Course Change Proposal
Form A

Academic Group (College): Arts and Letters
Academic Organization (Department): English/Film
Date: March 6, 2007

Type of Course Proposal:
New _x_ Change __ Deletion __
Department Chair: Dr. Sheree Meyer
Submitted by: Professor Douglas Rice

Does this course fulfill a requirement for single-subject or multiple subject credential students? Yes __ No _x_
For Catalog Copy: Yes _x_ No __
CCE: Yes __ No _x_
Semester Effective:
Fall _x_ Spring __, 2007_

This course replaces experimental course Subject Area (prefix) and Catalog Number (course number):
This Catalog Number (course number) is being replaced:

Change from:
Subject Area (prefix) & Catalog No. (course no.): Title: Units:

Change to:
Subject Area (prefix) & Catalog No. (course no.): Title: Units: 3
Engl 97 Introduction to Film Studies

JUSTIFICATION:
This is a cornerstone course for the newly developed Film Studies Degree. It is the required course for this newly developed major and addresses specific discourse issues that are important for students to learn early in their studies. This course will focus on the study of cinematic techniques. The course will allow students to study these different elements of film (mise-en-scene, composition, editing, sound, diegesis, the shot, color, and so on). This course will do this through a focused lab approach to examining specific parts of film in close detail. It will also introduce students to different ways for writing about film (the screening report, the film review, the theoretical essay, and the critical essay). The course will also introduce students to different approaches to writing about film (film history, genre, national cinema, auteurs, formalism, ideology, and so on). This course also contributes to our departmental needs. It will add a dimension to our students who select the Cultural Studies core for the English degree and will also provide our students with another class to develop their critical and interpretive writing skills inside a specific discourse.

NEW COURSE DESCRIPTION: (Not to exceed 80 words, and language should conform to catalog copy. See http://www.csus.edu/acaf/univmanual/crspsl.htm - Guidelines for Catalog Course Description)

This course examines cinematic techniques, styles, vocabulary, and discourses. The course will introduce different ways for writing about films and for working with a variety of cinematic terms. Film form and style will be studied by examining specific scenes in films from different genres, nations, and directors. Films used throughout the course will be selected from different historical periods.

Note:
Prerequisite: None
Corequisite: None
CAN (California Articulation Number):
Graded: Letter _x_ Credit/No Credit__ Instructor Approval Required? Yes _x_ No _x_
FOR NEW COURSE PROPOSALS OR SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES ONLY:

**Description of the Expected Learning Outcomes:** Describe outcomes using the following format: "Students will be able to: 1), 2), etc." See the example at http://www.csus.edu/acaf/example.htm

Students will
1.) Develop a cinematic vocabulary and use this vocabulary in their analysis of film form.
2.) Discuss the elements of the craft of film.
3.) Analyze and evaluate specific scenes in films in order to explore different cinematic techniques.
4.) Demonstrate knowledge of film history and of the development of different technical aspects of film.
5.) Examine films, arguments of film critics and historians, in order to prepare their own interpretations and understanding of film form.
6.) Memorize film terms.
7.) Report on the different techniques used by a variety of film directors.

**Attach a list of the required/recommended course readings and activities [Note: it is understood that these are updated and modified as needed by the instructor(s).] This attachment should be forwarded only to your Dean's office, not Academic Affairs.**

**Assessment Strategies:** A description of the assessment strategies (e.g., portfolios, examinations, performances, pre-and post-tests, conferences with students, student papers) which will be used by the instructor to determine the extent to which students have achieved the learning outcomes noted above:

Students will keep a weekly critical journal. There will be a mid term and a final. And students will write short papers.

For whom is this course being developed?

Majors in the Dept ___ x ___ Majors of other Depts ___ x ___ Minors in the Dept ___ x ___ General Education ___ Other ___

Is this course required in a degree program (major, minor, graduate degree, certificate)? Yes ___ x ___ No ___

If yes, identify program(s): Film Studies

Does the proposed change or addition cause a significant increase in the use of College or University resources (lab room, computer facilities, faculty, etc.)? ___ No ___

If yes, attach a description of resources needed and verify that resources are available.

Indicate which department or programs will be affected by the proposed course (if any).

The Department Chair's signature below indicates that affected programs have been sent a copy of this proposal form.

**Approvals:** If proposed change, new course or deletion is approved, sign and date below. If not approved, forward without signing to the next reviewing authority, and attach an explanatory memorandum to the original copy.

Signatures:  

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<tr>
<th>Department Chair:</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>5/2/07</td>
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<tr>
<td>College Dean or Associate Dean:</td>
<td>8-9-07</td>
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<td>CPSP (for school personnel courses ONLY)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associate Vice President and Dean for Academic Programs</td>
<td>CONDITIONAL APPROVAL 8/14/07</td>
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<td>Course Classification (e.g., lecture, lab, seminar, discussion):</td>
<td>Title for SIS+/CMS (not more than 30 characters)</td>
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<td>lecture-composition C3</td>
<td>Introduction to Film Studies</td>
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<th>Cross Listed?</th>
<th>If yes, do they meet together and fulfill the same requirement, and what is the other course.</th>
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<td>Yes ___</td>
<td>No ___________</td>
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| How Many Times Can This Course be Taken for Credit? | once |

| Can the course be taken for Credit more than once during the same term? | Yes ___ No ___________ |


College of Arts and Letters Curriculum Committee
CHECK-OFF LIST FOR COURSE APPROVAL

Name of Department English  Effective Date fall '07

Proposed Course Number Engl 097  Course Name Introduction to Film Studies

Contact Person (Instructor) Doug Rice  Email  Phone

Projected Enrollment 30  Units of Credit 3

Has the course been offered before? no  If yes, under what number?

Suggested Course Classification C3 Unit distribution: lecture ☐  lab ☐  activity ☐

List the prerequisite(s) for the proposed course.
none

For which students or programs is the course designated?
☒ Majors in the department
☒ Minors in the department
☐ Majors of other departments (e.g., An A&L course designed for Business Administration majors)
☐ General Service
☒ Other (specify) Film Studies

If approved by the A & L Curriculum Committee, will this course be submitted for consideration in the General Education Program?  ☐ Yes  ☒ No

Method of Presentation:
☐ Lecture  ☐ Lecture/Activity  ☒ Lecture/Discussion  ☐ Lecture/Laboratory
☐ Activity  ☐ Laboratory  ☐ Seminar  ☒ Films and/or other visuals
☐ Performance  ☒ other (specify) Writing

If different amounts of credit will be available for the proposed course, indicate differences in course requirements for earning the units.

If the course can be taken more than one time for credit, what is the justification for the repetition? How will the two (or more) experiences differ?
ENGLISH 97: Introduction to Film Studies

Professor Douglas F. Rice  
Fall 2008  
Office: Douglass Hall 218  
Phone: 278-5435  
Email: drice@csus.edu  
Office hours: Mon. 5:30-6:30; Weds. 1:00-2:30 and 5:00-5:30; by appt.

Required Texts:

Bordwell and Thompson, Film Art: An Introduction  
Corrigan, A Short Guide to Writing About Film  
Welles, Citizen Kane DVD  
Handouts  
A Notebook to keep as a journal

Course Description:

This course examines the basic elements of film style and craft, and explores a variety of different ways for writing about film as film. Students will be introduced to cinematic vocabularies through a variety of readings and class lectures as well as through the practice of carefully viewing and reviewing clips from films.

Woven in throughout the semester will be discussions and references to Citizen Kane. Students are expected to view and review this film throughout the semester. Each week clips from films from different genres, nations, historical periods will be shown to illustrate these film concepts.

Learning Outcomes:

Students will
1.) Develop a cinematic vocabulary and use this vocabulary in their analysis of film form.  
2.) Discuss the elements of the craft of film.  
3.) Analyze and evaluate specific scenes in films in order to explore different cinematic techniques.  
4.) Demonstrate knowledge of film history and of the development of different technical aspects of film.  
5.) Examine films, arguments of film critics and historians, in order to prepare their own interpretations and understanding of film form.  
6.) Memorize film terms.  
7.) Report on the different techniques used by a variety of film directors.
Course Requirements:

1. Students will keep a critical film journal. The basis of this journal will be discussed the first class meeting and samples of journal entries with commentary will be posted on the LOCUS web page for the course.

2. Students will write 4 short position papers on film style (mise-en-scene, cinematography, editing, and sound).

3. Students will write and revise one formal essay on narrative or nonnarrative form. Drafts will be submitted for in-class workshop as well as for response from the instructor.

4. One conference with instructor to go over the student’s writing project.

5. Short answer mid term and final exam.

6. Students must attend all classes. Any missed work students must makeup on their own. Students are responsible for all work done in class. Students must arrive on time. Our class only meets once a week; thus, more than once absence (or two late arrivals) will have a negative affect on your final grade. Students are to be prepared for class discussions. They are to have completed the readings prior to class and come to class prepared to question and respond to the readings and the films. All students are expected to participate in class discussions and interpretations of the films

Grading:

Journal: 40 points
Position papers: 20 points each
Formal Essay: 50 points
Mid term: 100 points
Final: 100 points

Week One:

Overview of course requirements.
Introduction to Film as film

Week Two:

Corrigan, Chapter 1, pages 1-17
Bordwell, The Work of film production, pages 3-31
Bordwell, Film History, pages 451-492

Week Three:
Bordwell, The Significance of Film Form, pages 41-61
Corrigan, pages 82-107
Corrigan, Chapter 2, pages 18-35

Week Four:

Bordwell, Narrative as a Formal System, pages 64-98
Bordwell, Film Criticism: The Classical Narrative Cinema, pages 362-386

Week Five:

Bordwell, Nonnarrative as Formal System, pages 102-140
Bordwell, Film Criticism Narrative Alternatives to Classical Filmmaking, pages 387-405

Week Six:

Bordwell, THE SHOT: Mise-en-scene, pages 145-17
Corrigan, pages 48-57
Proposal for Formal essay due

Week Seven:

First draft of position paper 1 due
Continued discussion, group work and student presentations on Mise-en-Scene

Week Eight:

Mid term exam and position paper one due

Week Nine:

Bordwell, THE SHOT: Cinematographic Properties, pages 185-239
Corrigan, pages 58-65
Outline and beginning of formal essay due

Week Ten:

First draft of position paper 2 due
Continued discussion and group work and student presentations on cinematographic properties

Week Eleven:

Bordwell, The Relation of Shot to Shot: Editing, pages 246-288
Corrigan, pages 65-72
Position paper 2 due

Week Twelve:

Continued discussion and group work and student presentations on editing
First draft of position paper 3 due

Week Thirteen:

Bordwell, Sound in Cinema, pages 292-327
Corrigan, pages 72-75
Position paper 3 due

Week Fourteen:

Continued discussion and group work and student presentations on sound
First draft of position paper 4 due

Week Fifteen:

Bordwell, Style as Formal System, pages 333-357
Bordwell, Form, Style and Ideology, pages 424-441
Position paper 4 due

Final exam week:

Final Exam
Formal Essay final draft due