

Class participation and attendance (10%): Thoughtful participation and consistent attendance are particularly crucial in a seminar class such as this.

Research paper (40% total): A formal research paper assignment designed to familiarize you with the research process. Your paper may not be about a single film, but must engage several (at least three) films, all of which speak to a particular theme, problem, or concern. This will be broken down into steps, as below:

Annotated bibliography	5%
Road map	5%
First draft	10%
Peer evaluation	5%
Self evaluation	5%
Final paper	10%

COURSE CONTRACT

Films and film lab: Students are responsible for having thoughtfully viewed assigned films by the class session after the film is assigned. I have scheduled a film lab each week to ensure that you will have time to view the films. But you are welcome to view the film in another manner. The library should have copies of films on reserve, and you may also obtain these films in the typical ways: through Netflix, Bart'n'Greg's, Videopoint, etc. In any case, *you are responsible* for making sure you've viewed the film.

Attendance: No absences are "excused" -- you are responsible for all material covered during missed class days. Those who may miss class to attend extra-curricular events are requested to inform me, as a courtesy, of planned absences. If special considerations (such as illness) prevent you from fulfilling course obligations, please provide me with documentation so we may consider an exception. Remember that it is your responsibility to initiate any discussion about missed work. Because it is disruptive to the entire class, please do not excuse yourself in the middle of a class session, unless you are sick or have an emergency. I do not mind the use of laptops in the class for taking notes, but the use of laptops for personal use during class is disruptive and prohibited. Same goes for cell phones: please keep them turned off and out of sight.

Late or missed assignments: Unless stated otherwise, assignments are due at the beginning of class; assignments handed in later in the day (during or after class) will be considered one day late. I will accept late assignments with no penalty only for documented health or other emergencies. In general, assignments which receive letter grades will be marked down one-third of a grade (e.g., from B+ to B), for each day late. A final but crucial point: *All work must be completed in order to pass this course.*

A note on academic honesty: Each author owns his or her own ideas, words, and research. You *must* give appropriate credit — generally in the form of quotations and proper footnotes — when using the work of another scholar. I expect you to be familiar both with Bowdoin's honor code, and with the guidelines for proper citation and attribution of sources provided for this course. If you have any questions, ask rather than take risks. *Plagiarism, whether intentional or not, is a serious violation of academic standards and Bowdoin's honor code.* I will enforce violations of the honor code by bringing immediate, uncontested action before the Judicial Board. Minimum penalties for plagiarism will be to fail the course.

Offensive materials disclaimer: Students occasionally find some course materials offensive. Views expressed in the material we will cover do not reflect my own personal opinions. The academic enterprise invites vibrant class discussion, which balances critical thinking with mutual respect. Students are expected to take responsibility for their experience in this course by examining their own reactions to material they consider offensive. At all times, our priority will be critical engagement with scholarly material. By continuing with this course, you are agreeing to be held academically accountable for all required materials in the syllabus, regardless of your own personal reactions to it. Students who are unwilling either to hear or think critically about such material are encouraged to drop this course at their discretion.

Disabilities: Students who have documented learning disabilities with the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs may be entitled to various accommodations. It is your responsibility to initiate with me any conversion over accommodations.

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