The Music of the Movies: Cultural Perspectives
CCS100, Section FF, Fall 2017
T, Th: 10:00-11:50 AM, Shattuck Music Center, Room B-29

Contact Information
Instructor: Ronald Foster
Office Location: Shattuck B-28
Phone (cell): 414.964.6255 (prefer e-mail)
E-mail: r foster@carrollu.edu
Office Hours: 12-2 Th, and by appointment

Orientation Mentor: Samantha (Sami) Schroeder
(junior)
Phone: 262.331.4263
E-mail: sj schroe@pio.carrollu.edu

Texts and Required Materials
To be Purchased (available at the Carroll Bookstore)
Kal inak, Kathryn: Film Music: A Very Short Introduction
Schelle, Michael: The Score: Interviews With Film Composers

Library Reference Texts
Cooke, Mervyn: A History of Film Music
Karlin, Fred & Wright, Rayburn - On the Track: A Guide to Contemporary Film Scoring, 2nd edition (also available as an electronic resource)
Karlin, Fred - Listening to Movies: The Film Lover’s Guide to Film Music
Morgan, David: Knowing the Score
Prendergast, Roy M.: Film Music: A Neglected Art, 2nd edition

Course Description
The Cultural Seminar is an academic course for all freshmen on the study of culture. All sections will ask students to explore their own culture and a culture different than their own and demonstrate understanding of a global issue from multiple perspectives. While all courses are on culture, each section uses a different topic through which students will study culture. Students will work on reading and oral communication skills, on information fluency skills, and they will also be assisted by Orientation Mentors to help with their transition to college. The course will have several common elements: a common reading, common learning outcomes, a common oral exam and culminating assignment, and orientation and convocation experiences. The Cultural Seminar serves as a foundation course for four other cross-cultural courses in the General Education Program.

The Music of the Movies: Cultural Perspectives (Objectives):
This semester, we will study culture through the lens of movie music. Movie music has become an integral part of our lives, woven into the very fabric of our culture. In this course, we explore film music and films from around the world, focusing primarily on American and British film scores, as compared with those from France and Italy, along with a brief excursion into early Russian and German films, which laid much of the foundation for what was to come worldwide. We discuss the ways in which cultures influence movies and movie scores, and how movies and their scores reflect and influence cultures. You'll learn about film composers, the movies that inspired and gave voice to their musical and dramatic ideas, and how music can complement, enhance, or even hinder a film. We'll look at the techniques of scoring for the cinema, and developments in film-scoring technology. Comparisons are made between the musical sensibilities of composers from different cultures, subcultures, and genders, as well as their musical vocabularies and means of expression. You'll discover how and why movie music has such a significant impact on our film-going experience, our cultures, and our lives.

Students are expected to complete the assigned reading and assignments on time, and to be prepared to discuss and offer their own thoughts, ideas, and insights during class. Oral and written participation is critical to success in the course. Please stay current and be prompt with your reading and other assignments. We have much ground to cover and it will be very difficult to catch up if you fall behind.
Cultural Seminar is designed to help freshmen transition to college/university life, and your Cultural Seminar instructor is an important resource for you. **Please communicate with me regarding any questions, concerns, and ideas that you may have.** I take my Cultural Seminar responsibilities very seriously and want to ensure your success at Carroll University, now and in the future. This is the time to lay a solid foundation for your college experience.

**General Education Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment (90% of Assessments)**

Upon successful completion of the Cultural Seminar, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of similarities and differences between the student’s own culture and a different culture.
   - Possible Assessments: Class Assignments (e.g. paper, project, quiz/exam), Class Discussions
   - Required Assessment: Oral Exam and Culminating Assignment

2. Demonstrate understanding of multiple perspectives of a global issue through the common reading and the course topic.
   - Possible Assessments: Common Reading Discussions, Class Assignments

3. Be able to express orally and in writing, with supporting materials, an understanding of student’s own culture and a different culture.
   - Possible Assessments: Oral presentations, small group discussion, writing assignments
   - Required Assessment: Oral Exam and Culminating Assignment

4. Demonstrate information fluency by gathering, analyzing, and synthesizing information using emerging technologies and traditional media. Students will address the following:
   a. Demonstrate the ability to gather and integrate information from a variety of sources.
   b. Demonstrate the abilities to assess the credibility and to weigh the value of information from different sources.
   c. Communicate knowledge using emerging technologies.

5. Demonstrate familiarity with Carroll policies, procedures and support services which help to facilitate academic success through participation in the following required course components:
   a. Orientation Component: ITS/Library Introduction Session (right before classes start).
   b. Library Sessions (during semester):
      i. Two library sessions conducted by Librarians and Career Counselors
      ii. One on-line library session.
   c. One session with Office of International Education to discuss CCE
   d. Check-in Meeting will be scheduled during regular faculty office hours.
   e. Short in-class presentation by Director of Student Success.
   f. **Optional:** Other campus presentations and activities will be offered for students and details shared with Cultural Seminar faculty. Faculty may require and/or include additional transitional elements as they deem appropriate, e.g. Advising & Registration, Walter Young Center, International Education, Health Center, Student Organizations Fair, etc.
   g. Outside Events: Attending two approved events is mandatory (one must be on campus). Students will be advised of suitable events throughout the course. If a student wishes to attend an event that is not included, approval must be given in advance. The objective is to encourage you to be involved in campus life, and to take advantage of the many opportunities available at Carroll. A written report is required, illustrating what you learned from the event, etc.

**Course Specific Learning Outcomes and Evaluation (10% of Assessments)**

Homework/Reading Assignments (Critical Reading), not specifically related to culture

**Evaluation - Letter grades will be assigned according to these percentages:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>AB</td>
<td>88-92.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-87.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>BC</td>
<td>78-82.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-77.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-59.9%</td>
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</tbody>
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Relative weighting of assignments entering into the final course grade:

- Attendance = 10%
- Participation = 10%
- Oral Exam = 10%
- Group Project/Presentation = 10%
- Individual Oral Presentation = 15%
- Culminating Assignment = 10%
- Homework/Reading Assignments (Critical Reading) = 20% (10% of this is related to General Education Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment)
- Library Work = 7.5 percent
- Outside Events = 7.5 percent

**Extra Credit**
Extra credit may be available on occasion, at my discretion. If it is available, it will be the exception rather than the rule, and it will not be possible to significantly improve your grade using extra credit. Please do not count on extra credit to do anything more than enhance your learning experience, and perhaps positively impact your grade a bit. It is not a substitute for staying on top of your assignments and attendance, participating in class, and doing high-quality work.

**Student Expectations**
We expect students to act in a professional and respectful manner in class at all times. The Carroll University Compact calls upon students to strive to live according to certain values as a member of the Carroll community. This class has these expectations as well. During the semester, we may discuss ideas that are controversial, and which could challenge what students think and value. It is important to focus on discussing these ideas, and to understand that varying and opposing beliefs are to be expected, honored, and examined in a spirit of open-mindedness, good will, and civility.

**Policies**
A key component of this course is an introduction to the culture of higher education, which is distinctly different from the culture of high school. As such, please pay close attention to the following policies.

**Attendance:** There are approximately 26 regular class sessions, in addition to our Orientation meeting on September 5 (mandatory), and the final examination period on **Monday, December 18, from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.** You MUST be present for the final exam period. Regular and prompt class attendance is expected. If a class must be missed, the student is expected to contact me or another student to determine that day's assignments (I usually send the homework assigned each day to all students, via e-mail). If you know in advance that you will need to miss a class, please contact me if at all possible. **My attendance policy is:** After the equivalent of one week of absence the grade will be adversely affected. The equivalent of two weeks of absence may result in failure of the course or being asked to withdraw.

**Classroom Rules and Etiquette:** Eating is not allowed. Beverages in containers with a lid or cap may be allowed in class, as long as they are disposed of properly. Please be careful and considerate, as we share this classroom with many other classes. All electronic devices (cell phones, laptop computers, i-pads, i-pods, etc.) must be turned off and put away during class, unless I give you permission to use them. No text messaging is allowed. If a student is in any way engaged with any electronic device during class without permission (this includes looking at it or checking messages), her/his Participation grade will be affected. Note taking is to be done by hand. **Violation of classroom policies will negatively impact your grade. Repeated violations will have serious consequences.**

**Academic Integrity:** There is a procedure in place at Carroll to deal with academic misconduct (e.g., plagiarism, impeding the academic work of other students, etc.). See Section V of the Student Handbook, “Academic Policies and Procedures: Policies and Procedures on Student Academic Integrity.” Academic misconduct will be dealt with in this class according to Carroll’s procedure and may result in sanctions, such as: a lower or failing grade on an assignment/assessment, a lower or failing grade in the class, suspension from the University. Please read the procedure in the student handbook and be informed particularly of plagiarism (i.e., claiming credit for the work of another without proper authorization or
Ignorance is no defense for plagiarism. If you have questions about appropriate citations, please ask. **A sanction of failure may result in a zero grade.**

**Academic Support:** The Learning Commons, located in the bottom floor of the Library, offers tutoring, writing assistance, and study skills assistance as well as group study rooms and places to study. For more information, go to: http://www.carrollu.edu/Learningcommons. **The Writing Center is an especially valuable resource.** Information about the Center and upcoming workshops can be found at: http://www.carrollu.edu/learningcommons/writingcenter.asp?nav=5790.

**Accommodations for Disabilities:** Students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations, or any student considering obtaining documentation should make an appointment with Ms. Marty Bledsoe, Director of Services for Students with Disabilities, no later than the first week of class. She can be reached by calling 524-7335, or contacting her via e-mail at mbledsoe@carrollu.edu.

**Statement of the right to modify course content:** The instructor and the University reserve the right to modify, amend, or change the syllabus (course requirements, grading policy, etc.) as the curriculum or program requires.

**Final Thoughts**

*The Music of the Movies: Cultural Perspectives* is intended to be interesting, thought-provoking, challenging, and enjoyable. You will need to work up to your full potential to receive the highest possible grade, and to obtain the greatest benefit from the class. We all have different strengths and abilities. Where you excel, please help, support, and encourage others. Where you may struggle, please ask me or perhaps your Orientation Mentor for help (and your classmates, if appropriate). In life, mistakes are inevitable, and they are the way we, as human beings, learn and grow. I do not expect perfection from you. What I do expect is that you will apply yourself fully, keep an open mind, and be intellectually curious. I am here to help, guide, and encourage you, help you learn to manage your time more efficiently and effectively, and at times gently but firmly push you out of your comfort zone, so that you may become all that you were meant to be, as a student, person, and as a productive member of society. Thank you for enrolling in my class, and I wish each of you great success during your freshman year at Carroll.