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| **ENGLISH 223: Difference, Power, and Oppression in Film** **Summer 2023 (5-weeks), Meets Wednesdays 5:30-8:20 pm in NSH 107**

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| **Instructor:** Stephen Rust, PhD**CRN:** 16602 | **Email:** rusts@linnbenton.edu **Office:** RCH 210  | **Office Hours:** Wednesday 5-5:30 and 8:20-8:50 in NSH 107 |

**COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** Explores cinematic representations of difference, power, and oppression in American film. Emphasizes the sociocultural analysis of film by focusing on race, class, gender, and/or sexuality. Specific themes may change term to term to highlight a particular topic, genre, director, or historical period. 4 credits.

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| ***Like any story, a movie plot is told through the lives of characters, which raises the question of not only what is the story about, but whose lives are used to tell it. Who are the human beings having these human experiences? And who, in being left out and made invisible, are not?***  **--Allan Johnson, sociologist** |

**TEXTBOOKS**: * [***America on Film: Representing Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality at the Movies***](http://ezproxy.libweb.linnbenton.edu:2048/login?url=http://ezproxy.libweb.linnbenton.edu:2048/ebrary/linnbenton-ebooks/unauthorized&url=https%3A%2F%2Febookcentral.proquest.com%2Flib%2Flinnbenton-ebooks%2Freader.action%3FdocID%3D819377%26ppg%3D34) (3rd ed.) by Benshoff and Griffin. Available in Moodle via Direct Digital Access.
* [***Difference, Power, and Discrimination in Film and Media: Student Essays.***](https://openoregon.pressbooks.pub/dpdfilm/) A free online collection of essays by students in Dr. Rust’s ENG 223 courses over the past few years.

**PREREQUISITE:** A grade of “C” or better in Writing 121 is **required** before taking this class. If you are not sure that you meet this prerequisite, please email me before the end of the first week of class.**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**: Students who complete this course will be able to:* Explain how difference is socially constructed.
* Using historical and contemporary examples, describe how perceived differences, combined with unequal distribution of power across economic, social, and political institutions, result in oppression.
* Analyze ways in which the interactions of social categories, such as race, ethnicity, social class, gender, religion, sexual orientation, disability, and age, are related to difference, power, and oppression in the United States

**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS:** A laptop or desktop computer with access to the internet and a microphone and (optional) webcam. Check Moodle and LBCC email regularly and use your LBCC Google drive to save assignments. You can also download a free version of [**Office365-at LBCC**](https://sites.google.com/a/linnbenton.edu/office365-at-lbcc/home/staff-install-instructions).**DPO CONTENT:** It is possible (perhaps unavoidable) that our course content may **trigger** you. Our class will be a space to respectfully and productively exchange ideas that you may find controversial and/or uncomfortable- and to evaluate (and reevaluate) your own viewpoints on issues related to profound historical and generational trauma. Films discussed or screened for class may be rated R or TV-MA and include offensive language, nudity, violence, or sexual assault. Alternative films are available if needed.

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| **ASSIGNMENTS & ACTIVITIES:*** ***Participation and Homework (40% of final grade):*** Attendance and participation in class discussions are a key component of the class and graded as such. Written responses to our reading and your weekly film selections will take various forms throughout the term, including weekly film and reading discussions and homework assignments as well as discussions of the group presentations and peer reviews of the DPD Essays.
* ***Final Essay Project (40% of final grade):*** This 8-paragraph essay will ask you to analyze the representation DPD in a motion picture, television show, video game, or comic book of your choice. You will take shot-by-shot notes on one scene to capture a sense of the aesthetics and use these notes and conduct library research to inform your analysis. You will have the option of contributing your essay to a student publication project after getting feedback from your peers, instructor, and the Writing Center.
* ***Group Presentation (20% of final grade):*** You will complete a group presentation once during the term, one over a chapter from the units Gender and Sexuality in film. You will use or Google slides or Powerpoint to create slides. You can use your LBCC gmail drive to save your slides and meet in person or via Zoom to divide up the sections of the your assigned chapters and practice your presentation together. Presentation slides must be posted to Discussion boards before your presentation for peer viewing and engagement. You will also submit peer reviews of your group members and a self-evaluation of your own contributions to reflect on the process. Submitting Zoom recorded presentations will be an allowable substitute for those individuals in the group unable to present in class.
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**GRADING:** You can earn up to **1000 points** in this course:

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| **ASSIGNMENTS** | **% OF FINAL GRADE** |
| Participation and Homework | 40% |
| Presentation | 20% |
| DPD Essay Project | 40% |
| **TOTAL** | **100%** |

Your final grade will be determined by the following point breakdown:

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| **GRADE** | **TOTAL POINTS** | **DESCRIPTION** |
| **A** | 900 points (90% and up) | Passing work that is outstanding |
| **B** | 800 points (80%) | Passing work that is highly proficient |
| **C** | 700 points (79.4% to 69.6%) | Passing work that is proficient |
| **D** | 695 to 595 points (69.4% to 59.6%) | Non-passing work that is below requirements |
| **F** | 594 and below (59.4% and below) | Non-passing work that is incomplete |

**COURSE POLICIES AND CAMPUS RESOURCES:*** **No-Show Policy:** Unless prior arrangements have been made with me, students who do not attend class during Week 1 or complete the first assignment online will be dropped from the course.
* **Policy on Late Work:** All weekly homework assignments will be accepted until Sunday of Week 4 with a 15% late penalty. Assignments during Week 5 are penalized 25% and accepted only up to Friday of Week 5.
* **Attendance and Participation**: Class attendance is required. Students with more than 1 absence will be penalized 5% from their final course grade for each additional absence. Participation points will be earned each week. If absent, email Dr. Rust to find out how to make up these points.
* **Office Hours:** Feel free to visit me during my office hours (listed at the top of this syllabus) to discuss any questions or concerns you have. It’s best to schedule a time in advance. I will also be available after class on Thursdays.
* **LBCC Student Email:** Please make sure that you check your student email regularly throughout the term. Should I need to contact you, I will be emailing your student account. You can find information about accessing your LBCC email here: <http://www.linnbenton.edu/roadrunner-mail>
* **The LBCC Writing Center:** The LBCC Writing Center is a fantastic free resource for students. Tutors are available to assist you with all aspects of your writing assignments. The Writing Center also offers online tutoring services as well. Get more information here: <https://www.linnbenton.edu/student-services/library-tutoring-testing/learning-center/writing-support/index.php>
* **The LBCC Library:** The LBCC library is located on the first floor of Willamette Hall. Get more information here: <https://www.linnbenton.edu/student-services/library-tutoring-testing/library/index.php>
* **Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR):** LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. If you have approved accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR) and would like to use your accommodations in this class, please talk to me as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you believe you may need accommodations, but are not yet registered with CFAR, please go to <http://linnbenton.edu/cfar> for steps on how to apply for services or call 541-917-4789.
* **Non-Discrimination Policy:** Everyone in the LBCC community has the right to think, learn, and work together in an environment of respect, tolerance, and goodwill, and we will honor that right in our classroom.
* **Plagiarism and Academic Integrity:** Presenting someone else’s ideas in writing as if they are your own is plagiarism, and it is a serious academic concern. **Any plagiarized elements in your writing will result in, at minimum, a zero for the assignment and, at maximum, automatic course failure.** If you ever borrow information from an outside source to put in an essay, you must cite it properly. If you’re not sure how to do this, please ask for help before submitting your paper. Once you submit a paper, the policy mentioned above will be enforced.

**COURSE CALENDAR** (Scheduling changes will only happen with advanced notice)

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| **DATE** | **TOPICS AND READING** | **ASSIGNMENTS DUE** |
| ***WEEK 1*** | **Ideology and Film Form in American Film*** Reading: [*America on Film*](https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/linnbenton-ebooks/reader.action?docID=819377&ppg=34)(AoF)*:* [Chapts 1](https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/linnbenton-ebooks/reader.action?docID=819377&ppg=34)-2
* Film: [*Body and Soul*](https://www.kanopy.com/en/linnbenton/video/278632)(1925), in class
 | \*\*HW 1 due Sunday by 11:59pm |
| ***WEEK 2*** | **Race and Ethnicity in American Film****•** Reading: *AoF*: Read Chpts 3-7**•** Film: [*maɬni – towards the ocean, towards the shore*](http://www.skyhopinka.com/mani-towards-the-ocean-towards-the-shore) (2020), in class  | \*\*HW 2 due Sunday by 11:59pm |
| ***WEEK 3*** | **Gender and Sexuality in American Film****•** Reading:*AoF*: Intros to Part 4 and Part 5**•** Also read the chapter for your presentation: Chpt 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, or 15 | \*\*Group presentations in class on \*\*Meet with your group by Tuesday night  to practice your presentation\*\*Group presentation self- reflection and  peer evaluation due Sunday by 11:59pm |
| ***WEEK 4*** | **DPO Project: Research and Film Notes*** Reading: [*Difference, Power, and Discrimination in Film & Media: Student Essays*](https://openoregon.pressbooks.pub/dpdfilm/)
 | \*\*DPO Project: Annotated Bibliography and Shot List due Sunday by 11:59 pm |
| ***WEEK 8*** | **DPO Project: Essay** | \*\*DPO Project: Essay due Wednesday by 11:59pm**\*\*No Class meeting this week – use the extra time to finish your essay** |

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