

COURSE OUTLINE

FILM-212

The Films of Alfred Hitchcock

3 Semester Hours

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

This course is an introduction to the films of Alfred Hitchcock. Students will view a variety of Hitchcock's films which span his career from *Easy Virtue* in 1928 to *Family Plot* in 1976. Supplemental videos will present some of Hitchcock's working practices and examples of his work in TV. Readings will include critical analyses. (3 hours weekly)

Overall Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will:

1. Identify running themes in Hitchcock's movies.
2. Discuss the director's use of mise-en-scène and revolutionary camera angles.
3. Analyze some of Hitchcock's editing techniques.
4. Distinguish different cinematic styles and genres developed over Hitchcock's career.
5. Discuss the "auteur theory" of the cinema, especially as it relates to Hitchcock.
6. Compare and contrast key elements in film authorship, genre, ideology and theory.
7. Analyze Hitchcock's films and literary works and place them in their cultural settings.

Major Topics

I. Early Years

- a) *Easy Virtue* (1928)
- b) *Blackmail* (1929)
- c) *The Man Who Knew Too Much* (1935)

II. Thematic Years

- a) *Rebecca* (1940)
- b) *Suspicion* (1941)
- c) *Shadow of a Doubt* (1943)
- d) *Lifeboat* (1944)

III. Screenwriters

- a) *Rope* (1948)
- b) *Strangers on a Train* (1951)

IV. Major Phase

- a) *Rear Window* (1954)
- b) *Dial M For Murder* (1954)
- c) *The Trouble with Harry* (1955)
- d) *The Man Who Knew Too Much* (1956)
- e) *The Wrong Man* (1956)
- f) *Vertigo* (1958)
- g) *North by Northwest* (1959)
- h) *Psycho* (1960).
- i) *The Birds* (1963)
- j) *Marnie* (1964).

V. Legacy

- a) *Frenzy* (1972).
- b) *Family Plot* (1976)

Course Requirements

Grading/exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member, but may include a researched essay, oral presentation, and regular exams.

Other Course Information

This course is an Arts and Sciences, Fine Arts and Humanities Elective.