

Webster University
 Syllabus
 English 2210
 Literature into Film
 Professor Jerred Metz, Ph.D.
 Wednesdays
 Fall 2 2008
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Texts

“Alice’s Restaurant Masacree” by Arlo Guthrie, (the professor will provide the text)
 “In a Grove” by Rynosuke Akutagawa (the professor will provide the text)
 “Uncle Sam Doesn’t Need *You!*” by Richard Feynman (the professor will provide the text)
Shoeless Joe by W.P.Knisella
To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
 “Raisin in the Sun” by Lorraine Hansberry
 “On the Waterfront” by Budd Schulberg
The Last Eleven Days of Earl Durand by Jerred Metz (the professor will provide copies)
The Writer’s Reference (fifth edition) by Diana Hacker

Course Description

We will examine film adaptations of seven literary works. You will 1) read one novel, play, or short story each week, 2) discuss the work in depth and detail, 3) see a film version of the work, and 4) analyze the filmmakers interpretation of the work. What has been lost and what gained in the transfer from the page to the screen? How have the elements of plot, character, setting, description, dialog, symbol, and theme been used and altered in the change?

Course Requirements

1. Attendance Be there or miss out. Two absences will lower your grade one letter grade. Three absences produce an automatic failure. An absence is an absence. There is no such thing as an excused absence. Missing the first class disqualifies students from taking the course. (These are policies of Webster University.)
2. Discussion You have to take part in the discussion of the works we are reading and seeing. The professor evaluates the quality of your comments and conversation. Just talking is not enough.
3. You will take an quiz every week about the reading.

4. There will be two two-page papers assigned. Many of you will revise the papers several times at the professor's request.
5. You will write a four page analysis of one of the films, discussing how the filmmaker has represented the source material.
6. There will be a final examination.

What You Will Learn

The techniques literature and film use to move us and stimulate our thinking;
 The lexicon of literature and film analysis;
 How to write and talk about literature and film; and
 How to more deeply enjoy literature and film.

Grading

Attendance and discussion	25%
Quizzes and short writing assignments	25%
Paper	25%
Final examination	25%

Course Outline

Oct. 22 Course Introduction Read in class "Alice's Restaurant Massacre" by Arlo Guthrie, Listen to the song, read "Uncle Sam Doesn't Want You" by Richard Freyman

Oct. 29 Read and study "Seeing through the Image: Cinematography" Discuss the essay. Further discussion of the works read, Richard Feynman's essay. see *Alice's Restaurant*

Nov. 5 Have read "In a Grove" See *Rashomon*

Nov. 12 Have read. *To Kill a Mockingbird*. See the film

Nov. 19 Have read *On the Waterfront*. See the film

Dec. 3 Have read *Shoeless Joe*. See *Field of Dreams*

Dec. 10 Have read "Raisin in the Sun" see *Raisin in the Sun*

Dec. 17 Have read *The Last Eleven Days of Earl Durand*. See *The Legend of Earl Durand*. Final examination.

Class Organization

1. A 15 minute quiz on the reading
2. One hour discussing the text.
3. Watch the film (this varies according to the length of the film)
4. Discuss the film in relation to the text.

Attendance

If you know you are going to miss a class, contact me, the sooner the better, and I may be able to help you make up the work. If you know that you will need to miss more than one class now, withdraw from the class.

Taking Part in Discussion

The more you contribute to the discussions, the more you will get from the class. Speaking does not mean simply talking. It means making insightful comments which forward and deepen the conversation. Help yourself and your classmates become better thinkers and to better understand the texts and topics we discuss.

Jobs and Other Commitments

Many of you work and have other important commitments outside of class. However, make sure that you fulfill the commitments you are making in taking this course. Complete your assignments on time. Read all the works assigned.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is presenting someone else's words or ideas *as your own*. This is different from citing someone else's words and ideas and giving them credit, or getting help with your work from a friend. *In the academic world* Plagiarism is a serious offense. I will fail any work that is plagiarized. (I will talk with the class about www.turnitin.com.)