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Course Syllabus

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

EN 332 Advanced Film

0 lab hours (3c-01-3sh)

Prerequisite: EN 101, 208

This course offers a close examination of classic and contemporary films and film theory from a variety of critical perspectives: spectatorship, cinematic authorship, feminism, historiography, genre, and cultural studies. Pays special attention to the treatment of women and African-Americans in film.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

- 1. From a close study of a series of films, students will come to understand the issues that have provoked critical commentary and debate among scholars and general film audiences.
- 2. Students will demonstrate an awareness of the scope of contemporary film theory and be able to differentiate clearly and concisely critical percentians.

- 3. Students will demonstrate that they can apply critical perspectives to the analysis of film. In this regard, they will consider the ways in which each film "constructs" itself as a source of entertainment and as an aesthetic object.
- 4. As related to the above objective, students will define

race in horror films. 13% D. <u>Mildred Pierce</u> (Michael Curtiz, 1945): The "woman's film" and film noir, the Hollywood studio film, woman as spectacle. 13% E. Kiss Me Deadly (Robert Aldrich 1955) Film and film noir and the Bomb. 13% Imitation of Life (Douglas Sirk, 1959): Film and the social context of the 1950's, revisionist readings of film, feminism and race. 13% F. She's Gotta Have It (Spike Lee, 1986): Black spectatorship, woman as spectacle. 13% Thelma and Louise (Ridley Scott, 1991): The "new women's film," feminine spectatorship, man as spectacle. 13% IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS Students must suggestfully somets the follows:

follows:

20% shorter critical essay 20% final examination 30% longer research paper Grading scale: A 92-100 total points B 83-91 total points C 74-82 total points D 65-73 total points 0-64 total points VI. REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Henderson, Robert. <u>D.W. Griffith: His Life and Work</u>. New York: Oxford UP, 1972.

Krutnik, Frank. In a Lonely Street: Film Noir, Genre,

Mayne, Judith. <u>The Woman at the Keyhole: Feminism and Women's Cinema</u>. Bloomington: Indiana UP, 1990.

Nichols, Bill. ed. <u>Movies and Methods</u>. 2 vols. New York: U of Columbia P, 1985.

Rebhorn, Marlette. "The Birth of a Nation: Prejudice
Triumphant." Screening America: Using Hollywood Films
to Teach History. New York: Peter Lang, 1988

332 Course Analysis Questionnaire

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