UNIV 1301 (13021) Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:00 p.m. to 1:20 p.m. in Fox Fine Arts, Room 071, Basement

COURSE SYLLABUS

I. Course Title, Number and Description

Scienem-ology: The Sciences in Film, UNIV 1301

Throughout the Fall, 2003 Semester, students will explore the world of science via film and television media. Fields such as biology, physics, mathematics, chemistry, psychology, aeronautics, education, and ecology are the central themes of each movie or television show. Students will be able to watch and analyze non-fictional, fictional, black and white, color, American, and foreign features. In-depth student discussion will be encouraged to promote their understanding of the historical accuracy and the facts that may be portrayed to the cinematic viewings. Behind-the-scenes information will be shared to allow these students to see how and why the actors, writers, producers, and directors did or did not make an influential impact upon audiences. Students will better comprehend what each science profession entails. Utilizing these media will allow the student audience to realize how creativity can be seen in its truest art form. On the other hand, students will know that the creative process can also disguise the truth, as well as the reality of science. Films and/or television shows for the course to be watched during class include the following: “Tron;” “The Twilight Zone” (the 1960s version) Episodes, “Eye of the Beholder” and “The Trade-Ins;” “Outer Limits” (the 1960s version) Episodes, “Demon with a Glass Hand” and “The Man Who Was Never Born;” “Osmosis Jones;” “Metropolis;” “The Day the Earth Stood Still;” “The Dot and the Line.”

Movies for the course to be watched outside of class include the following: “The Time Machine” (the 1960s version); “Madame Curie;” “Forbidden Planet;” “Contact;” “The Miracle Worker;” “The Doctor.”

II. Instructors

Instructor: Ms. Elizabeth L. Dahl
Office Hours: MF 8:30 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.
Office: College of Engineering, Room 229 (second floor)
Phone: (915) 747-5803
Email: eldahl@utep.edu

Peer Instructor: Ms. Cassandra (Cassie) Rojas
Office Hours: MW 8:30 A.M.-12:00 P.M.
Office: Physical Science Building (second floor), ACES Room 200-A
Phone: (915) 274-5987
Email: chrojas@utep.edu

III. The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) 2002-2004 Undergraduate Catalog Description

This course will engage entering students in critical inquiry concerning one or more related academic topics. The seminar will increase students’ knowledge of the role of technology in the academic community. Information acquisition, critical thinking, and communication will be integrated in an active learning environment. Students will conduct library and electronic research to support one or more academic projects. Specific topics may vary with instructor.
IV. Course Objectives and Evaluation Options:

- Each student will participate in classroom discussions and projects.
- Every student will contribute to small group discussions and projects.
- Students will write two movie critiques and one television show review.
- Students may choose from “Forbidden Planet,” “Contact,” or “The Time Machine” (the 1960s version), to write and turn in a critique for 5 extra credit points toward their Final Grade.
- Groups of four to five students will conduct a PowerPoint presentation about the history and future of one science profession.
- Each student will meet with the instructor and peer instructor together once in September, once in October, and once in November to monitor the student’s academic progress and professional goals.
- Toward the end of the semester, each student will make and present a five- to ten-minute video documentary about UTEP’s history, spirit, and traditions.
- Every student will take the Pinpoint career inventory.
- Every student will write a résumé.
- Each student will participate in a mock job interview.
- Students will learn about professional dining and technological etiquette.
- Every student will attend the Career Services’ Career Expo, on September 25th or on September 26th and will interview at least three employers at the event.
- Students will go to one UTEP Women’s Soccer game, one art gallery showing in Fox Fine Arts or in Seamon Hall, and one sensitivity training workshop at Disabled Student Services.

V. Course Pursuit

A. Classroom Management: It is the instructor’s and/or the peer instructor’s responsibility to maintain an environment in the classroom that is conducive to learning and class participation by all students. Unruly and uncooperative behavior by any student will not be tolerated. The instructor and/or the peer instructor has full authority to deny a student admittance to class for reason of disruptive behavior, after conferring with the Dean of Students. Only persons who are registered and enrolled as students in the class are authorized admittance. No visitors or children are allowed in the classroom.

B. Attendance: Attendance is mandatory. An absence will only be excused if you have a reasonable excuse and if you call or e-mail Ms. Dahl or Ms. Rojas prior to class. If you do not contact either Ms. Dahl or Ms. Rojas prior to class, the absence will be unexcused. You are only allowed 3 excused absences. Any additional excused absences after the third one will result in 2% taken off from your final grade. Any unexcused absences will result in 3% taken off your final grade.
- Make-up tests and/or quizzes will only be allowed if there is a reasonable excuse. Students must contact Ms. Dahl or Ms. Rojas to obtain permission prior to the test and/or quiz for the absence to be considered excused.
- The instructor has authority to drop students who have three unexcused absences (as outlined in the university catalog).
- Students not planning to continue attending class must officially “drop” the course through the admissions office within the specified time limits. Failure to do so will result in a semester grade reflective of the submitted work.
C. Tardies: All students are required to be in class through the entire class period. Instructors are authorized to refuse to admit to class students who are tardy when such admittance would be disruptive to activities in progress (i.e., individual and/or group presentations).

VI. Evaluation

A. Grading Scale:
   - 90-100% = A
   - 80-89% = B
   - 70-79% = C
   - 60-69% = D
   - Below 60% = F
   - Withdrawal = W
   - Incomplete = I

B. Grading:
   - Class attendance: 15%
   - Written Report: 20%
   - PowerPoint Presentation: 10%
   - Quizzes: 10%
   - Exams: 5%
   - Documentary Project: 20%
   - Final: 20%

VII. General Assumptions

- Students are responsible and courteous.
- Students are competent adults. The only limits existing are those placed on the self. Anyone can exceed his or her expectations.
- Students will have discussed their topics with the instructor prior to conducting research or doing any writing.
- Students will ask questions, answer questions, and question answers.
- The instructor will provide frequent and personalized feedback.
- Students will seek out their instructor for extended feedback.
- Cellular phones will be turned off during student presentations and class.
- Students will not interrupt any classmate's presentation.
- Everyone has something important to say.

VIII. Required Text

Ellis, Dave, Becoming a Master Student, Tenth Edition.

IX. The material to be presented specified on this syllabus may be subject to change as desired by the instructor (i.e., dates, etc.). The grading policy, however, defined in this syllabus is not subject to change without unanimous consent by the students, the instructor, and the peer instructor.

X. Students are encouraged to work together to discuss the subject but all graded material must represent the student's individual work. Scholastic dishonesty as defined in UTEP's Faculty Manual is the attempt of any student to present as his or her own, the work of another, or any work which he or she has not honestly performed, or
attempting to pass any examination by improper means. Scholastic dishonesty is a serious offense and will not be tolerated.

NO CHEATING WILL BE ALLOWED DURING ANY QUIZ, EXAM, HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT, AND/OR THE FINAL. NO PLAGIARISM WILL BE ALLOWED ON ANY ASSIGNMENT. IF IT IS DISCOVERED THAT YOU HAVE CHEATED OR PLAGIARIZED, YOU WILL BE REFERRED IMMEDIATELY TO THE DEAN OF STUDENTS FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION.