



ENGL-280 – Film Adaptation

University Arts and Science

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2025

Course Outline Review Date: 2030-04-01

Program Area: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Description:

This course questions the common argument made by book lovers everywhere that the book is always better than the film. English 280 introduces students to the basics of film adaptation theory, inviting them to see and evaluate literary texts and their adaptations as unique works of art that reflect the cultural values (and economic pressures) of their time. Students will read texts and view films from a variety of genres, learning how to analyze and discuss both literature and film in an informed manner.

Program Information:

This course can be used as either a required course or an elective in several University Studies Programs. Refer to the College Program Guide for additional information.

Delivery Methods: On-campus (Face-to-Face)

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 3

Course type/s: Humanities

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	45

Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	
Practicum/Field Experience	
Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	
Total	45

Course Requisites:

- Three credits of first-year English is recommended

Prior Learning and Recognition: Yes

Students are able to request formal recognition of their prior learning or experience outside the classroom. Challenge examination, portfolio-assisted assessment, work-based assessment or a combination of assessments that is appropriate to identify, assess, and recognize prior skills, competencies, and knowledge to achieve course credit. Tuition fees apply, refer to Policy [2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition \(PLAR\)](#) or contact an education advisor for more information.

Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or <https://transferalberta.alberta.ca> . For more transfer credit information, please visit <https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrolment Services office.

Textbook Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use (see bookstore for the correct list for the current semester and course section):

Blume, Judy. *Are You There God? It's Me Margaret*. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2023.

Dickens, Charles. *A Christmas Carol*. Broadview Press, 2003.

ENGL 280 Course Pack

King, Stephen. *The Body*. Scribner, 2018.

Mack, David. *Echo: The Saga of Maya Lopez*. Marvel Universe, 2023

Students will also need subscriptions to Amazon Prime and Disney+ for the duration of the course.

Additional Readings provided through COTROnline and on reserve in the Learning Resource Centre

(College Library).

Film selections may include, but are not limited to,

A Muppet's Christmas Carol, *Stand by Me*, *Prey*, *Barbie*, *Echo* (television series), *Are You There God? It's Me Margaret*, and *Where the Wild Things Are*.

Films will be screened on campus where possible.

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to

- demonstrate their ability to analyze literature and film critically by applying theoretical approaches, including theories of film adaptation (i.e. the study of how literary texts are adapted to film) and narratology (i.e. the study of narrative structure and conventions);
- articulate original text-based arguments and apply the techniques of close reading to both fiction and film;
- demonstrate how cultural values and audience expectations shape the production, content, and reception of text;
- apply their knowledge of the basic genres and theories of adaptation discussed in the course to their analysis of literature and film;
- demonstrate the ability to perform academic research and write well-organized analyses of literary texts and their adaptations; and
- use written and oral communication skills effectively, employing method appropriate to message and content.

Course Topics:

- Introduction to Film Adaptation
- Culture Texts and Film Adaptation
- The Cult Classic
- Adapting Picture Books
- From Stage to Film

See instructor's syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.

Evaluation and Assessments

Assessment Type: On-Campus (face-to-face)

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
Participation	5%
Reading and Viewing Journal	15%
Writing Assignments	20%
Final Essay Project (includes proposal)	35%
Final Exam	25%
Total	100%

Grade Scheme

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
>=90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60	59-55	54-50	<50

Evaluation Notes: A grade of "D" grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

Evaluation Notes Comments:

Please see the instructor's syllabus for specific classroom policies related to this course, such as details of evaluation, penalties for late assignments and use of electronic aids.

Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a "0" on the exam.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.1.4 Course Audit
 - Policy 2.4.1 Credential Framework
 - Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
 - Policy 2.4.4 Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct
 - Policy 2.4.8 Academic Performance
 - Policy 2.4.9 Student Feedback and Concerns
 - Policy 2.4.11 Storage of Academic Works
 - Policy 2.5.3 Student Appeal
 - Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)
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Course Changes:

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.