

FSEM 1010 15, CRN: 33576

Title: Flipping Pages & Catching Flicks: Movie Adaptations & the Books They're Based On

Instructor: Hueller, Patrick

Meets: MWF 10:20-11:20

Maybe you are in line at a movie theater. Maybe you are searching Netflix. Maybe you finally find a movie, THE movie, you want to watch. That is when someone—a friend? A bystander? The ticket booth worker?—says, “The book is way better than the movie.” Is he or she just being arrogant? Alternatively, is he/she right? Is the movie always worse than the book it is based on? (If so, why make the movie in the first place?) Do movies have storytelling limitations? Do books have storytelling limitations? Do some kinds of books make better movies? Do movies have an obligation to be loyal to the books they are based on? How do changes from book to script affect the story thematically? These are the sort of questions we will be asking in this course. By the end of the semester, we will have read several books, watched several movies, and (hopefully) come up with loads of interesting thoughts about both.