



COURSE OUTLINE

CMN203

Film Forms: Narrative and Genre Filmmaking

Course Coordinator: Aurora Scheelings (ascheelings@usc.edu.au) **School:** School of Business and Creative Industries

2021 | Semester 2

USC Sunshine Coast
USC Moreton Bay

ON CAMPUS

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

Online

ONLINE

You can do this course without coming onto campus.

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 your understanding of narrative form and genre film, interweaving this examination with that of significant film histories and technologies. You will explore these in consideration of aesthetic, technological and industrial imperatives, as well as broader social and cultural contexts. You will examine a breadth of films and genres, including films and movements that revolutionised cinema, contemplate how technological developments continue to transform filmmaking and apply this knowledge to your own screen production practice.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
ON CAMPUS			
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – In-class tutorial	2hrs	Week 2	12 times
Lecture – 1 hour online lecture content for 12 weeks (or equivalent).	1hr	Week 1	12 times
ONLINE 1			
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – Interactive zoom tutorial	2hrs	Week 2	12 times
Lecture – 1 hour online content for 12 weeks (or equivalent).	1hr	Week 1	12 times

1.3. Course Topics

Film Genres

Narrative Film Conventions

Storytelling and Style for dramatic film

2. What level is this course?

200 Level (Developing)

Building on and expanding the scope of introductory knowledge and skills, developing breadth or depth and applying knowledge and skills in a new context. May require pre-requisites where discipline specific introductory knowledge or skills is necessary. Normally, undertaken in the second or third full-time year of an undergraduate programs.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...
1 Identify and understand screen aesthetics and production techniques using screen terminology	Knowledgeable
2 Implement relevant codes and conventions, screen production and aesthetic techniques in the creation of a creative product.	Knowledgeable
3 Critically analyse film texts in relation to screen aesthetics, narrative, characterisation, and theme	Creative and critical thinker
4 Analyse and identify film genres/movements in regard to relevant cultural, historical, political, and industrial changes and contexts	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. Pre-requisites

Not applicable

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

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

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

By Week 3 of this course you will have received in class peer feedback on your knowledge and understanding of course content.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Quiz/zes	Individual	20%	Weekly short (5 question) Quiz and in class exercises	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	Online Test (Quiz)
All	2	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece	Group	45%	Scene breakdown, storyboard and animatic (or video) plus 800 word written reflection.	Week 10	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3	Essay	Individual	35%	1200 words (+/-10%)	Exam Period	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check

All - Assessment Task 1: Weekly Quiz and in class exercises

GOAL:	The goal of this task is to demonstrate and develop your knowledge of particular genre codes and conventions, screen aesthetics, and the evolutionary nature of genre.		
PRODUCT:	Quiz/zes		
FORMAT:	Quiz and in class exercises		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Engagement with lecture material and required readings	1 2 4
	2	Demonstrated knowledge of film genre codes and conventions	1 2 4
	3	Demonstrated knowledge of screen aesthetics	3 4
	4	Demonstrated knowledge of changes within/between genres and reasons for them	4

All - 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:	Professional/industry format. This task involves transcribing a scene from an existing film and identifying the codes and conventions that situate the film within a specific genre/movement. You are then required to create a storyboard and animatic (or video) that reinterprets the scene as a different genre/movement. You will also provide an 800-word critical reflection on your creative process.

CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed	
	1	Effective and accurate incorporation of relevant codes and conventions	1 2
	2	Demonstrated knowledge of screen aesthetics	3
	3	Depth and quality of critical analysis	3 4
	4	Correct use of technical terminology	1
	5	Conforming to the structure and requirements of task	2
	6	Precision of grammar, punctuation, presentation, and referencing	1

All - 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 essay that directly addresses all aspects of the chosen essay topic.		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Argument clarity, structure and relevance	2 3 4
	2	Use of appropriate sources and research	3
	3	Demonstrates knowledge of film genre/movement codes and conventions	1 2
	4	Demonstrates knowledge of relevant cultural, historical and/or industrial issues	4
	5	Precision of formal essay conventions (grammar, punctuation, referencing, presentation)	1

7. Directed study hours

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.

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

Please note: 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

There are no required/recommended resources for this course.

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 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 and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training 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

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

The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%

The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks may 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 to negotiate an outcome.

10.4. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.6. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.7. 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>

10.8. 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