

**The Ohio State University  
Freshman Seminar Program  
Course Proposal**

**Course Information.**

1. Attach a sample syllabus that includes the following. (Sample syllabi can be found at <http://freshmanseminars.osu.edu>).
  - the course goals
  - a brief description of the content
  - the distribution of meeting times
  - a weekly topical outline
  - a listing of assignments
  - grade assessment information (A-E or S / U)
  - required textbooks and / or reading list
  - the academic misconduct and disability services statements (sample statements can be found at <http://artsandsciences.osu.edu/currofc/resources.cfm>)
  
2. Attach a brief biographical paragraph that includes the current research interests, teaching awards and honors, and undergraduate courses taught by the participating instructor(s). The paragraph will be included in materials for first-year students.

David Brewer (Dept. of English)

Proposer's Name and Academic Unit



Proposer's Signature

Brewer.126@osu.edu

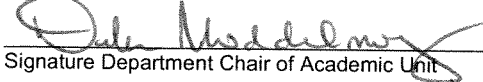
614/603-9549

Proposer's e-Mail Address

Contact Phone Number

29 April 2016

Submission Date



Signature Department Chair of Academic Unit

Please indicate the semester you would like to offer the seminar: AU' \_\_\_\_\_ SP' X

**This form and any attachments should be mailed to Freshman Seminar Program, 100 Denney Hall, 164 Annie and John Glenn Avenue, ATTN: Dawn Nolen or e-mailed to [nolen.2@osu.edu](mailto:nolen.2@osu.edu). For additional information, please call 614/292-4680.**

**THE FILMS OF WES ANDERSON**  
**Arts and Sciences 1137**  
**1 Semester-hour Credit**  
**Day/Time TBA [twice a week for 7 weeks] Room TBA**

**David Brewer**  
[brewer.126@osu.edu](mailto:brewer.126@osu.edu)

**Office Hours TBA**

**Course Description:**

This seminar will investigate the films and fans of Wes Anderson (the latter a category that includes many students at Ohio State). We'll pay particular attention to his style (all that symmetry!) and to the polarized response of most film-goers to his work (they tend either to adore him or find him insufferable). In so doing, we'll explore the ways in which you can enhance your movie-watching with the tools of Film Studies and what the academic study of film might be able to learn from the habits and obsessions of ordinary viewers.

**Texts:**

All of the films will be made available through the OSU streaming service, but I encourage you to have access to them on DVD as well (we'll be exploring the "extras").

**Course Policies:**

*Attendance:* this is a discussion-driven seminar, which means the course will only work if you're present, prepared, and ready to participate. We will also only have 14 sessions in which to pursue a wide range of questions. Accordingly, if you miss more than **one** session without a valid medical excuse or are repeatedly and visibly unprepared (or distracted by your electronics), I reserve the right to reduce your grade for the course by one increment per additional absence or conspicuous lack of preparation or engagement, regardless of the quality of your written work or oral participation.

*Class Participation:* I will post study questions to Carmen prior to each session, which will serve as a rough agenda for that session. I expect you consider them carefully as part of your viewing of the film we'll be considering and come prepared to discuss them. If you're unfamiliar with a seminar format or uncomfortable thinking on your feet, I strongly encourage you to write out your preliminary responses. Given our size, there's no reason why you should not all be participating in every discussion.

*Written Assignments:* there will be three written assignments for the seminar. The first (2-3 pp.) will ask you to describe the visual elements in a short clip from one of Anderson's films.

The second (2-3 pp.) will ask you to describe the use of sound in a short clip from one of Anderson's films. The third (4-6 pp.) will ask you to put together the observational skills you've honed in your first two assignments and describe all that's going on in a short clip from one of Anderson's films and then make a pitch for that clip as representative of Anderson's style more generally.

### **Grading:**

This course will use letter grades, following the OSU Standard Grade scheme in which 93-100 is an A, 90-92.9 an A minus, 87-89.9 a B plus, and so on. Your grade for the course will be comprised of your grades on the first two written assignments (20% each), your third written assignment (35%), and your active participation in our discussions (25%).

### **Academic Misconduct:**

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct ([http://studentlife.osu.edu/pdfs/csc\\_12-31-07.pdf](http://studentlife.osu.edu/pdfs/csc_12-31-07.pdf)).

### **Students with Disabilities:**

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.

### **Weekly Schedule:**

Week 1: Introduction; Anderson's style and fans

Watch *Wes Anderson Centered*; come in with a good example of Anderson fandom or an attempt to cater to it

Week 2:

Watch *Rushmore*; be prepared to discuss it

Week 3:

Watch *The Darjeeling Limited*; be prepared to discuss it

Week 4:

Watch *The Fantastic Mr. Fox*; be prepared to discuss it

Week 5:

Watch *Moonrise Kingdom*; be prepared to discuss it

Week 6:

Watch *The Grand Budapest Hotel*; be prepared to discuss it

Week 7: Anderson's advertisements; Conclusion

Watch a selection of Anderson's advertisements; be prepared to discuss them

Come in with your final theories as to what makes these films tick and why they arouse such passionate love and hate

David Brewer has taught in the English department at Ohio State since 1999. He regularly offers courses on contemporary American film, British literature (especially that of the eighteenth century), and books as material objects. He is currently completing a book rethinking the ways in which authorship worked in the eighteenth century and editing two completely over-the-top novels by Penelope Aubin.

**Freshman Seminar Program**  
Teaching Preference Questionnaire

**Item 1: Preferred Teaching Day/Time**

Session: Full Semester or 7-week session Spring 2017

Day(s) of Week:  
Time: | I don't yet know when my regular courses will be scheduled & we'll have to work around them

We will do our best to offer your seminar during the day and time you prefer, but time preferences more specific than AM or PM may be difficult to accommodate.

**Item 2: Room Preference**

I will reserve a room in my department. YES  NO

If YES, Room/Building:

Reserve a room for me from the University classroom pool.  YES NO

My preferred building/area of campus is: near Denney

My classroom needs are: video/data projection w/ sound; blackout shades

We will do our best to find a space that matches your needs, but rooms cannot be guaranteed due to high demand on the classroom pool, especially for rooms with technology.

**Item 3: Textbook Orders: If you will be using a textbook, please fill out the following information**

Author:  
Title:  
Publisher:  
Place of Publication:  
ISBN:

**Item 4: Payment**

**\$3,000 for teaching the seminar and an additional \$1,000 for course development if this is a new seminar. Funds may be added monthly to your paycheck or deposited tax free to a university research account (not a development account). Please indicate how you would like to receive your stipend:**

Paycheck (complete the Supplemental Compensation form that will be sent to you)  YES NO

Research account: YES  NO

If Yes, list Fiscal Officer (first name, name.#) Wayne Lovely (lovely.9)