



East China Normal University

ARTS 14 - Introduction of Film Studies

Instructor: TBD

Email: TBD

Home University: TBD

Semester: June 27 to July 15, 2022

Course Hour: Monday through Friday, 160 mins per teaching day;

Total Contact Hours: 64 contact hours

Credits: 4

Designated Textbook with ISBN: *Thompson, Kristin. Bordwell, David. Film History: An Introduction. McGraw-Hill Higher Education, 1993, ISBN: 0070384290*

Course Prerequisite: N/A

**Notes: The course might be moved to online delivery due to COVID-19 pandemic. Students will be notified once such decision is made.*

Course Overview

This course is a survey of the major developments, movements, and critical approaches in the international cinema from its beginnings in the late nineteenth century to the present. Through illustrated lectures, selected screenings, and discussion, students will develop a historical appreciation of film genres, schools of aesthetic, social or cultural roots of the legacy of major filmmakers. Changing styles and techniques are outlined chronologically to examine the relationship between film and the visual arts. This course will not only probe into major film industry like Hollywood, but will also look into other important parts of the world cinema, for instance, European cinema and Asian cinema.

The course emphasizes an understanding of the historical, cultural, commercial and aesthetic contexts that influence film, but also develops students' understanding of film narrative and visual structure, as well as its place within established theoretical traditions. Upon completion of this course, students will have a fundamental understanding of film form and technique, and will develop a better "eye" to appreciate and understand films. Students will be able to analyze a film according to its narrative and visual form, and their skills of analysis, critical interpretation and informed argumentation will be improved as well.

There will be two field trips to the Shanghai Film Museum and the Shanghai Che Dun Film Park respectively, during which the students will see a lot of important and precious film archives, and visit some shooting locations of films like *Lust, Caution* (2007) and *Kung Fu Hustle* (2004).

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be expected to develop a historical appreciation of film genres including narrative, documentary, and experimental, and of the legacy of important filmmakers. Students will learn and be able to use critical tools and vocabulary to analyze cinematic form and content. Students will be expected to acquire an understanding of different forms, traditions, and styles of filmmaking in different national and international contexts.

This course aims to demonstrate an ability to think critically, to distinguish between fact and opinion, in the analysis of different kinds of film, as well as the ability to evaluate critical and historical materials for the study of film in order to construct a coherent and substantiated argument, written in clear and correct prose. The course aims to develop communication skills and demonstrate the ability to reflect critically on the learning process.

Grading Scale and Notes

The following definitions will be used as a guide for the assignment of grades:

Number Grade	Letter Grade	Definitions
94-100	A	Extraordinary distinction, indicating a full mastery of course content and excellent work.
90-93	A-	
87-89	B+	Strong performance demonstrating a high level of attainment, indicating a good comprehension of the course material and the student's full engagement with the course requirements and activities.
84-86	B	
80-83	B-	
77-79	C+	Acceptable performance, demonstrating an adequate and satisfactory comprehension of the course material and the student has met the basic requirements for completing assignments and participating in class activities.
70-76	C	
60-69	D	A marginal performance in the required exercises demonstrating a minimal passing level of attainment.
0-59	F	An unacceptable performance. The F grade indicates that the student's performance has revealed almost no understanding of the course content.

Assessment Policy

Assessment	Final Grade
Film Review x3	15%
Field Trip Report x2	15%
Mid-Term Presentation	30%
Final Presentation	30%
Attendance	10%

Course Schedule

Date	Lecture	Reading/Assignments/ Examination
Day 1	Early Cinema: The Invention and the International Expansion of the Cinema	Research for mid-term presentation
Day 2	From Silent Era to Sound Cinema Screening: The Artist (2011)	Film review (500 words)
Day 3	The Rise of Hollywood	Research for mid-term presentation
Day 4	Field trip to Shanghai Film Museum	Field trip report (500 words)
Day 5	Neo-realism Cinema Screening: The Bicycle Thieves (1948)	Film review (500 words)
Day 6	New Waves: French New Wave Cinema	Research for mid-term presentation
Day 7	New Waves: British Kitchen Sink Cinema	Research for mid-term presentation
Day 8	Mid-term Presentations	Hand in group essay and presentation slides in class
Day 9	Film Genres	Research for final presentation
Day 10	Asian Cinema: The Chinese Fifth & Sixth Generation Directors Screening: Raise the Red Lantern (1991)	Film review (500 words)
Day 11	Field trip to Shanghai Che Dun Film Park	Field trip report (500 words)
Day 12	Asian Cinema: Contemporary South Korean Cinema	Research for final presentation
Day 13	Asian Cinema: Contemporary Japanese Cinema	Research for final presentation
Day 14	Cinema in the Age of Electronic Media	Research for final presentation
Day 15	Final Presentations	Hand in group essay and presentation slides in class



Reading List:

1. Thompson, Kristin. Bordwell, David. Film History: An Introduction. McGraw-Hill Higher Education, 1993, ISBN: 0070384290 (p.14-30; p.33-41; p.359-364; p.443-455)
2. Zhang, Yingjin (ed.) A Companion to Chinese Cinema. Wiley-Blackwell, 2012, ISBN: 9781444355994 (p. 23-42; p. 95-151)
3. Hunt, Leon. Leung, Wing-Fai(ed.) East Asian Cinema: Exploring Transnational Connections on Film. I. B. Tauris, 2008, ISBN: 9781845116156 (p. 88-123)