Welcome!

Welcome to THEA201: Film Appreciation! My name is Sandra Kern Mollman, and I will be your instructor this semester. In this course, you will explore the art of film and its impact on society. You will view and discuss American and international cultures through the study of their films, filmmaking, and critical analysis. You will also learn the various elements that make up a film so that your movie viewing will be a more enriching experience with a more educated eye.

Required Textbook


REQUIRED FILMS

The films listed below are required viewing. All should be readily available at any Blockbuster or major chain video store. Some may also be viewed online or from your local library. Students may wish to explore purchasing the films. Contact the instructor ASAP if you have trouble locating any of the films listed below. Please try to get the movie in the WIDESCREEN format whenever possible.

- The Hunger Games (2012) Directed by Gary Ross
- Milk (2008) Directed by Gus Van Sant
- Inside Job (2010) Directed by Charles Ferguson
- Life of Pi (2012) Directed by Ang Lee
- Selma (2014) Directed by Ava DuVernay
- Chocolat (2000) Directed by Lasse Hallstrom
- Interstellar (2014) Directed by Christopher Nolan
**Getting Started**

First, familiarize yourself with the CE Online Orientation Packet ([http://www.usd.edu/continuing-and-distance-education/courses.cfm](http://www.usd.edu/continuing-and-distance-education/courses.cfm)) for detailed online learning information and expectations for online behavior.

Next, you will want to access the course in Desire2Learn (D2L). This can be done via the student portal, or directly via [https://d2l.sdbor.edu](https://d2l.sdbor.edu). **NOTE:** You will not be able to access the course until the start date listed in WebAdvisor.

Now that you have entered the course, please do the following:

1. Check your Course Mail.
2. Orient yourself to the course components: News (where I will update you each week and with up to date information), Content (where all notes, supplemental information, study guides, etc will reside), Discussions, etc.
3. Read through the items under “Getting Started,” on the top, left-hand side of the course homepage.
4. Print your syllabus FROM WITHIN THE COURSE (note that the syllabus located within the D2L course will be the most up-to-date).
5. Complete the Self-Introduction Discussion.

*Students are required to log in by May, 27 2015. Any student that has not logged in and is not actively participating in the course by 5:00 pm May 26, 2017 (the last day a class can be dropped and a student receive a 100% tuition refund) MAY be dropped by the instructor.*

**Contacting Me**

The best way to contact me is via the D2L mail, which can be accessed within the course. I will have “Virtual Office Hours” on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. I will respond to your emails at those times, and will do my utmost to respond to emailed requests within twenty-four (24) hours during the weekdays, or forty-eight (48) hours on the weekends. All emails will be responded to within 48 hours Monday through Friday. In an emergency type situation, you can email me at sandra.mollman@usd.edu.

It is my goal to help you learn about Film, the cultures within which they are produced, and how the languages of film work to tell us a story. Of course, it is up to you to get the most out of this learning experience. I look forward to reading your discussion postings and seeing your knowledge of this subject matter grow. I look forward to this semester, and to touring, with you, *the languages of film*. So, grab your favorite beverage and pop up some popcorn, and enjoy the shows!!

Good luck in your journey to a better understanding of film!

*Sandra*