

Preliminary Course Syllabus Spring, 2015

Course Title: Coen Country: The Coen Brothers and Film History

Course Code: FLM 109 W

Instructor: J. M. Tyree

Course Summary:

FLM 109 W is a film appreciation course focusing on the cinema of the Coen brothers. We'll study the Coens' films in tandem with classics that influenced them, in order to explore how they have used Hollywood genres to renew the traditions of crime and comedy. Students will post "Viewing Notes" to record thoughts and impressions, and interact by discussing Coen films each week with each other and the Instructor. Lectures will emphasize the influences of directors like Howard Hawks, Preston Sturges, and Billy Wilder.

**Please see course page for full description and additional details.*

Grade Options and Requirements:

Letter Grade (A, B, C, D, No Pass)

Participation	40%
Viewing Notes	30%
Small Group Work	30%

Credit/No Credit (CR/NC)

A passing grade (for "Credit") = at least 70% total from above categories

No Grade Requested (NGR)

No work will be required; no credit shall be received; no proof of attendance can be provided.

**Please Note: If you require proof that you completed a Continuing Studies course for any reason (for example, employer reimbursement), you must choose either the Letter Grade or Credit/No Credit option. Courses taken for NGR will not appear on official transcripts or grade reports.*

Tentative Weekly Outline (N.B. This is Subject to Change):

Week 1: April 27th

Getting to Know You & Course Set-Up

Watching the Coens: *Blood Simple*, *Raising Arizona* & *Miller's Crossing*

Week 2: May 4th

The Coens & Comedy: *His Girl Friday* & *The Hudsucker Proxy*

Week 3: May 11th

The Coens & Crime: *The Big Sleep* & *The Big Lebowski* (+ *Fargo*)

Week 4: May 18th

The Coens & Comedy, Con't: *Sullivan's Travels* & *O Brother Where Art Thou?*

Week 5: May 25th

Coens & Crime, Con't: *Double Indemnity* & *The Man Who Wasn't There* (+ *No Country for Old Men*)

Week 6: June 1st

Dreamscapes & New Directions: *Barton Fink* & *A Serious Man*
Course Wrap-Up & Paths for Writing about Cinema

Please contact the Continuing Studies Office with any questions:

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