EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION

CINEMA, MODERNITY AND TECHNOLOGY

FALL 2017 / WINTER 2018

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Examines the emergence of cinema as a technology, social practice, economic structure, and means of artistic expression. Pre-requisite: FA/FILM 1400 9.0

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INSTRUCTOR(S)

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ng-Chan, Taien</td>
<td>Sec. B / LECT / F</td>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

CINEMA, MODERNITY AND TECHNOLOGY

YORK UNIVERSITY/AMPD/DEPARTMENT OF CINEMA AND MEDIA ARTS FA/FILM 2200 B 3.0 FALL 2017-18

Course website: moodle.yorku.ca Lecture/Screening: Wed 2:30-5:30 pm Location: Ross S201

Course Director: Dr. Taien Ng-Chan
Office: Centre for Film and Theatre 230
Office Hours: Tuesdays 3-4:30pm or by appointment (e-mail for appt) E-mail: tainen@yorku.ca

Tutorial Leader:
Akim Milne (akimmilne@msn.com)

Tutorials:
Tutorials begin on Sept 21st. Tutorials are small group discussion sessions that are held in conjunction with lectures and screenings. Thursday tutorials will be used as a forum for the discussion of readings, to reinforce or elaborate issues discussed in class, and to provide assignment assistance.

As with the lectures and the screenings, tutorials are mandatory and you are expected to attend unless you have notified your tutorial leader in advance that you will be absent with a legitimate reason. Attendance will be taken. You will already be assigned to one of the 50 minute tutorials listed below: Tutorial 1: R S13312:30

Tutorial 2: R S133 1:30
**Course Management:** The Course Director and Tutorial Leader will work as a teaching team. Although the Course Director will coordinate the lectures, all members of the team will attend and participate. The Tutorial Leader, who is a graduate student in the Department of Cinema and Media Arts, will lead tutorial sections of the course. Although problems encountered in the course may be discussed with any member of the team, in most cases it would be appropriate to speak first with your Tutorial Leader.

**Course Director Availability:** The Course Director and Tutorial Leader will hold office hours by appointment. You are encouraged to see us; we can discuss any topic or issue you like, including assignments, difficulties you are having with the course, suggestions for further reading, or clarification and expansion of issues that interest you. Unfortunately, most students wait until the week before assignments are due to consult instructors. Don’t get caught in the rush.

**E-mail Policy:** We will endeavor to answer e-mail as promptly as we can, but allow for one week for a response. We also do not answer emails on weekends. Please reserve e-mail for making appointments and for asking brief questions of information.

Substantive discussions about course material and assignments should occur in tutorials and during office hours. There may be times when I will send e-mails to the entire class via moodle. If you regularly use a non-York e-mail account make sure that you make use of the e-mail forwarding service. See: http://www.cns.yorku.ca/computing/e-mail/forwarding.html

1. **Course Description:** The course examines the practices, theories and debates surrounding the emergence of cinema from a late 19th century technology and set of social practices to its establishment as a culture industry. The course will cover film exhibition and audience reception, film’s relation to other arts, the transition to sound cinema, issues of gender, sexuality, corporeality, race, colonialism and war. Weekly screenings will include short films, actualities, early comedy, drama, non-fiction, film serials, avant-garde cinema, early sound feature films and contemporary films that help reinforce our understanding of early cinema practices and how these inform emerging cinema practices today. Students will have the opportunity to study the work of various relevant filmmakers, theorists, critics and commentators, and to try their hand at media art-making and curating.

Prerequisite: FILM1400 or FILM1401

**TOPICS AND CONCEPTS**

Topics and Concepts:

**LIST OF LEARNING OUTCOMES AND EXAMPLES OF**

3. **Learning Objectives:**

- Develop familiarity with theories of cinematic modernity from the period 1895-1920 and how they influence contemporary media
- Study the cinema as a still-emerging technology that combines social practices with technological developments
- Develop an understanding of the development of practices of film production, distribution, exhibition and reception
- Gain an overview of broad trends in the topic area as well as alternative practices and theories

After taking this course students should be able to:
• Understand the ways in which theories of early cinema history have reformulated the discipline of Cinema and Media Studies
• Develop the ability to review, present, and critically evaluate qualitative and quantitative information in developing accounts of cinema and media history.
• Develop arguments, judge historiographic theories and models; apply underlying concepts, principles, and techniques of historical analysis; propose solutions to, or frame appropriate questions to historical problems.
• Make simple digital media art.

GRADED ASSESSMENT

4. Graded Assessment: Digital Art Project 1 due Sept 27 10%
Curation Proposal+Annotated bibliography due Oct 18 15%
Digital Art Project 2 due Oct 25 10%
Curation/Programming Project due Nov 1 20%
Final Project due Nov 29 25%
Attendance and class participation 20%
(weekly responses and tutorial participation): Total 100%

Many courses utilize Moodle, York University's course website system. If your course is using Moodle, click here to access it.
Moodle @ York University