



FILM GENRES, PART 2

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Email Subject: FMP 405 [followed by your question]

NOTE: This is a 7 WEEK COURSE that covers the same material as a 15-week semester. If you cannot handle a compressed schedule or rigid deadlines, you may want to consider a different course! NO late assignments or exams are permitted unless it is a documented medical emergency. If you are having difficulty, ask for help before things are due! All due dates and times are ARIZONA time zone.

For 7 week sessions, you should plan for 18 hours of coursework per week for every 3 credits.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Course Objectives written and developed by Professor Philip J. Taylor:

- ▶ Recognize and distinguish between film genres
- ▶ Identify the characteristics, tropes, and elements that define each genre
- ▶ Identify key events in the history of cinema, with a focus on Hollywood films
- ▶ Recognize how each genre developed and was refined over time
- ▶ Compare specific revisionist films and franchises from the genre
- ▶ Explore the sub-genres of each genre
- ▶ Analyze key directors', writers', and actors' contributions to each genre

After World War I, Hollywood films began to not only saturate the domestic market, but they also made major inroads into foreign theatres in Europe and South America. In fact, they became a phenomenon with unprecedented cultural and social influence in a world which was rapidly polarizing with the emergence of radical regimes in China, Germany, Japan, and the U.S.S.R. This put even more pressure on Hollywood to perform. In order to keep up with this insatiable demand for more and more product, films had to be produced as quickly and as economically as possible. Hollywood churned out dozens of movies per week. To feed this entertainment monster, filmmakers copied or stole from narrative conventions and styles which had their beginnings in centuries of theatre and literature. Meanwhile, the businessmen – the producers and the exhibitors – began to formulate marketing strategies which the publishers and theatrical producers of the 19th century never dreamed of. Film genre became an important selling tool as formulas began to emerge... the repetition of plot devices, identifiable characters and locations, camera and editing techniques, etc. that would soon establish the basis not just for Hollywood genres but for cinema throughout the world.

Which is a good point to talk about the difference between film genres and genre films. *Genre film* is an expression that grew out of that very period when the mighty Hollywood studios dominated the industry. It has a generally negative connotation and refers to films that are imitative, with little quality and even less originality.

In fact, the great film critic Roger Ebert had a delightful list of genre moments that we have seen all too often in the movies. Here are a few:

- Any person waking from a nightmare will sit bolt upright and pant.
- If staying in a haunted house, women should investigate any strange noises clad only in their most revealing underwear.
- Police Departments give their officers personality tests to make sure they are assigned a partner who is their exact opposite.

We smile because we know he's right. The great, classic films are the films which etched those moments into the genre or reworked them entirely.

When we talk about film, we frequently employ the notion of genre. We describe films we have seen as comedies, thrillers, science fiction, detective, action, etc. We derive comfort from knowing the formulae of a genre and how this writer and director are going to weave another variation on the plots and production elements we have come to know and love. For instance, we know a good action or horror movie is going to start off with a big scare or a huge action scene. A romantic comedy invariably follows the storyline boy meets girl, boy loses girl, boy gets girl back. In an action film, our hero shooting at 20 men has a better chance of killing them than 20 men shooting at our hero.

These conventions evolved over time, due to world events, cultural changes in our society, and the innovations of film artists and film technicians. Along the way I will show you clips from classic examples of each genre. Each module will conclude with the Movie of the Module, a film which I think gloriously represents that genre. I will select films that you may not have seen before. I would like to expand your knowledge and appreciation of film, so screening "Guardians of the Galaxy" or "Bridesmaids" as examples of their genres would be fun, no doubt, but it would be hardly be a rewarding learning experience.

Please keep in mind that another professor may select a totally different group of films to illustrate these genres. The clips and films in this course are entirely my choices. Some of those choices are obviously there out of necessity – "Gone with the Wind", "Toy Story", for example – while others are my purely personal selections.

Film Genres, Part One covered Action/Adventure, Comedy, Drama, Science Fiction and Horror.

Film Genres, Part Two, is divided into five modules:

Module 1: **Animation**

Module 2: **Musicals**

Module 3: **Westerns**

Module 4: **War**

Module 5: **Religious and Epic**

Each module contains two or more lectures. Scattered throughout the lectures will be “**RESEARCH ALERTS**”. Whenever I say those words in these lectures – and I will say them quite often – it means that you need to research a subject that I won’t be covering in depth in the course itself. You’re going to have to do the research yourself. Why? Because there will certainly be a question on that subject in the quiz. This is a further learning component of the course which hopefully ensures that you listen to the entire lecture and watch all the clips. There is a large pool of questions for each quiz so that students will not get the same set of questions. Therefore, you may not get a question about a research alert over which you labored night and day. That’s the luck of the draw. And, speaking of quizzes...

QUIZZES

At the end of each module there will be a quiz consisting of 20 multiple choice and/or fill in the blank questions based on the lectures, clips and the film you have viewed in that module. You will have 25 minutes to complete the quiz, and it must be taken before you can continue to the next module. You will be penalized one point for every two full minutes you go over that time limit. Overtime penalties are applied upon successful submission of your quiz, and any points you lose will be displayed alongside your final score on your quiz receipt. Please note that the quiz program does not cope well with foreign characters such as é ñ ç. No need to use them on fill in the blank questions. Simply use regular e, n, c, etc.

There is no on-screen timer during the quizzes, so you are responsible for tracking your time and ensuring that you don’t exceed the time limit. All overtime penalties are based on the starting and ending times of a quiz as determined by the Herberger Online servers, not the time displayed on your computer screen, or any other timer you may use. Do not waste your time sending me or Tech Support any screenshots of the time on your phone, computer, etc., in order to appeal an overtime penalty. Please note that you will not be able to pass the quiz unless you have listened to all the lectures and watched all the clips and films in that module. Please keep in mind that Herberger Online has a record of exactly how much time you spend on the course website. You are advised to make extensive handwritten notes as you listen to the lectures and watch the films. A number of the questions in these quizzes will focus on the final couple of reels of the films. Just in case you decide to opt out early from a screening.

It should go without saying that the best way to avoid overtime penalties is to study the material beforehand, and simply be prepared. If you attempt to open new tabs to Google for an answer, or listen again to a lecture, not only will you risk an error upon submitting the quiz, but activity like that only eats up more of your time. There's plenty of time for any prepared student to answer all the questions. You may use your handwritten notes during quizzes. If you don't know how to spell a name or title I mention in the lectures, FREEZE the lecture and Google the subject or go to the great online resource for film and TV, imdb.com.

Please note – all queries relating to the quizzes must be addressed to Professor Canales:
andrea.canales@asu.edu

Here are the dates when each module opens and closes. The closing date for the module is also the closing date for both the quiz and the discussion board for that particular module. The final discussion board (module 5) closes two days earlier on April 24. Discussion boards are explained later in the syllabus. Please note that the quizzes do not all close on the same day of the week.

MODULE	OPENS	QUIZ & DISCUSSION CLOSES
1	March 16	March 20, 11:59pm
2	March 16	March 27, 11:59pm
3	March 16	April 10, 11:59pm
4	March 16	April 17, 11:59pm
5	March 16	May 1, 11:59pm

This class is intensive but extremely workable if you pace yourself. You are strongly advised not to leave taking the quizzes **until the last minute**. While you have 24/7 access to the Help Center, technical issues sometimes require a more in-depth look from one of Herberger Online's platform developers. If the Help Center is unable to address a concern, or if an issue appears to be systemic, that issue will be forwarded to an expert on Herberger Online's team and addressed within 24-48 hours. In other words, you will be on your own if you attempt a quiz with "wet ink". That's an old show business term for last minute. It comes from the time when the writers would fax quick rewrites directly to the set; in other words, the actors were reading lines and the ink had not dried on the page. Be warned.

GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR TAKING AN ONLINE QUIZ:

- You need to have reliable access to the Internet on the assigned day of the quiz.
- Quizzes can only be taken online. Submission of quizzes via email or in printed form will not be accepted.
- The use of smart phones for taking a quiz is forbidden. Do not even attempt it.
- Quizzes are not to be taken as a group effort or with any other form of collaboration.

No other Web pages can be open while taking a quiz. The system logs all browser activity. Opening new browsers or new browser tabs can invalidate your quiz session. All your browser activity is logged by the Web server. Accessing course videos while you are taking a quiz will result in a failed quiz session.

SUBMITTING ONLINE QUIZZES

Certain conditions apply for the submission of an online quiz. The important ones are: Online quizzes that have been submitted CANNOT be reset (see below). Grades will stand as posted.

If you experience computer or technical problems during an online quiz DO NOT SUBMIT the quiz. For instance, if text or images fail to load, or the quiz itself seems incomplete or unresponsive.

If you suspect a technical error, exit the browser immediately and address the problem by trying to take the quiz again on a different computer, or by contacting technical support. You can view your options for contacting technical support by hitting the “Help” tab on the course home page. Do not contact the instructor.

Remember: submitted quizzes cannot be retaken. No exceptions.

RESETS FOR ONLINE QUIZZES

A reset for an online quiz is an action usually taken by a student prior to contacting technical support. If you experience a glitch during an online quiz, click the course logout button and close your browser. When you attempt to restart the online quiz, the system will ask you to confirm the reset. Some important facts about resets:

- Only one online reset is allowed per online quiz.
- In total, only two online resets of online quizzes are allowed in any given semester. In other words, you can only reset two of the four quizzes available in this online course.

MISSED QUIZZES

It is the student’s responsibility to be aware of the dates and times for the online quizzes, however, there are conditions that apply for missed online quizzes. The important ones are:

An online quiz can be taken if it was missed because of an excused absence (see below). Permission from the instructor is necessary.

A missed online quiz for reasons other than an excused absence can be taken only with permission from the instructor.

If you miss an online quiz, you must inform the instructor immediately or at least within the subsequent 48 hours and provide an electronic copy (e.g., a PDF file) of the document supporting your absence (e.g., doctor’s note, funeral announcement, letter from ASU’s Athletic Department, etc.).

If you experience personal, medical or other unforeseen problems during a quiz, DO NOT TAKE OR SUBMIT THE ONLINE QUIZ – instead, email the instructor immediately to begin a discussion of your situation.

Depending on the situation, the instructor may ask for a different type of quiz as the replacement for a missed online quiz.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

Excused absences apply for online quizzes. They include:

- Personal illness (documented);
- Religious holidays (conforming to the ASU list);
- Unexpected personal emergencies such as death of an immediate family member (documented);
- Jury duty or other similar court obligation;
- Military duty and/or assignment;
- Direct participation in a sport event as an ASU athlete (documented).

Absences that will not be considered include:

- A previously scheduled obligation such as a family reunion or trip;
- Personal obligations prior to or after an official holiday;
- Job obligations;
- Attending a wedding (even your own);
- Illness of a family member;
- Workload in other courses;
- The death of a pet.

MAKE-UP QUIZZES

If granted, the date for a make-up exam will be determined by the instructor in concert with student needs. NOTE: Any act that violates the implicit code of academic integrity will be dealt with in the appropriate manner.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Please do not contact your instructor with technical questions. Herberger Online handles all technical questions and issues that may arise in this course.

Please contact the support team immediately if you encounter technical issues while completing an assignment and you are unable to resolve the problem and reset your work.

The Herberger Online support team is available to assist you 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. You may reach them anytime at:

- holsupport@asu.edu
- 1-888-298-4117
- 480-965-3057 (International)

When contacting support, please provide:

- The full name of this course (ABC 123: Long Name)
- The title(s) of any assignment(s) you're having trouble with
- A brief description of the problem
- Detailed, step-by-step instructions to reproduce the problem

DISCUSSION BOARDS

Each module will also have a discussion board. The discussion board will close at the same time as the quiz for that module. You should post comments about the films and the clips that you have viewed in the module. You are encouraged to respond to your colleagues' comments. **All of our comments will be graded.** If you make frequent contributions which are original, intelligent and well-written (spelling and grammar!), then you could earn a maximum of 50 points toward your cumulative score for the course. If you make no contributions at all, then you will earn zero points. You don't need to be a math genius to figure out that this will put a significant dent in your final grade.

I've been doing online courses for quite some time and I know pretty much every trick in the book. Do not post an observation on the discussion board which is a virtual repeat of something I said in one of my lectures. That's such a glaringly obvious trick and will result in a **point deduction**. Also, if you post "That was a good movie, camerawork was awesome" or "That movie was dull, I want points for watching it", your point count is going to nosedive. Remember... "Original, intelligent and well-written". Posting the same article twice, because you think the discussion board is monitored by a computer... not a good idea. Grant and I read all the posts and will deduct points for that.

Please don't include queries or comments about the quizzes on the discussion board. According to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), I cannot discuss a student's grades or scores in a public forum such as the discussion board. Email Professor Canales privately about such matters.

I will post updates on new films on my blog on the discussion board when I think they're worth mentioning. Material in this section will not be included in the quizzes, but I've received a great deal of positive feedback about this feature in previous classes. I will sometimes post an extra credit opportunity in an update as an incentive for you to read them.

GROUP ASSIGNMENTS

You are also required to participate in two group assignments. The number of students in each group will depend on the final enrollment numbers. You will be informed of your group placement within 24 hours from the time the roster is populated. Please do not request to be changed to another group.

Participation in this group assignment is mandatory. Each group will have a leader which I will randomly pick. The group leader will receive 12 extra credit points for performing this extra work.

The group leader is getting extra points for a reason. It's a tough job, like trying to herd cats! However, he or she is not a parent. They should not have to run after you to make sure you deliver on time. No matter what profession you intend to pursue, teamwork is a vital part of succeeding in this world, particularly the entertainment industry. Prima donnas are tolerated, not welcomed. There will be no divas (or divos) on the group assignments. Group leaders, please place the names of all students who participated in the project on the TITLE PAGE. If a student's name is not on that title page, it means that, in the judgment of the group leader, that student either did not deliver on time or did not fully participate. That will be the final decision. Let me say that again: the group leader's decision is final. End of story.

How you communicate with each other is entirely up to you. Just as in the real world, moaning and griping are not going to get the job done and waste valuable time. You need to get organized ASAP, communicate, and deliver the assignment on time. Please remember that, regarding any questions about the group assignments, **I will only respond to the group coordinator**. The group coordinator is the only channel to me for group assignments. I hope that's clear. If a group delivers its two assignments on time and in adherence with the instructions of the assignment, then the group coordinator will receive 12 bonus points.

Assignment 1 due 04/03/20

Assignment 2 due 04/24/20

GENERAL WARNING AND ONLINE POLICIES

Some of the films we'll be screening will contain language that is considered obscene or profane. Also, **there will be scenes that are graphically explicit in portraying sexual, horrific or violent acts**. And there may be ideas or practices endorsed by a specific motion picture that are considered immoral or amoral by some standards. Please consider the cautions above carefully because this class might not be for you and the appropriate time to withdraw is now.

Some film clips may be in a foreign language with subtitles. Also, if you find material in glorious black-and-white with monaural sound distracting or difficult to view, please make that a big part of your consideration for taking the class. **You are responsible for all viewing materials**.

Most of the lectures contain clips which are embedded in the lectures themselves. Each module has a Movie of the Module which you are required to view in its entirety before moving on to the module quiz. All the feature films are available in the Screening Room unless posted otherwise.

Online courses are significantly different from 'live' courses. Consequently, students need to be aware of protocol and conditions that govern such courses.

COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS

You must have a computer – your own or have access to a computer on campus – that will allow you to interact with the online course. The computer must be capable of consistently streaming Quicktime movie files. The use of smart phones (iPhone, Blackberry, etc.) is not recommended.

This course is known to work on all major browsers, including Safari, Firefox, Chrome, and Internet Explorer, on both Macintosh computers and PCs. Note: the use of Safari or Firefox is highly recommended.

Additionally, you must have computer skills that will allow you to surf the internet, access specific sites, confer via email, download and upload files, and any other course-related activities.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

As stated above, access to a suitable computer and adequate computer skills are critical for your success in this online course. Consequently, the instructor will not consider computer-related excuses for the failure to meet course requirements (excuses such as: technical incompatibility, sudden infection by computer viruses, inadequate access to the Internet or any other similar reasons). Neither will inadequate computer skills be considered as a valid excuse for not successfully completing the course.

NOTE: You are strongly advised not to enroll in the online course if either computer access or computer skills are an issue.

WITHDRAWAL POLICIES

If you wish to withdraw from this course, it is your responsibility to do so. You can find the withdrawal deadlines, and other important dates, on this web page. Course registration changes are processed through My ASU: <http://my.asu.edu>

BARRETT HONORS CONTRACTS

Barrett College honors contracts are accepted, but please contact Professor Canales as early as possible.

GRADING

GRADED ASSIGNMENTS ✍

DISCUSSION POSTS (5 @ 10 each)	50 points
QUIZZES (5 @ 100 each)	500 points
GROUP ASSIGNMENTS	
Assignment 1	100 points
Assignment 2	100 points

TOTAL **750 points**

QUIZZES: Each of the five quizzes will contain 20 questions with a value of 5 points per question. Therefore, the quizzes will have a total point count of 500.

If you are found cheating on the quizzes, you will fail this class. The use of resources from the Internet, including but not limited to former exams, and recorded classes will also be considered a violation of the ASU Academic Integrity policy.

Your work will be checked by anti-plagiarism software, so please do not attempt it. One of the possible consequences is failure in the class, with a designation of "Academic Dishonesty" as the reason. You could also be expelled from the university.

DISCUSSION BOARD: You can earn a maximum of 50 points for your contributions to the discussion board.

ASSIGNMENTS: Each assignment carries a maximum of 100 points per student. Therefore, the maximum points you can earn for the assignments will be 200. The group coordinators will receive an additional 12 points if the group's assignments are delivered in a timely manner. The maximum points you can receive are 750. Your final point count will be converted to a letter grade as follows:

97% ↔ 100% A+

94% ↔ 96.9% A

90% ↔ 93.9% A –

87% ↔ 89.9% B+

84% ↔ 86.9% B

80% ↔ 83.9% B –

76% ↔ 79.9% C+

70% ↔ 75.9% C

60% ↔ 69.9% D

Anything below 60% is an E

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Students are expected to adhere to the [ASU Student Code of Conduct](#).

Besides academic performance, students should exhibit the qualities of honesty and integrity. Every student is expected to produce his/her original, independent work. Any student whose work indicates a violation of the ASU Academic Misconduct Policy including cheating, plagiarism, and dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary action.

Plagiarism is defined as deliberately passing off someone else's words or ideas as your own. All necessary and appropriate sanctions will be issued to all parties involved with plagiarizing any and all coursework. Plagiarism and any other form of academic dishonesty that is in violation of the Student Code of Conduct will not be tolerated.

Arizona State University and the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts expect the highest standards of academic integrity from all students. Failure to meet these standards may result in suspension or expulsion from the university or other sanctions as specified in the University Student Academic Integrity Policy. For more information, please see the ASU Student Academic Integrity Policy: <http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity>.

Per ASU policy, a student may not avoid the consequences of academic dishonesty by withdrawing from a course and may be placed back in the course in order to face sanctions resulting from academic integrity violations. You are responsible for abiding by this policy.

In addition, ASU adheres to a university-wide Student Code of Conduct. The philosophy behind this policy states: The aim of education is the intellectual, personal, social, and ethical development of the individual. The educational process is ideally conducted in an environment that encourages reasoned discourse, intellectual honesty, openness to constructive change and respect for the rights of all individuals. Self-discipline and a respect for the rights of others in the university community are necessary for the fulfillment of such goals. The Student Code of Conduct is designed to promote this environment at each of the state universities.

The ASU student [academic integrity policy](#) lists violations in detail. These violations fall into five broad areas that include but are not limited to:

1. Cheating on an academic evaluation or assignment.
2. Plagiarizing.
3. Academic deceit, such as fabricating data or information.
4. Aiding academic integrity policy violations and inappropriately collaborating.
5. Falsifying academic records.

STUDENT CONDUCT

You are expected to treat your instructor and your fellow classmates with respect and kindness. In all correspondence and in Discussion Board postings, you should show respect for the viewpoints of others who may disagree with you or see things from a different perspective. Criticizing, ridiculing, insulting, or belittling others will not be accepted. Keep in mind that electronic communications do not have the advantage of nonverbal cues that are so much a part of interpersonal communication. Humor or satire can sometimes be misinterpreted in strictly electronic communication forums.

ONLINE ACTIVITY LOGS

All course activity is logged by the Herberger Online servers, and those logs are regularly reviewed by Herberger Online during the course of normal business. These logs contain all requests you make while visiting the site: every image, video, web page, etc. Each request is logged with the time, down to the second, when it was made. If you contact your instructor, or Herberger Online, about a technical issue, these logs will be reviewed as part of that process.

DISRUPTIVE, THREATENING OR VIOLENT BEHAVIOR

Threatening, violent, or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated in this class and will be handled in accordance with ASU policy. For more information please visit:

<https://eoss.asu.edu/dos/srr/PoliciesAndProcedures>
and <https://eoss.asu.edu/dos/safety/ThreateningBehavior>.

Title IX

Title IX is a federal law that provides that no person be excluded on the basis of sex from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. Both Title IX and university policy make clear that sexual violence and harassment based on sex is prohibited. An individual who believes they have been subjected to sexual violence or harassed on the basis of sex can seek support, including counseling and academic support, from the university. If you or someone you know has been harassed on the basis of sex or sexually assaulted, you can find information and resources at <http://sexualviolenceprevention.asu.edu/faqs/students>.

NETIQUETTE (Online Etiquette)

Netiquette, a social code that defines “good” online behavior is something to keep in mind during your online course interactions. Writing may be the only means of communication you have with classmates and instructors, so it is especially important to do this effectively. Follow the guidelines below to leave your mark as a knowledgeable, respectful and polite student who is also positioned to succeed professionally. Tips for appropriate netiquette can be found here, <https://asuonline.asu.edu/newsroom/online-learning-tips/netiquette-online-students>.

STUDENT RESOURCES

You will find a list of student resources at: <https://tutoring.asu.edu/student-resources>

Resources included are advisement, registration, financial aid, disability services, counseling, tutoring, library, and more.

SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS

Students with disabilities must have an equally effective and equivalent educational opportunity as those students without disabilities. Students experiencing difficulty accessing course materials because of a disability are expected to contact the course instructor so that a solution can be found that provides all students equal access to course materials and technology.

Your instructor is willing to make any reasonable adaptations for limitations due to any documented disability, including learning disabilities. Please contact the instructor during office hours or by appointment to discuss any special needs you may have. You must contact the Disability Resource Center to process the paperwork for special course accommodations. To request academic accommodations due to a disability, please contact the ASU Disability Resource Center (<http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc/#> ; Phone: (480) 965-1234; TDD: (480) 965-9000). This is a very important step as accommodations may be difficult to make retroactively. If you have a letter from their office indicating that you have a disability which requires academic accommodations, in order to assure that you receive your accommodations in a timely manner, please present this documentation to me no later than the end of the first week of the semester so that your needs can be addressed effectively.

If you have a documented disability, including a learning disability, and would like to discuss possible accommodations, please contact the ASU Disabilities Resources and Services Office at 480-965-1234 or email DRC@asu.edu <https://eoss.asu.edu/drc>. On then Tempe Campus: Matthews Center building, 1st floor.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR AND IMPORTANT DATES

The academic calendar can be found here: <https://students.asu.edu/academic-calendar>.

THE WRITING CENTER

Students have access to Academic Support Programs including tutoring and the writing center. Information on these resources can be found here, <https://tutoring.asu.edu/>.

COUNSELING & CONSULTATION

Students have access to Counseling & Consultation services. Information on this can be found here, <https://eoss.asu.edu/counseling>.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Students have access to Health and Wellness services. Information on this can be found here, <https://eoss.asu.edu/health>, <https://wellness.asu.edu/>.