English 489.001 (23236) Revisiting Narrative Cinema, 3sh.
Instructor: Gerald Duchovnay  Spring 2015
Office: Hall of Languages 326
Office Hours: TH, 12:30-2:00, 7:20-8:20pm. Other times by appointment.
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Course Description: English 489 will be an introduction to world film history via an examination of several important aspects of film history through representative films from several countries in various decades. As we proceed, the student will consider the connections between technology, business, culture, and motion picture history. In addition, we will talk about ways of looking at film from a variety of theoretical perspectives.

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. Student will develop an awareness of a key films and film movements in narrative film history;
2. Student will demonstrate an understanding of or greater awareness of film concepts (i.e., the “grammar of film”) related to films viewed, readings, and discussions;
3. Student will produce texts that demonstrate visual literacy (essays, responses, oral presentations);
4. Student will engage in discussions and analysis of films beyond the surface level of narrative and character.

Evaluations: Grades will be determined by responses, papers and orally sharing information about films studied. Evaluation will be based on written and oral commentaries, an annotated bibliography, and an extended final paper that would be suitable for a conference presentation or a draft of a scholarly article.

Common Decency: All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. In addition, you are requested to turn off your cell phones before entering the classroom. Common courtesy says you do not receive or answer calls during class. And no text messaging in class. If you are expecting an emergency call, please let me know ahead of time, put your phone on vibrator mode, and sit close to the exit so you can leave discreetly to take the call. One exception: If you are using your phone or tablet to assist in the work we are doing in class, then it can remain on.

Procedure 34.05.99.R1 now prohibits the use of vapor/electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff and chewing tobacco inside and adjacent to any building owned, leased, or operated by A&M – Commerce.

Students with Disabilities: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:
Office of Student Disability Resources and Services / Texas A&M University-Commerce / Gee Library, Room 132 Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835  Fax (903) 468-8148

The Writing Center. The Writing Center is dedicated to helping writers take advantage of all opportunities for learning related to the writing process; to that end, the Center can assist writers at any stage of the writing process. In addition to your instructor, this is the place to go for additional assistance with your reading and writing projects at TAMU-Commerce. The Center can help you with your papers and digital texts for your classes. The Center is on the ground floor of the Hall of Languages (room 103), and maybe available on line or at the Gee Library. To
schedule an appointment, come to HL 103 or call (903) 886-5280 to check out the hours or to see if there is on-line assistance available. DON’T, though, wait until the last minute to get assistance.

Plagiarism/Academic Honesty: Instructors in the Department of Literature and Languages do not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Instructors uphold and support the highest academic standards, and students are expected to do likewise. Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension, and expulsion. (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b[1,2,3]).

Our word plagiarism is derived from a word that means "to kidnap." Plagiarism is a form of kidnapping someone else's ideas, opinions, arguments, or research, and presenting them (it) as your own. Plagiarism "includes (but is not limited to) failure to indicate the source with quotation marks or footnotes where appropriate if any of the following are reproduced in the work submitted: 1. A phrase, written or musical; 2. A graphic element; 3. A proof; 4. Specific language; 5. An idea derived from the work, published or unpublished, of another person" or group.

Much of the confusion and unintentional dishonesty in undergraduate papers results from ignorance or carelessness with regard to attribution of sources. When you borrow from what others have said, you are obligated to acknowledge your sources. We all solicit opinions about our writing from family, friends, or colleagues. Your indebtedness to others for sharing ideas with you about your paper or for reading and commenting on it can be indicated in an acknowledgements page accompanying each formal assignment. If you go beyond conversations with friends or colleagues to other outside sources, you need to acknowledge these sources in your paper and in a Works Cited page. If you are uncertain about your documentation, please see your instructor before you submit your paper. Intentional plagiarism will result in a zero for the work and appropriate disciplinary action.

Meetings: We will meet once a week during the semester to discuss the films and readings, answer questions, talk about the responses to the films, and consider materials for the papers.

Schedule of readings and film viewings: Tobe worked out by the instructor and the student.