EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION

FILM AND VIDEO

School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Department of Cinema and Media Arts

FA / FILM 2401 6.0 SECTION A
FILM, TELEVISION AND SOCIETY
FALL 2017 / WINTER 2018

Last Modified Date: 08/23/2017

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Examines the interrelationship between film and television and the societies in which they are produced and consumed. Attention is paid to the social relations and ideological and political characteristics of contemporary societies, as well as contemporary criticism which has analyzed these media. Course credit exclusions: None.

Course Listed Courses: HUMA 2740

INSTRUCTOR(S)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
<th>Contact Phone</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kispal-Kovacs, Joe</td>
<td>Sec. A / LECT / Y</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jkispal@yorku.ca">jkispal@yorku.ca</a></td>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

DEPARTMENT OF CINEMA & MEDIA ARTS Fall/Winter 2017-2018
FACULTY OF ARTS, MEDIA, PERFORMANCE AND DESIGN
YORK UNIVERSITY

Course Number     FA/FILM 2401A 6.0 (cross-listed as AS/HUMA 2740A 6.0)
Course Name       Film, Television & Society
Lecture Day/Time  Tuesdays (11:30am - 2:30pm)
Lecture Location  Vari Hall (VH) A
Course Director    Joseph Kispal-Kovacs
Office Address     219 Centre for Film and Theatre
Office Hours       (by appointment)
Office Telephone Number  416-736-2100 (x20267)

TOPICS AND CONCEPTS

Course Description: This course examines the history of the Film and Television Industries in the United States in the period covering 1896 to 2017. A series of case studies on the role of the media in empire building will run throughout the course. A short section on Canadian Broadcasting will conclude the course.

Notes:
1. All information in this course outline is tentative and subject to change. Please pay attention in class to for announcements regarding any changes to the course schedule of topics, readings and screenings.
2. **Important dates:**

   - September 20, 2017: last day to enroll in Term Y course without permission of instructor;
   - October 18, 2017: last day to enroll in Term Y course with permission of instructor;
   - February 9, 2018: last day to drop Term Y course without receiving a grade;

3. **Missed tests.** If you miss a test you must provide a medical note. Only then will you be able to write a make-up test. Make-up tests will take place in late April on a date TBA

4. **Enrollment.** Only students officially enrolled in this course will have their assignments graded. Students are responsible for checking with the registrar’s office to ensure that they are properly enrolled. No petitions will be accepted for students who do not follow these instructions.

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**LIST OF LEARNING OUTCOMES AND EXAMPLES OF**

**Lecture Schedule**

September 12 - Introduction
Why did the movies appear in the US in 1896? What did they look like?
How the Movies Became Big Business
Case Studies: The Spanish – America War (1898) and World War One (1917-1918)
Reading: Textbook Chapters 1 and 2 and Ross in Film Reader
Screenings: Various early short films, *A Corner in Wheat* (1909) and *The Immigrant* (1917)

September 19  - The Origins of the Studio System of Production
Case study: The State Department and Hollywood (1920s)
Readings: Textbook Chapter 3, Bordwell in Film Reader
Screening: *Sunrise* (1927)

**Tutorials start today**

September 26  – Hollywood As a Genre System
Case Study: The Early Western Film and Empire Building
Reading: Textbook Chapter 4
Screening: *Stagecoach* (1939)

Case Study: The US and Latin America I
Readings: Textbook Chapter 5, Maltby in Film Reader
Screening: *Scarface* (1932)

October 10 - Studying TV and an Introduction to US Broadcasting Policy
Case Study: The US and Latin America II
Readings: Textbook Chapter 6, *The TV Reader* Chapters 1 and 2
Screening: *Big Dream, Small Screen* (1997), *Saludos Amigos* (1942)

**October 17  - Test #1**
October 24 – World War II
Case Study: The Office of War Information
Reading: Textbook Chapter 7
Screening: Casablanca (1942)

October 31 – The Rise of Broadcast Television (1946-1959)
Case Study: The Cold War
Readings: Textbook Chapter 8, The TV Reader (pp. 101-103) and Chapters 3 and 25
Screenings: I Love Lucy, Leave It to Beaver, and The Simpsons

November 7 – The Post War Hollywood Western Film and TV Westerns
Case Study: The Cold War and the Television Western
Readings: Textbook Chapter 9
Screenings: Bonanza, The Big Valley

Case Study: Liberal Anti-Imperialism and the Cold War
Reading: Textbook Chapter 10
Screening: The Ugly American (1963)

November 21 - The Advertising System
Case Study: Selling the American Dream
Readings: Textbook Chapter 11,
The TV Reader (Introduction to Part II and Chapter 19)
Screening: Advertising and the End of the World, No Logo

November 28 – Test #2

Case Study: The Cold War and Espionage Narratives
Reading: Textbook Chapter 12
Screening: Mission Impossible, I Spy

January 16 – The Vietnam War
Case Study: The Vietnam War
Readings: Textbook Chapter 13, Ryan and Kellner in Film Reader
Screening: Hearts and Minds (1974)
January 23 – American Public Broadcasting
Case Study: American Public Broadcasting Abroad
Readings: Textbook Chapter 14
Screening: Sesame Street, Eyes on the Prize

January 30 – African Americans in Film and Television
Readings: Textbook Chapter 16

February 6
TV’s War on Crime and on Terror (and a Football Game)
Reading: The TV Reader (pp. 104-105, 108 - 109) and Chapters 9, 15, 16 and 18
Screenings: CSI and 24
Home Screening: The NFL Super Bowl (Feb. 7th)

February 13 - Test #3

Reading Week
February 17-23

February 27
The Movies Come Back I – Revisionist Genres
The Movies Come Back II– The Blockbuster Strategy
Case Study: The Late Western Film and American Empire
Reading: Textbook Chapter 17 and Chapter 18
Screening: Little Big Man (1970)
Home Screening: Star Wars (1977)

March 6 - Film and Television in the Age of Media Conglomerates (1980 – 2013)
Case Study: Nicaragua, Afghanistan and Iraq and The War on Terror
Readings: Textbook Chapter 19 and Chapter 20, Schatz in Film Reader
Home Screening: The Green Zone (2010)

March 13 - Television Today: Premium Cable and Satellite Television
Readings: Textbook Chapter 20, Prince in Film Reader and TV Reader Chapter 10 Screenings: The Sopranos and The Wire

March 20 – Canadian Broadcasting & The Canadian Sitcom
Readings: The TV Reader Chapters 4 - 7
Screening: Trailer Park Boys and Little Mosque on the Prairie

March 27 – Emerging Trends
Readings: The TV Reader (Introduction to Part 4 and Chapters 8, 26 and 27)
Screening: Battlestar Galactica

April 3 – Test #4

GRADED ASSESSMENT

Required Readings

1. Film, Television and American Society by Joseph Kispol-Kovacs (the Textbook)
2. The Film Reader: Classic Readings in American Film edited by Joseph Kispol-Kovacs
3. The Television Reader edited by Tanner Mirrlees and Joseph Kispol-Kovacs

Marking Scheme

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Number</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-class Test #1</td>
<td>October 17, 2017</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-class Test #2</td>
<td>November 28, 2017</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-class Test #3</td>
<td>February 13, 2018</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-class Test #4</td>
<td>April 3, 2018</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tutorial Attendance &amp; Participation</td>
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<td>20%</td>
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism is a serious issue. It is also damaging to yourself as a writer and a student, as well as being grounds for severe academic penalties, as indicated in the undergraduate catalogue. Website: http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students.htm

The Instructor requires that each class member has taken the tutorial associated with Academic Honesty.

IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information:

- Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures
- Academic Integrity Website http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity.
- Accessibility/Disability Services: course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, learning and psychiatric disabilities www.yorku.ca/cds.
- Accommodating Students with Disabilities (York Senate Policy)
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
- Religious Observance Accommodation
  https://w2prod.sis.yorku.ca/Apps/WebObjects/cdm.woa/wa/regobs


- Student Conduct http://www.yorku.ca/univsec/policies/document.php?document=82 Please note that this in-formation is subject to periodic update. For the most current information, please go to the CCAS webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents):
Many courses utilize Moodle, York University's course website system. If your course is using Moodle, click here to access it.

Moodle @ York University