WINTERIM 2016 FILM STUDIES COURSES

Film Studies/English 111-201 – Entertainment Arts, GER HUM
ONLINE, Andrew Martin

Film Studies 212-201 – Intermediate Topics in Film Studies: Business on Film, GER HUM
ONLINE, Benjamin Schneider

Film Studies/English 111 - Entertainment Arts
From cinema to cell phones, the multimedia context of contemporary life is rapidly changing; this course will examine some of those shifting and ubiquitous technologies and images. Entertainment Arts offers a general introduction to the critical study of film, television, and new media. While examining each technology individually we will also work in a state of persistent comparison, endeavoring to comprehend media culture as a larger phenomenon. Through readings, screenings, and discussions, students will develop sophisticated understandings of media culture in terms of technical properties, industrial practices, representation, cultural theories, social responses and more. This course counts towards the Digital Arts and Cultures Certificate.

Film Studies 212 – Intermediate Topics in Film Studies: Business on Film
A recent piece in Money Magazine describes Hollywood films about US businesses as “getting it all wrong.” This is certainly paradoxical considering the power and prestige of the entertainment industry in the US. In Hollywood, the world of business enacts many kinds of narratives, from conspiracy stories to morality plays to rags-to-riches dramas. In the Business Film, as in all genres, filmmakers put on display the full spectrum of human behaviors; but, then, how can the films that depict business dealings and business people be said to be so off target? Through sustained study in humanistic inquiry, students in this course will investigate this and other larger questions by examining just what and how films that take the world of business as their subject try to communicate about that world. Critical readings on the individual films in this area of Film Studies will complement the films we view for the course. In addition to the discussion driven writing and analysis to be done on D2L, students will write short essays on the larger ideas developed through the discussions. Screenings might include: Wall Street, Glengarry Glen Ross, Working Girl, Nine to Five, Trading Places, The Social Network, Office Space, The Player, and The Devil Wears Prada.