & HUMANITIES (AHUM) CONTENT CRITERIA

GT-AH3

Respond analytically and critically to ways of thinking, by addressing one or more of the following:

- Logic
- Ethics
- The different questions dealt with by leading philosophers and/or theologians and their positions on those questions.

COMPETENCIES & STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES ASSOCIATED FOR GT-AH3

- Explain an Issue
 - Use information to describe a problem or issue and/or articulate a question related to the topic.
- 2. Utilize Content
 - Evaluate the relevance of context when presenting a position.
 - Identify assumptions.
 - Analyze one's own and others' assumptions.
- Understand Implications and Make Conclusions
 - Establish a conclusion that is tied to the range of information presented.
 - Reflect on implications and consequences of stated conclusion.

Part 3: Course Policies

Course Requirements/Expectations

The mission of the RRCC Philosophy Department is to inspire students to live dynamic and thoughtful lives by helping them develop ideas and intellectual virtues conducive to human flourishing. We do this by introducing the rich heritage of the philosophical tradition and teaching students to think critically and creatively. You as the learner play a vital role in the quality of class time. Please come to class prepared and engaged.

Attendance and Participation

Attendance is mandatory. If you absolutely must miss a class, then you alone are responsible for finding out what you missed. If possible, please inform the instructor in advance if you are going to miss a class. Students are expected to attend all class sessions. The instructor will present material based upon the expectation that the reading has been done.

Students are responsible to meet all deadlines for the course unless serious and unforeseen events can be documented for the instructor.

Make copies of all material sent through the mail; the instructor is not responsible for undelivered assignments. Students will be required to resubmit any missing material.

Under extreme circumstances, the grade of "Incomplete" may be assigned. The grade requires that the student make up the coursework, on their own, by the end of the following semester.

To receive an "Incomplete" the student must be in good

standing in the course at the time that the Incomplete is requested. If the Incomplete is not resolved by the end of the following semester, the grade will revert to "F".

Part 4: Grading Policy

Methods of Evaluation

Attendance/Participation: 50 points

Paper 1-Symbolism: 25 points

Paper 2-Hero: 25 points

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GRADED COURSE ACTIVITIES

Points	Description
50	Participation
25	Paper 1
25	Paper 2
100	Total Points Possible

GRADES

Letter Grade	Percentage	Performance
A	90-100%	Excellent Work
B	80-89%	Good Work
C	70-79%	Average Work
D	60-69%	Poor Work
F	0-59%	Failing Work

Religion and Film Schedule

7/12 Introduction

Film as Hierophany

"Myth and the Movies"

7/13 Visual Story and Religious Interpretation of Film

Cinematic Transfigurations of Jesus

7/19 Cinema, Religion, and Popular Culture

Film and the Quest for Meaning

7/20 The Demonic in American Cinema

Analogy of Action in Film

7/26 Field Experience

7/27 Non-Western Films

Assignments due: 7/27/2019