Political content tends to saturate many films, in both explicit and implicit ways. A primary goal of this class will be to examine the political relevance of films, as they relate to actual political events and developments. The required films are grouped by broad thematic categories, from the United States and various other countries. Starting from these examples, this course aims to characterize film as an especially apt medium for illustrating, defending, challenging, and engaging political ideas.

OFFICE HOURS: I will have on-line office hours (psouth@uoregon.edu) from 9-12 every Wednesday morning. You can email me at other times during the 9 a.m. -4 p.m. M-F workday, but during these three hours, you will get a nearly instant response from me. Please use this email address rather than Canvas. I will also be available to schedule an appointment with you in my office (804 PLC) during the weeks of June 25-29 and July 16-20.

REQUIRED TEXT:
Elizabeth Haas, Terry Christiansen, and Peter J. Haas. Projecting Politics: Political Messages in American Films, 2nd edition. Routledge, 2015. Do not purchase the 1st edition of this book. Quizzes and the final exam (if you choose this option) for this course will be based on this latest (2nd) edition and the required films.

SCHEDULE OF FILM SHOWINGS, AND ASSIGNED READINGS:
Note: You must obtain these films on your own and watch them at your own pace. Keep in mind that you may have to rent or buy the following movies, in some cases, but many of these films are available in the UO Knight Library, in your local library, on youtube, or on Netflix.

QUIZ #1:

a) Violence of a Different Sort
In the Heat of the Night (USA, 1967, "109"); The Reluctant Fundamentalist (USA, 2012, 130")

b) Environmental Activism or Terrorism?
If a Tree Falls (USA, 2011, 85"); The East (USA, 2013, 116")

Reading: Projecting Politics, Chapters 1-2.

QUIZ # 2:

a) Politicians
Milk (USA, 2008, 129"); The Candidate (USA, 1972, 110")
b) Conflict (Political & Personal)
*The Company You Keep* (USA, 2012, 121”)
*Trumbo* (USA, 2015, 124”)

Reading: *Projecting Politics*, Chapters 3-6.

**QUIZ # 3:**
a) Individual against the State – Germany and Chile

b) Individual against the State – USA and Kenya
*Snowden* (USA, 2016, 134“); *The Constant Gardener* (USA, 2005, “29”)
Reading: *Projecting Politics*, Chapters 7-10.

**QUIZ # 4:**
a) Individual against the State – Ireland
*The Crying Game* (UK, 1992, 111”); *In the Name of the Father* (USA, 1993, 133”)

b) Scandal and Corruption
*Inside Job* (USA, 2010, 108“)
*Client 9: The Rise and Fall of Eliot Spitzer* (USA, 2010, 117“)

**EVALUATION**
You must complete all quizzes, and (the final exam OR the final paper) by **August 16th, 12 p.m.**

However, you may proceed at your own pace on the quizzes; you could take three quizzes in one week or one per month. This is your choice.

Quizzes: 50% of Grade (or 12.5% each)

Final or Paper: 50% of Grade

**QUIZZES:** There are four quizzes in this class – each covering the four required films and 3-4 chapters in the textbook, as listed on the syllabus. All quizzes will be taken online via CANVAS, and you are not permitted to consult the textbook while taking these quizzes. The quizzes are all contained within the folder called “Quizzes.” You will have 45 minutes to take each quiz, and you may re-take each quiz once, and the highest grade will be recorded. There are 20 multiple choice questions per quiz, but your second attempt may have different questions, as they are randomly picked from a larger test bank. These scores will then be averaged.

**FINAL EXAM OR FINAL PAPER:**

**Option 1: Final Exam**
I will send the final exam to you at 8:00 a.m. on **August 16th, 8 a.m.**
and must be submitted through Veracite on the CANVAS website in the “Assignments” folder, by 8:00 p.m. on the same day, **August 16th, 12 p.m.**

It will consist primarily of short essay questions. Let me know immediately if you do not receive this exam. If you decide to wait until later in the day to let me know that you have not received the final, you will not be granted an extension past the 12 p.m. deadline. For every hour that this exam is late, your grade will be reduced by 10 points.

**Option 2: Final Paper**

Instead, you may opt out of the final exam and write a 8-10 page paper. This paper must be submitted through Veracite on the CANVAS website in the “Assignments” folder for this class by **August 16th, 12 p.m.**, although you can turn it in earlier. The topic of this paper may be of your own choosing, but must pertain directly to one or more of the required films and analysis from *Projecting Politics*. A critique of the analysis offered in this book is certainly acceptable, but not required. A paper guidelines sheet is available on CANVAS in the “Files” folder. For every hour that it is late, your grade will be reduced by 10 points.

**Grading Scale:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>98 – 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>92 - 97</td>
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<tr>
<td>A---</td>
<td>90 - 91</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
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<td>D-</td>
<td>60 - 61</td>
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**TECHNOLOGICAL REQUIREMENTS:**

- You will need regular access to a computer with web access.
- **No incompleteds** can be given for this course due to its web-based nature. If you do not complete a quiz for any reason, you will receive a “0.” If you have trouble accessing any quiz, please contact me immediately.
- All quizzes and the final exam/or paper must be completed by **August 16th, 12 p.m.**
- Please email me directly at psouth@uoregon.edu, not through CANVAS, with any questions from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday-Friday, and I will respond within 24 hours.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

- Knowledge of the political context of both international and domestic films
- Ability to analyze the ideological content of films over time
- Ability to analyze the cultural content of films across countries

**PLEASE NOTE:** It is a violation of the UO Student Conduct Code to open the required textbook or other materials during a quiz or the final exam, collaborate or consult with another person during a quiz or the final exam, share questions or answers with others,
print out the quiz or final exam, or use a quiz or final exam answers provided by another person, or to pay another person or organization to assist you in taking these quizzes or final exam. If you engage in any of these activities even once, your grade for the quiz or final exam will be a zero, which will make it essentially impossible to pass the class.