

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
The City University of New York

Department of ENGLISH

Title of Course:	Course Number:	ENG 322
ENGLISH 322: FICTION INTO FILM	Class Hours per Week:	3
	Lab Hours:	0
	Credits:	3

A. Description

In English 322 film adaptations of 19th and 20th century fiction are compared with their original versions to determine differences and similarities between literary and cinematic technique. Films based on novels include such award-winning movies as *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *A Clockwork Orange*, and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Also included are film adaptations of stories by writers such as Richard Wright, William Faulkner, Willa Cather, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ambrose Bierce, and Ernest Gaines. Students will learn terms to describe cinematic effects and techniques.

B. Prerequisites and/or Corequisites

English 201 or English 121

Note: English 321 is not a prerequisite for English 322; either course may be taken separately.

C. Student Outcomes

Students will

- Discuss course content in a range of critical contexts.
- Demonstrate knowledge of themes and genres of course texts.
- Critique the complexities and differences among course texts.

D. Required Texts and/or Supplementary Materials

Novels into Film, Bluestone (U. of California)
Anatomy of Film, Dick (St. Martin's)
The Cinema as Art, Stephenson and Debrix (Penguin)
How to Read a Film, Monaco (Oxford)

Paperback editions of several novels and a short story collection are also assigned.

E. Evaluation and Requirements of Students

Students will be required to view eleven films after having read and passed quizzes on the stories or novels on which they are based. Students will keep a journal of their reading and viewing and will write a five to eight page term paper comparing and contrasting one work of fiction with the film based on it. Quizzes will also be given on a list of terms used in analysis of fiction and film. Final grades will be determined by the student's overall work in the course, including class participation as well as the journal, the term paper, the midterm, and the final examination.

College Attendance Policy

At BMCC, the maximum number of absences is limited to one more hour than the number of hours a class meets in one week. For example, you may be enrolled in a three-hour class. In that class, you would be allowed 4 hours of absence (not 4 days). In the case of excessive absences, the instructor has the option to lower the grade or assign an F or WU grade.

Academic Adjustments for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations or academic adjustments for this course must contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities. BMCC is committed to providing equal access to all programs and curricula to all students.

BMCC Policy on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity Statement

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's ideas, words or artistic, scientific, or technical work as one's own creation. Using the idea or work of another is permissible only when the original author is identified. Paraphrasing and summarizing, as well as direct quotations, require citations to the original source. Plagiarism may be intentional or unintentional. Lack of dishonest intent does not necessarily absolve a student of responsibility for plagiarism.

Students who are unsure how and when to provide documentation are advised to consult with their instructors. The library has guides designed to help students to appropriately identify a cited work. The full policy can be found on BMCC's web site, www.bmcc.cuny.edu. For further information on integrity and behavior, please consult the college bulletin (also available online).

F. Outline of Topics

Weeks 1&2: Introduction

- A. Elements and Techniques of Film and Fiction
- B. Vocabulary Used for Analyzing Fiction and Film
- C. Similarities and Differences between Fiction and Film

Weeks 3-8: Short Stories Made into Films

- A. D.H. Lawrence, "The Rocking Horse Winner"
- B. Cornell Woolrich, "Rear Window"
- C. Philip Roth, "Goodbye Columbus"
- D. Joyce Carol Oates, "Where Are You Going? Where Have You Been?"
(Film entitled *Smooth Talk*)
- E. Ernest Gaines, "The Sky Is Gray"
- F. Richard Wright, "The Man Who Was Almost a Man"
- G. F. Scott Fitzgerald, "Bernice Bobs Her Hair"

Weeks 9-14: Novels Made into Films

- A. Alice Walker, *The Color Purple*
- B. Anthony Burgess, *A Clockwork Orange*
- C. Harper Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*
- D. Henry James, *Washington Square* (Film entitled *The Heiress*)
- E. Ken Kesey, *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest*
- F. Chester Himes, *Cotton Comes to Harlem*