

# **THE405: Great Directors – Alfred Hitchcock**

## **2017 FALL A – SLN: 76363 / 76364**

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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is a study and analysis course of Sir Alfred Hitchcock, considered by many to be the greatest director in motion picture history. This course will take you through Mr. Hitchcock's illustrious career, along with viewing and studying several of his films.

Furthermore, major themes, aesthetic and artistic techniques of Hitchcock, will be explored including his use of shot selection, cinematography, editing, music and other elements that make up the lexicon of Alfred Hitchcock's artistic work.

### **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

All necessary and appropriate sanctions will be issued to all parties involved with plagiarizing any and all course work. Plagiarism and any other forms of academic dishonesty that is in violation with the Student Code of Conduct will not be tolerated. For more information. Please see the ASU Student Academic Integrity Policy:

<http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity>

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### **SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS**

To request academic accommodations due to a disability, please contact the ASU Disability Resource Center (DRC)

<http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc/#> ; 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 the instructor no later than the end of the first week of the semester so that your needs can be address effectively.

### **WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE**

If you wish to withdraw from this course, it is your responsibility to do so. Course registration changes can be processed through My AU:  
[http//my.asu.edu](http://my.asu.edu).

Important student deadlines can be found through the academic calendar:  
<https://students.asu.edu/academic-calendar#summer2013>

### **COURSE FORMAT**

This class is an on-line class exclusively delivered through the internet. You don't need to find movies or purchase a textbook for the class.

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The class is divided into Ten (10) Units. Think of them as chapters in a book. Each Unit takes the student (“You”) through the art and history of Alfred Hitchcock in a somewhat chronological order.

These Units open on the first day of ASU classes starting, and the Units will close at different dates during the semester.

You must pay strict attention to the Closing dates on the Units. It is your responsibility to finish each Unit before the Unit closes.

At the end of each Unit, is a Quiz that will test you on information presented during that Section. Questions for the Unit Quiz will come from the online lectures and from the film that is screened during each Unit.

There is also a Discussion Question, regarding the topics and films discussed. Your participation in the Discussion Question will be scored as part of an on-going assessment of your retention and processing skills.

Points are given based on clarity, structure and communication of strong ideas and educated opinion. So you can’t get a robot to do it for you.

There is a film linked to each of the Ten Units of the class. You must watch the entire film, then you should go to the Quiz, then to the Discussion Question at the end of the Unit. Even if you saw the movie before, you must watch it again. You might miss something.

So watching it again is a smart idea. It gets better every time you see it. Especially with the additional knowledge gained through this insightful course.

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**REQUIRED READING**

You will not need to purchase a textbook for this course.

**CONTENT**

Together we will understand the life and work of Alfred Hitchcock. Who he was, the different films he made, his importance in cinematic history, and his lasting impact on audiences that continues to this day.

**IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT THE CLASS**

- Some of the films shown in this class may contain themes and subjects that some may find offensive. They may contain language that is considered obscene or profane, scenes that are graphically explicit in portraying violent or sexual acts.
- Also, some films could be in black and white, maybe subtitles, and may represent ideas, lifestyles or practices that are considered immoral by some standards.
- Also since this is a course on Alfred Hitchcock, some of the acts portrayed in the motion pictures we will study could frighten sensitive students. The films of Alfred Hitchcock may contain murder, death, suicide, sex, rape and other topics – and you may not like any of this.
- Also Chris LaMont may be one of the most vital instructors at the University, but some of his comments can be considered overly sarcastic, critical, annoying, ironic, cynical, sardonic and wry. He may say things that shock you! It could be scandalous!

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Please consider the above cautions carefully  
and decide if this class is for you.  
**If not, you may wish to withdraw now.**

**COURSE GRADING**

This course is graded on the scale system.

<b><u>POINTS AVAILABLE</u></b>	<b><u>GRADE SCALE</u></b>
<b>500 - 490</b>	<b>= A+</b>
<b>489 - 460</b>	<b>= A</b>
<b>459 - 450</b>	<b>= A-</b>
<b>449 - 440</b>	<b>= B+</b>
<b>439 - 410</b>	<b>= B</b>
<b>409 - 400</b>	<b>= B-</b>
<b>399 - 390</b>	<b>= C+</b>
<b>389 - 360</b>	<b>= C</b>
<b>359 - 310</b>	<b>= D</b>
<b>309 - below</b>	<b>= E</b>

**The points break down like this:**

10 Unit Quizzes @ 20 points	=	200 Points
10 Online Discussion Questions @ 20 points	=	200 Points
1 Final Exam @ 100 points	=	100 Points
<b>Total</b>		<b>500 Points</b>

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- Each Unit Quiz consists of **10 (ten) True & False Questions**. Each question is worth **2 (two) points each for a total of 20 points per Unit**. Each **QUIZ is open for 1 (one) hour**.
- Each **Discussion Question is worth up to 20 (twenty) points each**, querying your thought processes. Your responses will be evaluated on content, communication and understanding. You are limited to keep your response **to a minimum of 75 words**. You will be automatically **deducted 5 points** from your answer if you come up short.
- The Units are only open for a limited amount of time. I'll say it again for dramatic effect - the Quizzes and Discussion Questions will be available for a **LIMITED AMOUNT OF TIME**. If you do not post a response within the allotted time, you will lose an opportunity to earn points.
- Your response to the Discussion and Quiz is worth up to **40 (forty) points** for a grand total of up to **400 (four hundred) points available**. Missing a Unit is therefore a very bad idea grade-wise.

### **FINAL EXAM**

And at the end of the course, there is the **FINAL EXAM**. The questions may include true/false, multiple-choice, fill in the blank or several essay questions.

The **Final Exam** is worth **UP TO 100 points**, the amount of time to take it is **120 MINUTES** and is only open for **TWENTY-FOUR HOURS**.

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If you are unable to take the Final Exam during the scheduled window of opportunity, you will not be able to take it again. **THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP TESTS.** Even if you are in the hospital or bereaving the loss of a beloved family or friend, you still can jump online within the exam period and take it.

Nothing is so pressing that you are unable to get online to do the quiz. Part of the deal with an online course is that you will have access to a computer to take the course.

Hence the beauty and curse of taking a college course online. By the way, no one who has passed the final exam has failed this class. I mean it. No one.

If you encounter technical problems while taking an exam, **DO NOT SUBMIT THE EXAM!** Once you submit your exam, that's it. That is your final score. If you encounter any strange technical problems, just stop and contact tech support via the 'Help' link on the course website.

### QUIZ / EXAM RESETS

As was just mentioned above, if you encounter any kind of technical problem during an exam, **DO NOT SUBMIT THE QUIZ or EXAM.** You will have one opportunity, and one only, to “reset” your exam. This is essentially a do-over for you, and will let you start over again on a new exam. All your work will be lost, but at least you'll be able to submit the exam. Remember, you only get **one** reset. Period.

To reset your quiz or exam, close your browser window (better yet, quit your browser completely) without submitting your exam, and then come back to the course website and log in to the exam again.

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The system should recognize that you are attempting to reset your exam, and it will tell you what to do. If all goes well, you will be let back in to take your exam.

If you have any trouble during this “reset,” contact Tech Support via the “Help” link on the course website. Do not email your instructor with technical problems. He really doesn’t know anything about that.

### **A NOTE ABOUT TIME**

All times related to exams, or other assignment with set deadlines, refer to the time on the Herberger Online servers.

For example, if an exam closes at 2:00 PM, it closes when our server, here in Arizona, says it’s 2:00 PM. If you are taking any part of this class from somewhere other than Arizona, you are responsible for knowing what time it is in Arizona, and making sure your assignments and exams are completed on time.

It does not matter what the clock on your personal computer, or cell phone, says. The only official time is the time on the Herberger Online server hosting your exam.

All of this is to say that **you should not wait until the last minute to take exams, quizzes, or discussion questions!** If you try to cut it close, and the clock on your computer disagrees with ours by five minutes, or even less, you might find yourself locked out of the only exam in the entire course.

Get to the exam with plenty of time (I mean at least a few hours) to spare. Take the practice exam to make sure your computer is working.



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If you give yourself lots of time, you'll be able to recover from the computer crashes, any internet outages, and other technical problems that can plague online learning.

Hopefully, you won't have to worry about these, but if you need to contact tech support, and wait for their response, you don't want it to happen when there are only five minutes left before the exam closes.

### **CONTACTING THE INSTRUCTOR**

If you need to contact me because of a technical issue - first make a help report with IT, especially when it comes to technical issues or any problems logging in or obtaining material. Or if you have a complaint or any assignments are confusing you. I am here for you.

The best way to contact me, Chris LaMont, the fine instructor of this course, is by e-mail: [clamont@asu.edu](mailto:clamont@asu.edu) I also have regular office hours on Tempe Main Campus. Send me an email requesting an appointment if you would like to meet face-to-face.

### **COURSE SCHEDULE**

Each of the 10 (Ten) Units opens at the beginning of the semester, and closes on another date in the semester. For each unit, there is one quiz and one discussion question to complete.

### **THERE IS NO "SAME DAY" EVERY UNIT CLOSING SYSTEM HERE.**

What that means is that you can't tell me that "The Class Unit Dates are Different from my Other Online Classes and So I Got Confused." Or "Your Units Always Close on Monday – So That's Why I Missed This Deadline."

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Or my favorite “I missed your Reminder about the Units Closing. So it’s Not My Fault. It’s Yours. And it’s the Technology. And it’s all of ASU. Dr. Crow – He is Totally to Blame too!  
But it’s NOT my Fault. It’s You. Not Me.”

Okay, I think that’s it. Remember to email me if you have any other questions. I’m here for you -- [clamont@asu.edu](mailto:clamont@asu.edu)

### UNITS, ASSIGNMENTS AND DUE DATES

#### Unit 1: Who is Alfred Hitchcock?

Opens	Closes	Assignments
8/17/2017	8/25/2017 - 11: 59 PM ASU	Quiz and Discussion

#### Unit 2: The Best British Director in America

Opens	Closes	Assignments
8/17/2017	8/25/2017- 11: 59 PM ASU	Quiz and Discussion

#### Unit 3: The Spy and his MacGuffin

Opens	Closes	Assignments
8/17/2017	9/5/2017- 11: 59 PM ASU	Quiz and Discussion

#### Unit 4: The Experimental Years

Opens	Closes	Assignments
8/17/2017	9/5/2017- 11: 59 PM ASU	Quiz and Discussion

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**Unit 5: The Master of Suspense**

<b>Opens</b>	<b>Closes</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
8/17/2017	9/15/2017 11: 59 PM ASU	Quiz and Discussion

**Unit 6: Hitchcock and the Auteur Theory**

<b>Opens</b>	<b>Closes</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
8/17/2017	9/15/2017- 11: 59 PM ASU	Quiz and Discussion

**Unit 7: The Ultimate Hitchcock Movie(s)**

<b>Opens</b>	<b>Closes</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
8/17/2017	9/25/2017- 11: 59 PM ASU	Quiz and Discussion

**Unit 8: Alfred Hitchcock and the Case of the Box in the Living Room**

<b>Opens</b>	<b>Closes</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
8/17/2017	9/25/2017- 11: 59 PM ASU	Quiz and Discussion

**Unit 9: Hitchcock's Extreme Blonde Makeover: Filmmaker Edition**

<b>Opens</b>	<b>Closes</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
8/17/2017	10/5/2017 - 11: 59 PM ASU	Quiz and Discussion

**Unit 10: The Icon and Legacy of the Master**

<b>Opens</b>	<b>Closes</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
8/17/2017	10/5/2017 - 11: 59 PM ASU	Quiz and Discussion

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**Final Exam**

<b>Opens</b>	<b>Closes</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
10/4/2017 11: 59 PM ASU	10/6/2017 - 11: 59 PM ASU	Online Final Exam

**NOTE ON THE FINAL EXAM – THE EXAM IS OPEN FOR 48 HOURS,  
SO THERE ISN'T AN EXCUSE FOR NOT COMPLETING THE FINAL EXAM -  
EXCEPT FOR A VERIFIABLE MEDICAL EXCUSE.  
PLEASE LET THE INSTRUCTOR KNOW BEFORE THE FINAL EXAM CLOSES.**