Course Objectives:
The purpose of this directed discussion course is to explore the relationship between film (as an expression of popular culture) and the political realm. We will examine films that are, in the words of scholar Michael Genovese, both politically “explicit” and “implicit.” It is hoped that the course will further stimulate the student to consider the connections between popular culture and political behavior in these media saturated times.

Course Requirements:
The class will be conducted in both a lecture and discussion format. Students will be expected to participate fully in class discussions. Throughout the course students are required to attend each class and keep abreast of their reading assignments. During the term two exams and two “reaction” essays will be required. Additionally, students will make a group presentation, (during the Final Period), examining and analyzing a political film.

Texts:

Grading:
2 Exams at 100 points each.................. 200
2 Reaction Essays at 25 points each.......50
1 Final Project at 100 points.................100
Attendance and Participation...............25
TOTAL POINTS..................................375
Letter grades will be based on this scale:
93-100%...A
90-92%.....A-
87-89%.....B+
83-86%.....B
80-82%.....B-
77-79%.....C+
73-76%.....C
70-72%.....C-
67-69%.....D+
63-66%.....D
60-62%.....D-

Tentative Schedule of Classes:

August 29: Intro/Being There
August 31: Being There/Discussion Chapter 1

September 5: Argo Chapter 2
September 7: Argo

September 12: Elian Chapter 3
September 14: JFK

September 19: JFK Chapter 4
September 21: JFK/Discussion

September 26: FIRST REACTION ESSAY DUE Trumbo Chapter 5
September 28: Trumbo/Discussion

October 3: The Ides of March Chapter 6
October 5: The Ides of March/Discussion

October 10: The Client Chapter 7
October 12: The Client/Discussion

October 17: The Fortune Cookie Chapter 7
October 19: The Fortune Cookie/Discussion
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Film/Book</th>
<th>Chapter/Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 26</td>
<td>FIRST EXAM DUE</td>
<td>The Dirty Dozen</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 31</td>
<td>The Dirty Dozen</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2</td>
<td>The Dirty Dozen/Discussion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 7</td>
<td>The Lone Survivor</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 9</td>
<td>The Lone Survivor/Discussion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Dr. Strangelove</td>
<td>Chapter 11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 16</td>
<td>Dr. Strangelove/Discussion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 21</td>
<td>Columbo: A Case of Immunity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 28</td>
<td>SECOND EXAM DUE</td>
<td>Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner</td>
<td>Chapter 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 30</td>
<td>Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner/Discussion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 5</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Chapter 13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 7</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 14</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM</td>
<td>11:30am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SECOND REACTION DUE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FINAL PROJECT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Films and Series:**

- *Being There* (1979): Peter Sellers, Shirley MacLaine, Melvyn Douglas
- *Elian* (2017): Elian Gonzalez, Bill Clinton, Janet Reno
- *The Dirty Dozen* (1967): Lee Marvin, Charles Bronson, Telly Savalas
- *The Lone Survivor* (2013): Mark Wahlberg, Taylor Kitsch, Emile Hirsch
- *Dr. Strangelove* (1964): Peter Sellers, George C. Scott, Slim Pickens
- *Columbo: A Case of Immunity* (1975): Peter Falk, Hector Elizondo
- *Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner* (1967): Spencer Tracy, Sidney Poitier, Katherine Hepburn