

Northwestern CT Community College
Course Syllabus

Course Title: Film and Literature

Course #: ENG* 271

Course Description: The course examines film both as a genre and in its relationship to literature. Film is a relatively new art form that has only recently earned its place in both academic and popular culture as a leading medium for storytelling. The course will consider film techniques and will focus on how films tell stories that engage viewers in unique ways. The course will touch on the history of film and will consider the relationship of film to literature. Students will consider elements common to film and literature such as character development and presentation, narrative tension and structure, diction and point of view, as well as such innate differences as arise between a reader visualizing a literary text and an onlooker engrossed by a filmed moving image. Three (3) credits.

Pre-requisite/Co-requisite: Completion of English 102 or with instructor's permission.

Goals:

- To introduce the student to vocabulary and topics appropriate to a critical discussion of film
- To provide the student with a fuller understanding of what makes film unique as a genre
- To give students a summary knowledge of the history of film
- To explore how film interacts with and differs from other literary genres
- To develop students' skills in writing critical analyses that examine the meaning and techniques of film, especially as compared to traditional literary texts

Outcomes: By the end of Film and Literature, students will be able to demonstrate:

- Ability to comprehend and analyze various elements of film as a unique genre
- Acquisition of a vocabulary suited to analyzing and writing about film
- Competence in writing critical essays that utilize this vocabulary in response to specific films
- Independent critical thinking directed at the comprehension and criticism/analysis of film as compared to more traditional literary forms