REQUIRED TEXTS:

5. Raymond Carver, “What We Talk about When We Talk about Love” (pdf).
7. Nathanael West, *The Day of the Locust and Miss Lonelyhearts*. 1933, 1939. (We are reading only *The Day of the Locust*). New Directions.

REQUIRED FILMS AND TV:

17. *The Inner Life of Martin Frost*. Dir and Scr: Paul Auster. 2007. (Recommended.)

* = available for streaming on Amazon Prime.
Y = available free on YouTube

All required films are on reserve and available to view at the Loyola/Notre Dame Library. I encourage you to rent and/or stream the films from sources such as Amazon Prime or Xfinity On Demand; one or two are available free on Youtube. I have scheduled group screenings only for films that are not available through streaming services.

**LEARNING AIMS**

- To provide a discussion-oriented format that encourages everyone to participate and exchange ideas inside and outside of class: to debate and enjoy the fruits of challenging intellectual discourse.
- To enable students create their own research paper topics and to write more expansive and sophisticated critical essays.
- To help students master the tools necessary for film analysis and interpretation, including the essential technical terms.
- To learn and explore the questions, themes, and problems involved in cinematic adaptation.
- To discover the many ways that cinema has influenced literature, and to examine the cross-pollination of cinema and literature in the works of several authors.
- To watch some really cool movies and read some excellent books: in short, to have fun!

**REQUIREMENTS:**

1. **Daily Preparation:** Attendance is required. Anyone who misses more than one class should expect his or her grade to suffer. Excused absences for illness or a death in the family must be documented. Tardy arrivals disrupt the class; please come on time. **Check Moodle before every class to gain access to assignments, questions and links. Usually I post study questions to guide your reading and viewing no later than the day before class.** Please read them and be prepared to answer these questions; some days I will ask you to write out answers and collect them. **I will send links to necessary techniques videos so that you may watch them before class.**

2. **Participation:** Participation—which includes attendance, scores on quizzes, contributions to class discussions, Moodle posts—counts toward your final grade. If you do not participate, there is little chance you’ll receive a B or better.

3. **Moodle Posts:** **Every student must post a response to at least one film each week, beginning**
the second week of class (for weeks when more than one film is assigned, we will divide the class into halves). These should be substantial posts of at least three cohesive paragraphs; these should be thoughtful, well-written responses, not text messages, and not reviews. The best strategy is to focus on one or two scenes or techniques, or develop a single topic. Each student must also respond to at least three other students’ posts each week. Those responses should engage your peers in dialogue. You will be graded on the quality of your posts, not just on the quantity. Therefore, responses such as “nice post, James,” are worthless. Your responses should become more sophisticated as the course proceeds. You should complete and upload your posts no later than the night before class.

4. Group Presentation: Each student will participate in a group oral presentation. You will sign up for a date, author and film on the second day of class. The presentations will generally compare one or two elements in a film with one or two elements or scenes in a text or other film.

Guidelines:
   a. You will meet with me a week before your presentation to determine a topic.
   b. All presentations must incorporate film.
   c. Each presentation is limited to 20 minutes.
   d. Your research paper, based upon your presentation, will be due no more than two weeks after your presentation.
   e. Students will also evaluate each others’ presentations by completing an evaluation sheet. You are graded on your evaluations of others; these grades become part of your daily participation grade.

5. Research Paper:
   a. Each student will write a research paper, due two weeks after the presentation. Each student should meet with me after the presentation to discuss a topic and sources.
   b. Your research paper must incorporate at least three secondary critical, biographical or theoretical sources; it must include discussion of a film or films. Refereed journal articles taken a library database are reliable; you may use unfiltered websites such as Imdb.com, but they do not count as one of your three secondary sources. Check with me before using any other Internet source in your paper: doing a Google search is not research!
   c. All research papers must be submitted to me electronically (mosteen@loyola.edu) as an e-mail attachment, as well as in hard copy, or by uploading the paper to Moodle’s turnitin.com assignment.

6. Exams: There will be a take-home midterm. The final exam will be part take-home and part timed. The final exam for this course is scheduled for May 5 at 1 pm.

7. Ratios: Final grades will be determined according to the following ratios:
a. Posts and daily preparation: 25%
b. Midterm exam and terms quiz: 20%
c. Presentation & paper: 30%
d. Final exam: 25%

ACCOMMODATIONS NOTICE

If you have a letter from Disability Support Services (DSS) indicating that you have a disability or special need requiring academic accommodations, please present the letter to me, which specifies the accommodations that you might require. If necessary, schedule a meeting with me during office hours to discuss these needs. If you need academic accommodations due to a disability and have not registered with DSS, please contact the DSS office at (410) 617-2062.

HONOR CODE NOTICE: EVERYBODY READ THIS!

This course is covered by the Loyola University Honor Code. All students guilty of plagiarizing or cheating on any assignment will fail the course, regardless of their grades on other assignments or activities.

The English department regards plagiarism and other forms of cheating as the antithesis of scholarship, learning, collegiality, and responsible citizenship. The department defines plagiarism as any unacknowledged use of another’s words or ideas. This definition applies to non-print media, including the Internet, as well as to books, magazines, journals, newspapers, and other print media.

It is the student’s responsibility to understand what constitutes plagiarism and to avoid it in all assignments. Students should familiarize themselves with Loyola’s Honor Code as described in the Community Standards booklet. Neither ignorance of the definition of plagiarism nor the lack of intention to deceive constitutes an acceptable defense in matters of scholarly dishonesty. Anyone having questions or uncertainties about plagiarism should consult with the instructor before submitting any assignment. When in doubt, err on the side of safety!

SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND FILMS

EN 386.01: ADAPTATIONS


I. THE ART OF ADAPTATION
January 16: **Classic Fiction/Classic Hollywood.** Text: James, *Washington Square*, through Chapter 22. Film: *Visions of Light*; Film techniques videos: Composition; Shot types.


January 30: Film: *Hearts of Darkness: A Filmmaker’s Apocalypse*. **Quiz on film terms.**


February 13: **Carv(er)ing and Pasting.** Text: Carver, *Short Cuts*, through p. 92.

February 18: Text: *Short Cuts*, remainder. Film. *Short Cuts*. **Midterm essay prompts posted on Moodle.**

February 20: Text: Carver, “What We Talk about When We Talk about Love” (pdf). Film: *Birdman.*


February 27: Texts: *The Orchid Thief* to end; Film: *Adaptation*. Presentation. **Midterm essays due.**

March 1-6: No Class. Spring Break.

**II. FILM IN FICTION**


March 17: **Extraordinary Renditions.** Film: *Psycho.*

**III. THE NOVELIST AS DIRECTOR: PAUL AUSTER**


**IV. THE DIRECTOR AS NOVELIST: JOHN SAYLES**


April 9: **No Class: Easter Break.**

**V. THE NOVEL AS SERIES**

April 14: Atwood, *The Handmaid’s Tale*, through Chapter 27.

April 16: *The Handmaid’s Tale*, to end.


April 23: *The Handmaid’s Tale*, Episodes 4-7.


**Tuesday, May 5, 1 pm. Final exam.**

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Group Screenings.

All are held in the Library Screening Room, downstairs, at 7 pm, unless otherwise specified.

Jan 19: The Heiress

Feb. 16 or 17: Short Cuts

March 29: Matewan

FILM RESERVES for EN 386.01
Adaptations: Film, Fiction, and Authorship
Instructor: Dr. Mark Osteen

Visions of Light TR 850. V58 2000
Short Cuts PN1997.S5272 2004
Birdman DVD on order.
The Day of the Locust PN 1997.D38355 2004
Psycho PN 1997.P89 1999
Matewan PN 1997 .M3849 1999
Limbo PN 1997 .L5633 1999
Lone Star PN 1997 .L66478 2010
Smoke PN 1997 .S6435 1999
The Inner Life of Martin Frost PN 1997 .I5647 2007