



LIBERAL ARTS DIVISION  
 1400 TANYARD ROAD, SEWELL, NJ 08080  
 856-468-5000

COM210	Film History and Appreciation
LECTURE HOURS/CREDITS: 3/3	

**Prerequisite:** RDG099 – Introduction to College Reading III  
**Co-requisite:** None

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

Film History and Appreciation will introduce students to the film industry and history of cinema through the study of classic and contemporary films. Students will learn about the basic elements that distinguish films such as narrative, cinematography, sound, editing and set design, and how these components work together to develop stories and characters. Emphasis will be placed on exposing the class to a wide variety of styles and genres by viewing, analyzing, discussing and writing about films as a means of developing a greater visual literacy.

**REQUIRED**

**READING**

It is the responsibility of the student to confirm with the bookstore and/or their instructor the textbook, handbook and other materials required for their specific course and section.

*Please see current textbook prices at <http://rcgc.bncollege.com/>*

**EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT**

**Grading Distribution**

<p><b>Individual instructors may include the following assessment(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignments/Activities</li> <li>• Class Participation and Presentations</li> <li>• Quizzes and Midterm</li> <li>• Projects</li> </ul>	<p>Grading to be determined by individual instructors</p>
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**Grading Scale Example**

The grading scale for each course and section will be determined by the instructor and distributed the first day of class.

**ROWAN COLLEGE OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY CORE COMPETENCIES**  
(Revised 2014)

This comprehensive list reflects the *core* competencies that are essential for all RCGC graduates; however, each program varies regarding competencies required for a specific degree. Critical thinking is embedded in all courses, while teamwork and personal skills are embedded in many courses.

<b>1</b>	<b>Written and Oral Communication</b> Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.
<b>2</b>	<b>Quantitative Knowledge and Skills</b> Students will use appropriate mathematical and statistical concepts and operations to interpret data and to solve problems.
<b>3</b>	<b>Scientific Knowledge and Reasoning</b> Students will use the scientific method of inquiry, through the acquisition of scientific knowledge.
<b>4</b>	<b>Technological Competency</b> Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals.
<b>5</b>	<b>Society and Human Behavior</b> Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.
<b>6</b>	<b>Humanistic Perspective</b> Students will analyze works in the fields of art, history, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language
<b>7</b>	<b>Historical Perspective</b> Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance.
<b>8</b>	<b>Global and Cultural Awareness</b> Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.
<b>9</b>	<b>Ethical Reasoning and Action</b> Students will understand ethical issues and situations.
<b>10</b>	<b>Information Literacy</b> Students will address an information need by locating, evaluating, and effectively using information

**CORE COMPETENCIES**

This course focuses on three of RCGC's Core Competencies:

**Humanistic Perspective**  
**Historical Perspective**

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: Film History and Appreciation**

<b>Successful completion will help students:</b>	<b>RCGC Core Competencies</b>	<b>Evaluation / Assessment (Additional means of evaluation may be included by individual instructors)</b>
Identify the significant people and events in the development of Film History and Appreciation	- Humanistic Perspective - Historical Perspective	Class Discussion, Quizzes and Written Assignments
Evaluate the media of individuals who have set Trends in the art of Film History and Appreciation	- Humanistic Perspective - Historical Perspective	Class Discussion, Quizzes and Written Assignments
Analyze and compare the work of significant film through writing and discussion	- Humanistic Perspective - Historical Perspective	Class Discussion, Quizzes and Written Assignments
Identify and describe the relationship between film and other contemporary events that have shaped the nation and the world	- Humanistic Perspective - Historical Perspective	Class Discussion, Quizzes and Written Assignments
Relate film to social and historical events, issues, and trends.	- Humanistic Perspective - Historical Perspective	Discussion, Photographic and Written Assignments
Discuss the historical relationship between movies, television and other media.	- Humanistic Perspective - Historical Perspective	Discussion, Photographic and Written Assignments

## TOPICAL OUTLINE

1. BEGINNINGS OF FILM:
2. NARRATIVE FILM:
3. EXPRESSIONISM & SURREALISM:
4. FILM EDITING:
5. SILENT COMEDY:
6. SOUND:
7. SOCIAL COMMENTARY & SCIENCE FICTION:
8. HORROR:
9. STUDIO SYSTEM/GANGSTER FILMS:
10. MUSICALS:
11. AUTEUR:
12. SOUND COMEDY:
13. CINEMATIC TOUCHSTONES:

This schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

## CLASS POLICIES

### **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Class attendance and participation in class discussions are essential to this course. Students are responsible for all materials during class absence and should make arrangements *with other students* to acquire class notes. If you are aware in advance of a class you must miss please notify the instructor and make arrangements to make up the work you will miss.

**PLAGIARISM:** Please refer to the online syllabus for definitions of plagiarism. The first instance of plagiarism will result in a zero (0) for that assignment and require a student instructor conference. A second offense will result in an F for the course. In addition, a second offense will be reported to the Dean of Liberal Arts and the Director of Student Affairs.

**DEADLINES:** Project deadlines must be met. If your project is not finished at the scheduled time, it will affect your grade, unless you have made special arrangements with your instructor.

## **RUBRICS**

Activity/Assignment		Levels of Achievement	
Criteria	Needs Improvement	Good	Excellent
Demonstrates Understanding of the Topic • image or activity demonstrates inclusion of ideas important to the topic. Weight 34.00%	60%	80%	100%
Composed or Organized Well: • Provides clear purpose and subject; supports conclusions/ideas /images with evidence related to the topic. Weight 33.00%	60%	80%	100%
Demonstrates Use of Research and/or Critical Thinking Skills • Identifies not only the basics of the activity/image, but recognizes nuances of the issues/ideas/assumptions related to the topic. Weight 33.00%	60%	80%	100%
Discussions		Levels of Achievement	
Criteria	Needs Improvement	Good	Excellent
Content	2 Points Topic is poorly developed, with	4 Points Topic is evident with some supporting	5 Points Topic is well developed,

	vague or absent supporting detail. Trite ideas and/or unclear wording reflect a lack of understand of the topic. There is no indication of research or support for ideas.	details; generally meets requirements of the assignments. Little indication of research or support for ideas	effectively supported, and appropriate for the assignment. Effective thinking is clearly expressed. Support for ideas is indicated, research is cited.
Organization	2 Points Writing is rambling and unfocused, with the main theme and supporting details presented in a disorganized, unrelated way.	4 Points Writing demonstrates some grasp of organization, with a discernible theme and supporting details.	5 Points Writing is clearly organized around a central theme. Each sentence is clear and relates to the others in a well-planned framework.

## **Affirmative Action Statement**

The Board of Trustees is committed to providing an educational and workplace environment free from unlawful harassment and discrimination. All forms of employment and educational discrimination and harassment based upon race, creed, color, national origin, age, ancestry, nationality, marital or domestic partner or civil union status, sex, pregnancy, gender identity or expression, disability, liability for military service, affectional, or sexual orientation, atypical cellular or blood trait, genetic information (including refusal to submit to genetic testing) are prohibited and will not be tolerated.

For questions concerning discrimination contact Almarie J. Jones, Executive Director, Diversity and Equity, Affirmative Action/Title IX Officer at 856-415-2154 or [ajones@rcgc.edu](mailto:ajones@rcgc.edu).

For disability issues, contact Dennis M. Cook, Director, Department of Special Services, ADA/504 Officer at 856-415-2265 or [dcook@rcgc.edu](mailto:dcook@rcgc.edu).

## **Department of Special Services**

The Department of Special Services, located in the Instructional Center, room 425A, welcomes students of all abilities. The staff members in Special Services are committed to providing support services and ensuring equal access to eligible students with documented disabilities as outlined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Americans with Disabilities Act with Amendments Act (ADAAA).

To maximize the potential of eligible students who self-identify, the Special Services staff provides an array of support services which may include extra time for tests and quizzes, testing in a separate location, advisement, interpreters, scribes, tutors, assistive technology (such as magnification devices and audio amplification), touch screen computers, audio books and note-taking assistance.

As students embark on their academic journey, they are encouraged to meet with staff members to identify, develop and implement support services that are in accord with their individual academic needs. Students are also encouraged to make use of other college support services that are available to all RCGC students currently enrolled in credited academic courses, such as tutoring services and the college library, which offer online information research and other materials needed to complement their studies.

Students registered with the Department of Special Services and who plan to earn an associate degree, further their education and transfer to a four-year institution, or enter the workforce, are encouraged to choose a corresponding program of study (college major) as soon as possible. The Special Services staff assists enrolled students with additional support that focuses on advancing students through their selected programs of study towards a goal of graduating.

Students who request academic support from the Department of Special Services can be assured that confidentiality will always be maintained. Accommodations are provided to address the special needs of individuals with disabilities under Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 together with the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA). Under these acts, the office advocates a user-friendly campus for accessibility and a learning-friendly campus for academic success.

For more information or to schedule an appointment to meet Special Services staff, please call 856-415-2265 or visit [RCGC.edu/SpecialServices](http://RCGC.edu/SpecialServices).

## To Register with Special Services

Students must follow these steps:

- Complete and submit the Student Profile form. Access the [Student Profile Form](#).
- Submit documentation detailing the student's disability. Support services will not be granted without documentation specifying the student's disability. Documentation should include the following information:
  - a. Diagnosis with written evaluation of current disability;
  - b. Date the student was diagnosed;
  - c. Tests used to reach diagnosis;
  - d. Credentials of the medical professional conducting evaluation; and
  - e. How the disability affects daily activities and/or academic performance.
- By clicking on the following links, students can download the [Special Education Records Release Form](#) and/or Medical Release Form to present to their medical care professional.
- Contact the Special Services office to schedule a meeting with a staff member.
  1. Students should schedule a meeting after submitting the [Student Profile Form](#), proper documentation and completing the College's placement test. (Click on [Special Accommodations for Placement Testing](#) to determine whether student should arrange his/her placement test through the Special Services office or the general Testing Center.
  2. During the meeting, the student and staff member will discuss his or her disability and determine eligible accommodations.

## Accommodations

Students who qualify for accommodations are encouraged to register with the Department of Special Services at RCGC before they begin their academic career at Rowan College. This allows students to take advantage of any special accommodations and auxiliary aids that they might need and be eligible to receive.

- **Special accommodations** include but are not limited to extended time on tests, private test rooms to complete tests with the assistance of a reader or scribe, as well as a distraction-free test room.
- **Auxiliary aids** include but are not limited to note takers, tape recorders, large display calculators, interactive calculators, desktop magnifiers, large-screen computer monitors, touch-screen computer monitors, touch-screen laptop computers and JAWS® software. More information about adaptive technology can be found on the [technology](#) link. Students are responsible for identifying which accommodations and auxiliary aids they require for academic support.

## Confidentiality

Students who register with the Department of Special Services are assured that their information is kept confidential.

In addition, the student's transcript will not indicate that the he or she is registered with the Department of Special Services. The student's specific special need is not disclosed to the student's instructors. However, accommodation letters are sent to each of the student's professors if the student needs testing accommodations or accommodations in the classroom. It is the student's choice whether or not to disclose the specifics of his or her special need.