

Course Outline

Code: CMN203

Title: Film Forms: Genres, Histories, Technologies

School: Creative Industries
Teaching Session: Semester 2
Year: 2020
Course Coordinator: Dr Chris Carter, ccarter1@usc.edu.au
Course Moderator: Dr Aurora Scheelings, ascheelings@usc.edu.au

Please go to the USC website for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1 Description

Recognising genre as integral to the production, marketing, and reception of films, this course develops a comprehensive understanding of film genres, interweaving this examination with that of significant film histories and technologies. You will explore these vital facets of film in consideration of aesthetic and industrial imperatives, as well as cultural and philosophical implications. Building on skills acquired in CMN105, you will examine a breadth of film genres, investigate film movements that revolutionised cinema, and contemplate how technological developments transform filmmaking.

1.2 Field trips, WIL placements or activities required by professional accreditation

Activity	Details
Nil	Nil

2. What level is this course?

200 level Developing – Applying broad and/or deep knowledge and skills to new contexts. May require pre-requisites and introductory level knowledge/skills. Normally undertaken in the 2nd or 3rd year of an undergraduate program.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

Specific Learning Outcomes	Assessment tasks	Graduate Qualities or Professional Standards mapping
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to:	You will be assessed on the learning outcomes in task/s:	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to:
Recognise and classify codes and conventions of particular film genres/movements.	1, 2 and 3	Knowledgeable.

Specific Learning Outcomes On successful completion of this course, you should be able to:	Assessment tasks You will be assessed on the learning outcomes in task/s:	Graduate Qualities or Professional Standards mapping Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to:
Identify and explain screen aesthetics and production techniques using technical terminology.	1, 2 and 3	Knowledgeable.
Implement relevant codes and conventions, and screen production and aesthetic techniques in the creation of a creative product.	2	Creative and critical thinkers.
Critically analyse film texts in relation to screen aesthetics, narrative, characterisation, and theme.	2 and 3	Creative and critical thinkers.
Analyse and discuss film genres/movements in regard to relevant cultural, historical, political, and industrial changes and contexts.	1 and 3	Knowledgeable.

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [USC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1 Enrolment restrictions

Nil

5.2 Pre-requisites

Nil

5.3 Co-requisites

Nil

5.4 Anti-requisites

Nil

5.5 Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Nil

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1 Grading scale

Standard – High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL)

6.2 Details of early feedback on progress

A short weekly quiz will provide you with formative and ongoing feedback on your learning progress.

6.3 Assessment tasks

Task No.	Assessment Product	Individual or Group	Weighting %	What is the duration / length?	When should I submit?	Where should I submit it?
1	Quiz/zes	Individual	20%	50 Questions	Sunday, Week 10	Quiz (Online Test)

2	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece	Individual	45%	Scene Breakdown + 10 shot storyboard + 800 word critical reflection	Friday, Week 10	Online Self and Peer Assessment
3	Essay	Individual	35%	1200 words (+ or – 10%)	Monday, Week 13	Online Assignment Submission with Plagiarism check
			100%			

Assessment 1: Online Quiz

Goal:	The goal of this task is to demonstrate your knowledge of particular genre codes and conventions, screen aesthetics, and the evolutionary nature of genre.
Product:	Quiz/zes
Format:	Academic format. You must attempt all multiple choice questions by the due date. Additional details, instructions and questions will be provided on Blackboard.
Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement with lecture material and required readings • Demonstrated knowledge of film genre codes and conventions • Demonstrated knowledge of screen aesthetics • Demonstrated knowledge of changes within/between genres and reasons for them

Assessment Task 2: Scene Change and Critical Analysis

Goal:	The goal of this task is to demonstrate and develop your ability to effectively utilise screen production and aesthetic techniques, and implement key aspects of a film genre/movement. It will also exercise and hone your screen analysis skills.
Product:	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece
Format:	<p>Professional/industry format.</p> <p>For the first section of this task – the Scene Breakdown – you will choose one of the film genres or movements studied in the course You will then choose one of the set films for that genre/movement and select a key scene from that film to transcribe and breakdown. You must identify the codes and conventions of the genre/movement that are apparent in the scene. The transcription should be accompanied by scene notes of these codes and conventions.</p> <p>You will then change the scene into a scene that belongs to a different film genre or movement studied in the course. You can present the changed scene in the form of a 10 shot storyboard and a short animatic of the changed scene. You will also present a critical reflection on your creative process.</p>
Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective and accurate identification of relevant codes and conventions • Demonstrated knowledge of screen aesthetics • Depth and quality of critical analysis • Correct use of technical terminology • Conforming to the structure and requirements of task • Precision of grammar, punctuation, presentation, and referencing

Assessment Task 3: Argumentative Essay

Goal:	The purpose of the essay is to demonstrate and develop your research skills, your ability to think critically, your academic writing ability, and your aptitude for textual analysis.
Product:	Essay
Format:	Academic format. You will produce a 1200 word argumentative essay that directly addresses all aspects of the chosen essay question. The essay should include relevant research as well as original textual analysis. Essay topics and additional details will be provided on Blackboard.
Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argument clarity, structure and relevance • Use of appropriate sources and research • Demonstrates knowledge of film genre/movement codes and conventions • Demonstrates knowledge of relevant cultural, historical and/or industrial issues • Precision of formal essay conventions (grammar, punctuation, referencing, presentation)

7. Directed study hours

The directed study hours listed here are a portion of the workload for this course. A 12 unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Directed study hours may vary by location. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

Location:	Directed study hours for location*:
USC Sunshine Coast	Lecture: 1 hour Tutorial: 2 hours

**This course will be delivered via technology-enabled learning and teaching. All lectures will remain in this mode for Semester 2 2020. When government guidelines allow, students that elected on-campus study via the class selection process will be advised when on campus tutorials and practical sessions will resume.*

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note that course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Blackboard site. Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1 Prescribed text(s) or course reader

Nil

8.2 Specific requirements

Nil

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low.

It is your responsibility as a student to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers, and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study. It is also your responsibility to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online Health Safety and Wellbeing training module for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1 Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Blackboard, are electronically checked through SafeAssign. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work that SafeAssign has access to.

10.2 Assessment: Additional requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

- a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%
- b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale
- c) You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

10.3 Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks will be penalised at the following maximum rate:

- 5% (of the assessment task's identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- 10% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the third day
- 20% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late.

To request an extension, you must contact your Course Coordinator and supply the required documentation to negotiate an outcome.

10.4 Study help

In the first instance, you should contact your tutor, then the Course Coordinator. Additional assistance is provided to all students through Academic Skills Advisers. To book an appointment or find a drop-in session go to [Student Hub](#).

Contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au

10.5 Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing Support Staff are available to assist on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your success. Student Wellbeing is comprised of professionally qualified staff in counselling, health and disability Services.

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, mental health issue, learning disorder, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide assistance, advocacy and reasonable academic adjustments.

To book an appointment with either service go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or accessability@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226

10.6 Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Administration of Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Academic Misconduct
- Students with a Disability

Visit the USC website:

<http://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.7 General Enquiries

In person:

- **USC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **USC Moreton Bay** – Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **USC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **USC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **USC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **USC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au