

The Pixar Story (WRIT 109 A01)



Times/dates: 2:30-5:20pm Tuesdays, Sept-Dec 2020

Instructor: Maureen Bradley

Email: bradley@uvic.ca

CRN: 13050 [Click here for registration details](#)

Course description:

What do Pixar classics like *Toy Story* or *Wall-E* have in common with *Star Wars* and Carl Jung, founder of analytical psychology? Since the late '70s, mythologist Joseph Campbell's Hero's Journey—a primordial narrative paradigm—has had an indelible impact on Hollywood storytelling. Pixar is, arguably, the most successful English-language film studio ever; all twenty-one of their feature animated films have been blockbuster hits.

Do *Coco*, *Up* and *Finding Nemo* adhere to the Hero's Journey? You better believe it!

Proposed films:

- *The Pixar Story*
- *Toy Story*
- *Monsters Inc.*
- *Finding Nemo*
- *Ratatouille*
- *WALL-e*
- *Up*
- *Brave*
- *Inside Out*
- *Coco*
- multiple Pixar shorts

Proposed text:

- *To Pixar and Beyond: My Unlikely Journey with Steve Jobs to Make Entertainment History* (2017), by Lawrence Levy

Proposed assignments:

- On-line Engagement (20%)
- Two multiple choice quizzes (15%, 20%)
- Multiple choice final exam (45%)