Course Syllabus

Comm 359 "Applied Media Aesthetics" Fall 2018

Professor Mark Tolstedt CAC 321 346-3920 mtolsted@uwsp.edu office hours: Tuesdays &Thursdays 10:00-11:00 AM Wednesdays By Appointment

Course Description:

"Despite the ever-increasing automation of standard two-dimensional (2D) and three-dimensional (3D) digital cinema and video equipment, which optimizes most of the point-and-shoot variables, you are still in charge of making aesthetiec decisions. More so, you can no longer rely solely on instinct when framing a shot or adding music to your video track but must acquire the knowledge and the skill to select and apply on a regular basis those aesthetic elements that translate significant ideas into maximally effective messages."

Herbert Zettl, <u>Sight Sound Motion: Applied Media Aesthetics 7th ed</u>, p. xxiii

This course examines visuals and sounds in/for television programs and films, from an <u>applied media aesthetic approach</u>. Students are expected to both "deconstruct" (to critically evaluate) images and sounds in television and film.

Course Objectives:

-to critically examine television/video programs and films.
-to become familiar with various forms of applied media aesthetics.
-to be able to deconstruct AND construct images and sounds using aesthetics.

Textbooks and Supplies:

Zettl, H. (2014) <u>Sight Sound Motion: Applied Media Aesthetics 7th</u> <u>ed.</u> Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

This class is based on the 7th edition. If you choose to use an earlier edition, you may miss some of the content covered and this could very well "hurt" your exam performance in this class.

Grading:

Final grades for this course will be determined by student performance in several areas: a deconstruction essay, content tests, a sample presentation, and inclass participation.

- <u>Deconstruction Essay</u>. 50 points assigned to a deconstruction exercise. This is a written essay of between five and seven pages in length that applies a <u>minimum of four</u> of the concepts presented in the Zettl book to the television program/movie that is assigned to you for the semester.
- 2) <u>Sample Presentation</u>: 30 points are assigned to an in-class presentation of a concept presented in Zettl to the television program/movie that is assigned to you for the semester.
- 3) <u>Content Tests</u>. There are seven (7) tests accounting for 210 points. These are administered in class, on the assigned date. The exams are comprised of both multiple-choice, true-false, and essay questions. These are "open note," "open book" exams.
- 4) <u>Class Participation</u>. Your participation and contribution during class time are expected. If you are not in class or if you fail to participating and contribute when asked, you will lose points. There are10 points assigned to participation.

Point Totals:

Content Tests:		7@30	210
Sample Presentation	:	1@30	30
Deconstruction Essay:		1@50	50
Class Participation:		1@10	10
TOTAL:			300

Grading Scale:

Final grades will be determined on the following scale:

95%+	=	А	285-300
94%	=	A-	282-284
93%	=	B+	279-281
87%-92%	=	В	261-278
86%	=	B-	258-260
85%	=	C+	255-257
77%-84%	=	С	231-254
76%	=	C-	228-230
75%	=	D+	225-227
71%-74%	=	D	210-224
0%-70%	=	F	0-209

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<u>Attendance Policy</u>: Attendance is **expected**. <u>I will take daily attendance</u>. If you chose not to attend, **it is your responsibility** to pick up any materials that you missed. Please refer to the class participation requirement to understand how your failure to be in class impacts your final grade in the this class.

<u>Make-up Examinations</u> and <u>Late Assignments</u>: Unless otherwise noted, all assignments are due on the assigned date. There are only 3 circumstances under which students will be allowed to make-up a missed examination or turn in an assignment after the scheduled due date. (#1) a death in the family, or (#2) an illness--a note from a doctor or the campus health center may be required, or (#3) a UWSP-sponsored activity--a note from the event coordinator, in advance of the scheduled examination or assigned work, is required. These circumstances do not automatically grant you a make-up of an exam or extension for an assignment. You must notify me in a timely manner, and based on that contact a decision will be made whether you will be allowed a make-up an exam or will be given an extension for a scheduled assignment.

Community Bill of Rights and Responsibilities

UW-Stevens Point values a safe, honest, respectful, and inviting learning environment. In order to ensure that each student has the opportunity to success, we have developed a set of expectations for all students and instructors. This set of expectations is known as the *Rights and Responsibilities* document, and it isintended to help establish a positive living and learning environment at UWSP. Read more here: http://

www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Pages/rightsandresponsibilities.aspx

Academic integrity is central to the mission of higher education in general and UWSP in particular. Academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) is taken very seriously. Don't do it! The minimumpenalty for a violation of academic integrity is a failure (zero) for the assignment, possibly the class and/or . For more information, see the UWSP "Student Academic Standards and Disciplinary Procedures" section of the *Rights andResponsibilities* document, Chapter 14, which can be accessed here: http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RIghtsRespons/SRR-2010/rightsChap14.pdf

Assistive Accommodations

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal law requiring educational institutions to provide reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. For more information about UWSP's policies, check here:

http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/ADA/ rightsADAPolicyInfo.pdf If you have a disability and require classroom and/or exam accommodations, please register with theDisability and Assistive Technology Center and then contact me. I am happy to help in any way that I can. For more information, please visit the Disability and AssistiveTechnology Center, located on the 6th floor of the Learning Resource Center (the Library). You can also find more information here: http://www4.uwsp.edu/special/disability/

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Students are responsible for monitoring their E-mail. Materials relative to the course (clarification of assignments, possible changes to the syllabus, etc.) will be sent to students on via E-mail.

Course Schedule:

--lexpected that students will have completed the required readings by the class session for which they are scheduled.

--I reserve the right to make changes to the course requirements depending on need. If this happens, you will be notified of any changes in class, via CANVAS, and through email.

Week 1:

Tuesday, September 4th: Thursday, September 6th:

Week 2:

Tuesday, September 11th:

Thursday, September 13th:

Week 3: Tuesday, September 18^h: Thursday, September 20th:

Week 4:

Tuesday, September 25th: Thursday, September 27th:

Week 5: Tuesday, October 2nd: Thursday, October 4th:

Week 6:

Tuesday, October 9th: Thursday, October 11th:

Week 7: Tuesday, October 16th: Thursday, October 18th:

Week 8:

Tuesday, October 23rd: Thursday, October 25th:

Week 9: Tuesday, October 30th:

Thursday, November 1st: Week 10:

Tuesday, November 6th: Thursday, November 8th:

Week 11: Tuesday, November 13th: Thursday, November 15th: Course Introduction and Media Aesthetics Media Aesthetics Overview (BRING BOOKS TO CLASS)

Chapter 1 TV Program/Film for Analysis Form DUE Chapter 1 continued

> Chapters 2 & 3 Student Sample Presentations

Unit 1 examination Chapters 4 & 5

Chapters 4 & 5 continued Student Sample Presentations

Unit 2 examination Chapter 6, 7, & 8

Chapter 6, 7, & 8 continued Student Sample Presentations

Unit 3 examination Chapters 9, 10, & 11

Chapters 9, 10, & 11 continued Student Sample Presentations

Unit 4 examination Chapters 12, 13, & 14

Chapters 12, 13, & 14 continued Student Sample Presentations

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Week 12: Tuesday, November 20th: Thursday, November 22nd: Week 13: Tuesday, November 27th: Thursday, November 29th: Week 14: Tuesday, December 4th: Thursday, December 6th: Friday, December 7th: Week 15: Tuesday, December 11th: Thursday, December 13th:

Unit 5 examination NO CLASS THANKSGIVING

Chapters 15 & 16 Unit 6 examination

Chapters 17 & 18 Chapters 17 & 18 continued Critical Application (Deconstruction) Essay Due

> Student Sample Presentations Unit 7 examination

Units by chapter:

Unit 1:	Chapters 1, 2, & 3
Unit 2:	Chapters 4 & 5
Unit 3:	Chapters 6, 7, & 8
Unit 4:	Chapters 9, 10, & 11
Unit 5:	Chapters 12, 13 & 14
Unit 6:	Chapters 15 & 16
Unit 7:	Chapters 17 & 18