LS 180L.01: Introduction to Film

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Introduction to Film
LS 180

Professor Sean O’Brien
Office hours: M, W 10:30-12:00 and by appointment
Texts: Understanding Movies
Readings on e-reserve
Requirements:
  Weekly quizzes
  Short essays
  Comprehensive final exam

Schedule:

Film Conventions and Aesthetics
8/29 Intro
8/31 Film Conventions
   Readings: UM, ch. 1, pgs. 476-483

9/5 Sling Blade
9/7 Quiz/Formalism
   Readings: UM, pgs. 483-488

9/12 Formalist film
9/14 Quiz/Editing
   Readings: UM, pgs. 142-190

9/19 The Hours
9/21 Quiz/ Mis-en-scene
   Readings: UM, ch. 2

9/26 Mis-en-scene film
9/28 Quiz

Representation and the Politics of Film
10/3 Propaganda
   Readings: Propaganda readings on e-reserve
10/5 Pretty Woman

10/10 Quiz/Ideology and attempts to disrupt it
   Readings: Ideology readings on e-reserve; UM, pgs. 428-433
10/12 Crash
10/17  Film and representation  
Readings: Aaron and Baudrillard readings on e-reserve  
10/19  Schindler’s List  
10/24  Shoah  
10/26  Quiz/Discussion  

Directors  
10/31  Auteur Theory  
Readings: UM, pgs 488-493  
11/2  Pulp Fiction  
11/7  Kill Bill II  
11/9  Quiz/Analysis  

Genre – Comedy  
11/14  Comedy  
Readings: comedy reading on e-reserve  
11/16  School of Rock  
11/21  No class  
11/28  Quiz/Analysis  
11/30  The Gods Must Be Crazy  
12/5  Summary and Review  
12/7  Summary and Review  

There will be a final comprehensive exam on Monday, December 11 from 3:20-5:20.