

**PHILOSOPHY 360
PHILOSOPHY & FILM**

**Spring 2020
Mon./Thurs. 2:30-3:50
COR A129
CRN# 23732**

**Instructor: Nina Belmonte
Office: CLE B326
Office Hours: Tues. 1:30-2:30
Email: belmonte@uvic.ca**

Description of Assignments

Class Participation/Homework

We will begin class every Monday with a discussion of the focus film for the week. To that end, and for the sake of a high-quality course experience, there will be regular homework questions based on the films and readings and due *in class* on Mondays *at the beginning of class*. These questions are intended to help you come to class prepared to engage in discussion; it will not be possible to make them up. **DO NOT EMAIL THE HOMEWORK.**

Two Short Papers (1000 Words):

There will be two short papers required for this course. These will be critical/exegetical writings on the theory and philosophy we've read, intended to improve skills of critical and concise composition, and to prepare you for your final essay. I will give out paper topics one week before the due date, but you are always free to write on a topic of your own choice, so long as you speak with me *before the due date*. These will be evaluated on your understanding of the material, and the clarity and presentation of your argument.

Final Paper (Film Analysis)

There will be a more substantial (2500 words) paper due at the end of the semester in which you will analyze a single film or filmic representation of a particular philosophical idea. I will provide a list of possible films/topics, but you are free to choose one of your own, as long as you speak with me *in advance*. This work should draw from the course readings and include at least three secondary sources. The final paper may include insights from the shorter, theory papers.

Evaluation/Grades:

Percentages will convert to a letter grade according to the following scheme:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 65-69	D = 50-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 60-64	F = 0-49
A- = 80-84	B- = 70		

A Note on Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Actions such as plagiarism, multiple submissions, falsifying materials used in academic evaluations, cheating, aiding others to cheat, or unauthorized use of an editor violate University policies on academic integrity and are considered serious offences

WEEK SIX: Philosophy as Film: “*Camera*”
Featured Film: “Arrival” (Villeneuve, 2016)

10 The Story of Your Life**

WEEK ELEVEN: Philosophy of Film: *Ethics of the Image*
Featured Film: “Triumph of the Will,” (Riefenstahl, 1934)
Double Bill: “Kill Bill,” (Tarrantino, 2004)

16 Beauty & Evil
Read: Devereaux, “Beauty and Evil”

19 TBA

WEEK TWELVE: Philosophy of Film: *Representation & Identity*
Featured Film: “To Sleep With Anger” (Burnett, 1990)
Double Bill: “The Reel Injun” (Diamond, 2010)

23 Cinema of Symbolic Knowledge
Read: Naremore, *Charles Burnett*, Chp. 5

26 Race and Representation
Read: Mills, “Non-Cartesian Sums”

WEEK THIRTEEN: Philosophy of Film: *Affect*
Featured Film: “Rear Window,” (Hitchcock, 1954)
Double Bill: “Vertigo,” (Hitchcock, 1958)

30 Visual Pleasure – The Need to See
Read: Mulvey, “Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema”

April 2 Argument by Affect
Read: Fawell, “Fashion Dreams”

****17 **Final Paper Due****