

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Vanderbilt
Film Art: An Introduction to the Formal Elements of Film
Dr. Sarah Childress
Wednesdays @ 1:30pm (Zoom)
Office Hours: Fridays 11:30am-12:30pm (Zoom)
Email: docchillzz.OLLI@gmail.com
Course Syllabus

Film Art will introduce you to the elements of film form and how these formal elements communicate story details, express concepts, and develop themes.

Learning Objectives

- Awareness of the individual formal elements and how they function
- Familiarity with how the formal elements help shape narrative and theme

Class Format

- Lecture presentations to introduce the formal element and its components
- Guided clip analysis to demonstrate the formal element components in action
- Group clip analysis to apply concepts
- Q&A

Course Schedule

October 6: Mise-en-scène
Sunset Boulevard (Billy Wilder, 1950)

October 13: Cinematography Part I: Framing
The Third Man (Carol Reed, 1949)

October 20: Cinematography Part II: Depth of Field and Camera Movement
The Graduate (Mike Nichols, 1967)

October 27: Continuity Editing
The Maltese Falcon (John Huston, 1941)

November 3: Associative Editing
Adaptation (Spike Jonze, 2002)

November 10: Sound
The Conversation (Francis Ford Coppola, 1974)

** All course films may be accessed on Amazon Prime Video