This course will create a foundational understanding of the shared history of cinema and then follow the major cinema movements that developed in various regions of Latin America. It will analyze the regional paradigm shifts and regime changes that created or allowed for the landmark films and cinematic movements throughout Latin America and the shifts in contemporary society and their reflection in cinema into the 21st century.

IV. CRITERIA

Briefly explain how this course meets the criteria for the group.

1. Familiarize students with the values, histories, and institutions of two or more societies through the uses of comparative approaches.

This course will familiarize students with the common history of cinema throughout Latin America during the silent film era and then the birth of the big three Latin American Cinema capitals, Mexico, Argentina, and Brazil after the language barrier helped hold off the dominance of Hollywood films in the south. Each country had unique cultural backgrounds that created new movements in cinema. For example Brazil and Argentina had militant dictatorships that shackled the art and culture and the resurgence of film in these countries is vital to the Latin American experience and identity. Countries like Cuba had distinct eras in cinema, pre and post revolutionary Cuba, which created a “Golden age” of Cuban Cinema after the revolution. Colombia also has created internationally renowned cinema since 1897 until the present and in the 1990s the Colombian Congress passed the General Law of Culture to fund Cinema in the country. Each of these countries and the filmmakers from them has a unique Cinematic voice yet there are threads of connectivity that unite their histories.

2. Indigenous perspective courses address the longstanding tenure of a particular people in a particular geographical region, their histories, cultures, and ways of living as well as their interaction with other groups, indigenous and non-indigenous.

Cinema of Latin America will look at this world that is a land of many countries, cultures, subcultures and contrasts. A huge part of the Latin cinema experience is the voice the film world has brought to indigenous and marginalized populations of these cultures from the beginning. Famous Mexican actor and filmmaker Mario Moreno better known as Cantinflas, played an impoverished slum dweller and campesino and became a spokesperson for the downtrodden as far back as the 1930s. In a single country like Colombia, more than 99% of the population speaks Spanish yet it is also home to 65 Amerindian language. Diversity reigns in these rich cultures and contemporary Latin films have taken on the complexity of this ever evolving culture and rich and diverse history. The stories of Indigenous peoples, Afro Latinos descended from slaves brought to the Americas, impoverished land workers (campesinos, and caboclos) and the cultural fusion of the mestizos, mulattos, creoles and the European immigrants co-mingle in the cinema of Latin America into the 21st century. Films like the Spanish/Mexican/French co production in 2010, Tambien la lluvia (Even the rain) take on the modern film telling of a Mexican film crew that goes to Bolivia to make a film of the Spanish conquest of the Americas and the Indigenous uprising against Columbus. The film crew finds itself embroiled in the 2000 Bolivian uprising over the privatization of water and the moral crisis of the film makers and their indigenous cast reliving history in the present. This self referential lens and analysis of culture is an intrinsic voice of contemporary Latin Cinema.

3. Global perspective courses adopt a broad focus with respect to time, place, and subject matter and one that is transnational and/or multi-cultural/ethnic in nature. Whether the cultures or societies under study are primarily historical or contemporary, courses investigate significant linkages or interactions that range across time and space.

In this online course Latino artists, historians and filmmakers will help introduce to students the culture and regional paradigms that form the backdrop of ground-breaking films and filmmakers from Colombia, Argentina, Mexico, Brazil, Cuba. etc. The discussions and films will look at both historical and contemporary issues and their relationship to one another and the ever evolving culture of Latin America and its cinema. The course will look at historical landmark films and the cultural, social and political significance as well as contemporary Cinema and the modern Latin cultural happenings as a means of understanding our complex and interconnected world in the Americas.
Please attach/submit additional documents as needed to fully complete each section of the form.

**COURSE INFORMATION**

Department: Media Arts                                                Course Number: 307

Course Title: Cinema of Latin America

Type of Request: New One-time Only Renew* Change Remove

Rationale:

To develop an advanced online course in Media Arts that enriches our offerings of an Indigenous and Global perspective at the University of Montana through the study of the vibrant and often overlooked Cinema of Latin America. This course will broaden the experience and world vision of the 21st century students through the powerful medium of Cinema and the Media Arts via internet based classes, connecting students directly with 21st century artists, writers, and filmmakers of Latin America.

*If course has not changed since the last review and is taught by the same tenure-track faculty member, you may skip sections III-V.

**JUSTIFICATION FOR COURSE LEVEL**

Normally, general education courses will not carry pre-requisites, will carry at least 3 credits, and will be numbered at the 100-200 level. If the course has more than one pre-requisite, carries fewer than three credits, or is upper division (numbered at the 300 level or above), provide rationale for exception(s).

This upper division online course is designed for a self motivated, mature student who has had the opportunity to have more life experience, develop more critical thinking and can self guide his or her research and participation in an online environment. They should have successfully completed an english writing course.

**II. ENDORSEMENT / APPROVALS**

* Instructor: Jason Gutzmer                                                    Signature
  Phone / Email: 880-2247  jason1.gutzmer@umontana.edu

Program Chair: Mark Shogren

Dean: Stephen Kalm

Date 9/25/15

*Form must be completed by the instructor who will be teaching the course. If the instructor of the course changes before the next review, the new instructor must be provided with a copy of the form prior to teaching the course.

**III. DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE**

General Education courses must be introductory and foundational within the offering department or within the General Education Group. They must emphasize breadth, context, and connectedness; and relate course content to students' future lives: See Preamble

The Media Arts, Cinema of Latin America course will develop a broad world vision and a deeper connection and understanding of our own cinema culture and the foundational importance of transcultural media literacy in the 21st century. This online course will develop connections to global cultures through interactive technology in the Media arts and provide personal introductions to the cultural variables throughout Latin America as well as a collective Latin identity by collaborating with artists, writers and filmmakers from Latin America as they discuss the history, socio-political and artistic movements that have created the historical and contemporary Cinema of Latin America.
One will be expected to complete the assigned Learning Units within the given dates (usually a 7 day period). Each assignment is different but all of them are exercises used to gauge your understanding of the Cinema of Latin America so I will be looking for...

**Completion** – The Learning Units will be made available for a certain amount of time on Moodle and one will have until the Units are taken offline to complete them. Everything will be submitted on Moodle OR through Email. It will be clear in each assignment how that assignment should be submitted.

**Vocabulary and Coherence** – One will be discussing ideas and concepts relating to the films we have watched. Be clear and concise.

3. Exams and Quizzes.

We will have Quizzes after every lecture and reading assignment. These are self-explanatory and are simply there to make sure one has a solid understanding of the material before we get into discussions. Quizzes will be “Multiple Choice” or “Fill in the Blank” type tests, while the Exams (a Mid-term and Final) will be Essay.

4. Final Papers.

Papers will be assigned at the Mid Term. One will be doing a Synopsis, a Breakdown of the film and its contemporary cultural or historical relevance based on readings, and an analysis of a Latin American Film that we HAVE NOT covered in the class. Similarly to discussions and assignments, one will be expected to use Vocabulary and Concepts introduced in the class and articulate common themes and iconography as well as the culturally specific relevance.

A General Education Assessment Report will be due on a four-year rotating cycle. You will be notified in advance of the due date. This will serve to fulfill the University’s accreditation requirements to assess general education and will provide an opportunity to connect with your colleagues across campus and share teaching strategies. Items VI.B–D will be helpful in compiling the report.

B. Achievement Targets

(This section is optional. Achievement targets can be reported if they have been established.)

Describe the desirable level of performance for your students, and the percentage of students you expected to achieve this:

C. Assessment Findings

What were the results/findings, and what is your interpretation/analysis of the data? (Please be detailed, using specific numbers/percentages when possible. Qualitative discussion of themes provided in student feedback can also be reported. Do NOT use course grades or overall scores on a test/essay. The most useful data indicates where students' performance was stronger and where it was weaker. Feel free to attach charts/tables if desired.)

D. Assessment Feedback
V. Student Learning Goals

Briefly explain how this course will meet the applicable learning goals.

1. Place human behavior and cultural ideas into a wider (global/indigenous) framework, and enhance their understanding of the complex interdependence of nations and societies and their physical environments.

This course will expand the notions and concepts of a singular Latin American identity by opening up students to the varied, historical, political and cultural environments of countries as different as Mexico and Argentina and at the same time through the cinema of Latin America discover a common voice and identity that goes beyond a shared language. The course will dispel notions of homogeneous Latinos from the so called “third world” and expand the vision of diverse cultures, social classes, political modalities, and world visions. Through the characters of cinema and the film and cultural analysis and introductions by contemporary Latinos, students may develop empathy and critical understanding of these rich cultures.

2. Demonstrate an awareness of the diverse ways humans structure their social, political, and cultural lives.

Of all of the art forms, Cinema is often one of the most direct reflections of the culture from which it comes. This cinema course will focus on some of the most diverse offerings from some of the most influential films of Latin America. Starting with historical works students will see shared experiences and at the same time how each country has a unique response to the different social and political changes. Students will also analyze how the contemporary film world has helped to not only reflect culture but to create it, bringing awareness and dialogues into the forefront.

3. Analyze and compare the rights and responsibilities of citizenship in the 21st century including those of their own societies and cultures.

This course will discuss the differences, roles and responsibilities of Latin Cinema and that of Hollywood in society. We will discuss the predominance of “Hollywood” cinema in theaters and broadcast in Latin America the implications and the difference and importance of Latin American Cinema in the regions and in the U.S.A. We will discuss the idea of the “U.S.A. as Latin America” as it is the second largest Spanish speaking nation in the world and what roles non-Latinos will have and how that will change as the country and culture evolves.

VI. Assessment

A. How are the learning goals above measured? Describe the measurement(s) used, such as a rubric or specific test questions that directly measure the General Education learning goals. Please attach or provide a web link to the rubric, test questions, or other measurements used.

The course will have several evaluation and participation components in addition to personal research.

1. Online Forums.

The Forum Discussions will be graded as follows:

• Participation – One will be required to make a certain amount of posts for each discussion as well as a certain amount of responses. Each discussion will list the requirements for participation at the start.

• Vocabulary – One will be expected to communicate ideas using terms and ideas we have discussed in readings, assignments, and film lectures.

2. Weekly Assignments.
1. place human behavior and cultural ideas into a wider (global/indigenous) framework, and enhance their understanding of the complex interdependence of nations and societies and their physical environments; 
2. demonstrate an awareness of the diverse ways humans structure their social, political, and cultural lives; and 
3. analyze and compare the rights and responsibilities of citizenship in the 21st century including those of their own societies and cultures.

**Course Topics** and Possible Films for discussion.

**Week 1**
The shared roots of Cinema Latina in the silent era.

**Week 2**
The Language Barrier for Hollywood,
The birth of the big three Latin cinema cultures.

**Week 3**
Mexico and the Golden age...Cantinflas!  
*El Gran Calavera*  
*Los Olvidados*

**Week 4**
MexAmerica Transborder culture and the Cinema of the new Millennium.  
*Amores Perros*  
*Y Tu Mamá También*

**Week 5**
Argentina beyond tango.....the *Hour of the Furnaces*.  
The Official Story 1985

**Week 6**
Argentina after the *Junta*.  
*La Ciénaga (Lucrecia Martel)*  
*Intimate Stories* 2002

**Week 7**
Colombia...War and Cultural Identity from the start.  
*Garras de Oro 1925*  
*Bajo el cielo Antioqueño 1927*

**Week 8**
Colombia beyond the Narco Stereotype.  
*La estrategia del caracol* 1983  
*Los Viajes del Viento* 2009
CINEMA OF LATIN AMERICA
Indigenous and Global Perspective
MART307:
Online Course
Instructor: Jason Gutzmer
jason1.gutzmer@umontana.edu
Office Hours: TBD

The Cinema of Latin America is a rich and diverse world that spans over a hundred years and two continents including our own. Yet our exposure to this treasure is quite limited in the United States of America even though the U.S.A. is the second largest Spanish speaking country in the world. This course will take us into the roots that gave birth to the most important movements of Cinema from Latin America and the diverse social, political, and cultural paradigms that have shaped those films. The course will explore the building blocks and the roles Cinema had in shaping the distinct contemporary cultures in the Americas.

The course will develop a broad world vision and a deeper connection and understanding of our own cinema culture and the foundational importance of transcultural media literacy in the 21st century. This online course will develop connections to global cultures through interactive technology in the Media arts and provide personal introductions to the cultural variables throughout Latin America as well as a collective Latin identity. This class is a guided journey into the unique perspectives of various cultures: indigenous, afro-latin, mestizo, mulatto, creole, immigrant, campesino, caboclo, middle class, elite, artists, activists, leaders, revolutionaries, and more.

Latino artists, historians and filmmakers will introduce many of the films you will see as well as discuss the culture and regional paradigms that form the backdrop of these ground breaking films and film makers and discuss the history, socio-political and artistic movements that have created the historical and contemporary Cinema of Latin America, from Colombia to Argentina, Mexico to Brazil, from the U.S.A. to Cuba.

Studying the narratives and background of the Cinema of Latin America will help to become more aware of the diverse human experience and to be more expressive, literate, and engaged citizens of our local and global communities. Students will learn how geographically and culturally separate parts of the world are linked by various, multiple interactions.

Upon completion of an Indigenous and Global Perspective course, students will be able to:
Participation – One will be required to make a certain amount of posts for each discussion as well as a certain amount of responses. Each discussion will list the requirements for participation at the start.

Vocabulary – One will be expected to communicate ideas using terms and ideas we have discussed in readings, assignments, and film lectures.

Weekly Assignments.
One will be expected to complete the assigned Learning Units within the given dates (usually a 7 day period). Each assignment is different but all of them are exercises used to gauge your understanding of the Cinema of Latin America so I will be looking for...

Completion – The Learning Units will be made available for a certain amount of time on Moodle and one will have until the Units are taken offline to complete them. Everything will be submitted on Moodle OR through Email. It will be clear in each assignment how that assignment should be submitted.

Vocabulary and Coherence – One will be discussing ideas and concepts relating to the films we have watched. Be clear and concise.

Exams and Quizzes.
We will have Quizzes after every lecture and reading assignment. These are self-explanatory and are simply there to make sure one has a solid understanding of the material before we get into discussions. Quizzes will be “Multiple Choice” or “Fill in the Blank” type tests, while the Exams (a Mid-term and Final) will be Essay.

Final Papers.
Papers will be assigned at the Mid Term. One will be doing a Synopsis, a Breakdown of the film and its contemporary cultural or historical relevance based on readings, and an analysis of a Latin American Film that we HAVE NOT covered in the class. Similarly to discussions and assignments, one will be expected to use Vocabulary and Concepts introduced in the class and articulate common themes and iconography as well as the culturally specific relevance.

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at http://www.umt.edu/SA/vpsa/index.cfm/page/1339
Week 9
Brazil, Ordem y Progresso...a world unto itself.

Xingu
Behind the Sun
Cidade de Deus (2002) de Fernando Meirelles,
Carandiru (2003)

Week 10
Pre and Post Revolutionary Cuba.

Soy Cuba 1964

Week 11
The island and the mirror- Cinema of the Cuban Diaspora.
Fresa Y Chocolate
Azucar Amarga

Week 12
21 Grams
Babel

Week 13
U.S.A as Latin America...the second largest Spanish speaking country.
Latin Cinema in a Multilingual America.

Buena Vista Social Club

Week 14
New Stories of Latin America in the world of Cinema.
Making connections to a shared future. Analysis, comparisons, aesthetic observations,
language barriers.
Popping the Hollywood red white and blue bubble.

Evaluation and Participation

In addition to the many films you will study you will view live and recorded online
introductions by Latinos who are related to the field and the cultural and historical
context of the works we will be looking at.
You will be responsible for finding the films and watching the class videos. In addition
you will have the following means of evaluation for the class.

1. Online Forums.
The Forum Discussions will be graded as follows: