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Guilford Technical Community College
HUM 161

Course Description:

HUM 161 Advanced Film Studies 2 2 3

Prerequisites: HUM 160

Corequisites: None

This course provides an advanced study of film art and production, building on skills learned in HUM 160. Topics include film production techniques, film genres, examination of master directors’ styles, and the relation of film to culture. Upon completion, students should be able to recognize and critically analyze advanced elements of film production. This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement general education core requirement in humanities/fine arts.

Description of the Module:

The module will be entitled “Documentary Visions Beyond the West” and will cover approximately three weeks in a traditional sixteen week course, or approximately 15-20% of the core curriculum. This module will be part of a larger course focusing on documentary film studies and will work to continue our discussion on documentary ethics and the form’s influence on culture(s). Since some students have a limited understanding or misconception about Eastern cultures, we will spend time learning about and drawing on the similarities between Eastern aesthetics and their Western counterparts.

Objectives:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of how documentary filmmakers around the world grapple with similar concerns and ideas about the human condition.
2. Analyze the works in a historical and global context, indicating how these films work to express and/or challenge a particular worldview.
3. Critically engage with film texts to find similarities between Eastern and Western styles.

Methodology:

Discussions: Students will work to engage with critical questions about the films in class between the instructor and other classmates. Students are assessed based on active engagement with the discussion group.
**Journals:** Students will be required to respond to each film by providing an interpretive analysis organized around the films and written texts. These journal responses will be included in a larger portfolio worth 20% of the overall grade in the course.

**Essay:** Students will have an opportunity to develop and integrate their ideas about the film(s) in a larger analytical essay worth 20% of the overall grade in the course.

**Quizzes:** In addition to the assessments above, students will complete quizzes directly corresponding to ideas and concepts related to the film at hand. These quizzes will stress application of knowledge through multiple choice and short answer questions. The quiz component of the course will make-up 15% of the overall grade.

**Current Resources:**


DVD.


