

Essential Cinema: An Introduction to Film Analysis (Explore Our New Communications 1st Editions)

By Jon Lewis

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Review
"This text beautifully balances the needs for both breadth and clarity in an introductory Cinema Studies textbook. Students are introduced to the fundamental terms and concepts that will enable them to continue their study of the movies without being overwhelmed by information. The author understands the pedagogical and cognitive concept of scaffolding: an introductory course or textbook represents a foundation to build on, a starting point rather a final destination. Clarity and comprehension are key features of the text, and this textbook is both usefully organized and beautifully written or This is a coherent, focused, and pedagogically well-informed introductory textbook. It nicely balances the need for both breadth and intensity. It provides students with a comprehensive overview that won't overwhelm them. The illustrations are beautifully chosen."

"This is simply the most up-to-date and informative textbook in the field that I'm aware of, all presented in a manner that is likely to appeal to the contemporary student. ... This is an approachable and concise work and I am highly impressed with the organization and tools that have been included."

"A thorough yet clear guide to film technique applicable to introduction courses and useful as a resource in other courses. This is the kind of book that students won't sell back at the end of their intro course."

About the Author
Jon Lewis is a professor in the English Department at Oregon State University where he has taught film and cultural studies since 1983. He has published eight books: THE ROAD TO ROMANCE AND RUIN: TEEN FILMS AND YOUTH CULTURE, which won a CHOICE MAGAZINE Academic Book of the Year Award; WHOM GOD WISHES TO DESTROY … FRANCIS COPPOLA AND THE NEW HOLLYWOOD; THE NEW AMERICAN CINEMA; HOLLYWOOD V. HARD CORE: HOW THE STRUGGLE OVER CENSORSHIP SAVED THE MODERN FILM INDUSTRY, a NEW YORK TIMES New and Noteworthy paperback; THE END OF CINEMA AS WE KNOW IT: AMERICAN FILM IN THE NINETIES; AMERICAN FILM: A HISTORY; LOOKING PAST THE SCREEN: CASE STUDIES IN AMERICAN FILM HISTORY; and for the British Film Institute's Film Classics series, THE GODFATHER. Professor Lewis has appeared in two theatrically released documentaries on film censorship: INSIDE DEEP THROAT (Fenton Bailey, 2005) and THIS FILM IS NOT YET RATED (Kirby Dick, 2006). Between 2002 and 2007, he served as editor of CINEMA JOURNAL and had a seat on the Executive Council of the Society for Cinema and Media Studies.

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