Spring 1-15-2000

ENG 3504-001: Film Documentaries

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Film Documentaries

1. **Course objectives**

   To appreciate and question distinctions between fact and fiction; to learn to watch films more closely; to share personal aesthetic responses with other thoughtful people.

2. **Course content**

   A variety of films in which the search for truth along with beauty is central to “aesthetic meanings.”

3. **Writing requirements**

   Weekly quizzes or bi-weekly (unannounced), based on discussion and films viewed in class (7 questions for each quiz); a journal (at least 200 words for each class period), clearly dated and typed or written legibly every-other-line (illegible journals will be graded “F”); a final “take-home” style exam/term paper (2500-3000 words), focused on the main theme(s) of the course; referring in detail to most of the films we’ve viewed.

4. **Final grade**

   The final grade will be determined by weighing the various requirements as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
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</tbody>
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5. **Attendance**

   Not required (but quizzes cannot be made up without an excused absence, and the quality of your daily journal—concreteness, originality, consistency—represents a major part of your grade).

6. **Students with disabilities**

   If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

7. **Sexual content; vulgarities; blunt references to the human animal**

   Be aware, discussion will sometimes focus on the “dark” (and sometimes disturbing) parts of the human body (genitalia, buttocks, the inner ear, intestines, the dirt of a fingernail…). No pornographic or “NC-17” films will be viewed/shown in class, but if you are offended by the thought (or, yes, also, the sight) of any part of the human body, you should not enroll in this particular course.