

English 177a  
William Flesch

Hitchcock's Movies

Summer 2024

Office hours via zoom by appointment: <https://brandeis.zoom.us/j/701934794>

Class meets via zoom at: <https://brandeis.zoom.us/j/94168308115>

Week by week schedule:

- July 8: *Blackmail* (1929)  
July 9: *The 39 Steps* (1935)  
July 11: *Shadow of a Doubt* (1943)
- July 15: *Notorious* (1946)  
July 16: *Rope* (1948)  
July 18: *Strangers on a Train* (1951)  
July 19: *Dial M for Murder* (1954) (Please note that this is a rescheduled class)
- July 22: *Rear Window* (1954)  
July 23: *To Catch a Thief* (1955)  
July 25: *Vertigo* (1958)
- July 29: *North by Northwest* (1959)  
July 30-31 [Rescheduled]
- August 5: *Psycho* (1960)  
August 6: *The Birds*  
August 8: A catch up day, but *if* there's time we'll go back to *The Lady Vanishes*, just to see what was already there. (Please note that this is a rescheduled class)

**Course Coals:** Increased familiarity with Hitchcock: as a story-teller and a technician, and with the career of a director whose developments and innovations track most of the history of twentieth century popular film in Britain and the US.

**Grading:** You'll write a 250-500 word response to ten of the 13 (or 14) movies, due the day we discuss it. These essays will be graded pass/fail, with your final grade determined by the percentage you pass. (10 passes=A, 9=A-, 8=B+, etc.) This will be your main written work; class attendance and participation will also help.

**Academic Honesty:** Don't plagiarize or cheat. Cite all your sources. Don't try to have ChatGPT (or any AI) do your work for you – I've already caught people doing that and while you might get away with it it'll be a disaster for you if you don't.

## IT IS REALLY IMPORTANT THAT YOU DON'T CHEAT.

**Most (not all!) of us faculty members tend to be soft touches when it comes to giving extensions; and we tend to be easy or charitable graders when we can be. We're a generous demographic! But the one place where faculty tend to be really inflexible and punitive is with plagiarism – *which includes using ChatGPT as a source.* We're like this because we mostly went into teaching out of idealism – not for the pay, you can bet! And so we feel particularly wounded in our idealistic ambitions when the students we are really trying to get to think and even to be excited about thinking through something new treat us and the course as only a means to getting a grade so that plagiarism is okay. It's not. Please don't.**

The rest of this syllabus will be familiar boiler plate which we're strongly recommended to include, and I do so with great joy.

### **Accommodations**

Brandeis seeks to welcome and include all students. If you are a student who needs accommodations as outlined in an accommodations letter, the university seeks to support you. **In order to provide test accommodations, I need the letter more than 48 hours in advance.** Accommodations cannot be provided retroactively. If you have questions about documenting a disability or requesting accommodations, please contact Student Accessibility Support (SAS <https://www.brandeis.edu/accessibility/>) at 781.736.3470 or [access@brandeis.edu](mailto:access@brandeis.edu).”

### **Academic Integrity**

Every member of the University community is expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. A student shall not submit work that is falsified or is not the result of the student's own effort. Infringement of academic honesty by a student subjects that student to serious penalties, which may include failure on the assignment, failure in the course, suspension from the University or other sanctions (see section 20 of R&R). Please consult Brandeis University Rights and Responsibilities for all policies and procedures related to academic integrity. Students may be required to submit work to TurnItIn.com software to verify originality. A student who is in doubt regarding standards of academic honesty as they apply to a specific course or assignment should consult the faculty member responsible for that course or assignment before submitting the work. Allegations of alleged academic dishonesty will be forwarded to the Department of Student Rights and Community Standards. Citation and research assistance can be found at Brandeis Library Guides - Citing Sources (<https://guides.library.brandeis.edu/c.php?g=301723>).

### **Student Support**

Brandeis University is committed to supporting all our students so they can thrive. The following resources are available to help with the many academic and non-academic factors that contribute to student success (finances, health, food supply, housing, mental health counseling, academic advising, physical and social activities, etc.). Please explore the many links on this Support at Brandeis page (<https://www.brandeis.edu/support/undergraduate-students/browse.html>) to find out more

about the resources that Brandeis provides to help you and your classmates to achieve success.

### **Course Materials**

If you are having difficulty purchasing course materials, please make an appointment with your Student Financial Services or Academic Services advisor to discuss possible funding options and/or textbook alternatives.

### **Library**

The Brandeis Library collections and staff offer resources and services to support Brandeis students, faculty and staff. These include workshops, consultations, collaboration, materials and instruction on emerging trends in technologies such as machine learning, emerging trends in research such as data visualization, and emerging trends in scholarship such as open access. Librarians at the Circulation Desk, Research Help Desk, Archives & Special Collections, Sound & Image Media Studios, MakerLab, AutomationLab, and Digital Scholarship Lab are available to help you.

<https://www.brandeis.edu/library/about/index.html>