EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION

FA / FILM 3200 3.0 SECTION A
NEW WAVES IN CINEMA AND MEDIA STUDIES
FALL 2018 / WINTER 2019

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Examines histories and theories in post-WWII global cinema including the rise of new wave national cinemas, post-colonial film, new forms of documentary and experimental film and the theoretical and historical texts that inspired their emergence. Prerequisites: FA/FILM 2200 3.0, FA/FILM 2230 3.0. Examines histories and theories in post-WWII global cinema including the rise of new wave national cinemas, post-colonial film, new forms of documentary and experimental film and the theoretical and historical texts that inspired their emergence. Pre-requisite: FA/FILM 2200+2230

INSTRUCTOR(S)

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SPECIAL FEATURES

Expanded Course Description

Post WWII cinema was characterized by a series of radical and even utopian gestures in both filmmaking and film theory that sought to redefine the limits of cinema while recognizing the history, both cinematic and political, that preceded it. From Italian Neorealism to the French New Wave, a new generation of European filmmakers, critics, and theorists outlined new visions of art cinema that critiqued commercial film industries. Post-colonial struggles were enacted on new filmmaking practices and in a series of influential manifestos that circulated in a new global film circuit of film festivals, institutes, and publications. The adoption of mobile and affordable 16mm, and later 35mm and video, inspired new forms of documentary and experimental film, which coalesced into a variety of avant-garde movements with specific historical, political, and theoretical formations. The rise of film criticism influenced by contemporaneous philosophical and political theories of structuralism, semiotics, and ideological critique, led to important discourses on feminism, spectatorship, authorship, and modernism in journals. Finally, the rise of cinema and media studies as a discipline in universities synthesized a variety of intellectual positions on the medium and its place in global society. This course examines new parameters of cinema being explored in the post-WWII period, which were more international and open to new structures, functions, and the influence of cognate media forms. Simultaneously, the course will examine major trends in world cinema, which re-emerged globally from the 1970s onward, as new technologies of production, distribution, and exhibition pushes cinema towards wider conceptions of media. Students will have the opportunity to closely study the work of a wide variety of films, artists, theorists, critics and commentators.

TOPICS AND CONCEPTS

Organization of the Course
During lecture/screenings, class activities will include lecture and discussion, small group work, in-class writing, and screenings of film clips, shorts, and feature films. Tutorials of 25-30 students will allow for extended discussion of the readings, films, and assignments. Attendance at both lecture/screening and tutorials is required. Students should have completed the course readings before the lecture/discussion and should be ready to discuss them in class. Students must use the Moodle course website to submit assignments and download some course materials.

LIST OF LEARNING OUTCOMES AND EXAMPLES OF

Course Learning Objectives

Teaching Objectives:
- Develop student familiarity with world cinema and media theory/history in the post-WWII period featuring the social and political context of film and television production, distribution and reception.
- Integrate social analysis of media with formal and auteur-oriented film and television analysis
- Present a comprehensive overview of broad trends in the topic area as well as alternative practices and theories
- Prepare students to pursue advanced studies and practice in the topic area

Learning Outcomes:
- Comprehend the ways in which world cinema and media arts were practiced and theorized in the post-WWII period
- Integrate previous training in film analysis and interpretation (including auteurism, genre analysis, narrative analysis, ideological analysis) with theories and histories that feature the role of film and media in social practice;
- Develop confidence in researching and writing about advanced film theory and historical analysis in preparation for advanced studies in the Department’s three areas of specialization: screenwriting, production, and cinema and media studies

GRADED ASSESSMENT

Evaluation

Attendance: 5%
Reading report/Discussion Leadership: 5%
Participation: 20%
Midterm Take-Home Exam (due October): 20%
Research-Creation Project (due October) 30%
IN-CLASS Final Exam (December 3): 20%

Attendance 5%

Coming to class will be a key component of your learning process in this course. Try not to miss lectures and tutorials. Attendance will be taken at both events.

Reading report/Discussion Leadership 5%

Once in the semester, each student must prepare to write a reading report summarizing the lecture/reading of that week and leading discussions in the tutorials. Bring one question related to that week’s content and share
it with your colleagues. The questions will conduct the lines of thoughts followed in our conversations. Students will be able to sign up for a week of their interest on the first day of class.

**Participation 20%**

Participation is very important in this course. All students must contribute creative and strong arguments to our class discussions. Everyone is expected to come to tutorials prepared to debate the readings and films as two different forms of textual expression. If you find it hard to communicate orally, talk to your Tutorial Leader. You will have the opportunity to bring notes and either read them or submit them for evaluation. There will be some group discussions encouraged during lecture time as well.

**Mid-term exam 20%**

The mid-term exam will consist of three questions that you have to answer to the best of your capacity in 500 words each. The content examined will cover what we learned in class but feel free to use your own experience once you have defined your interpretation of the concepts that will be addressed. This will be a take-home exam. You will have 24 hours to respond to the questions.

Exam time starts: **Thursday, 4 October at 1:00pm**

Exam time ends: **Friday, 5 October by 1:00pm**

You must submit the exam via Moodle by the date and time stated above and also make sure you deliver a hard copy in 224 Centre for Film and Theatre by no later than

**Friday, 5 October at 4:00pm**

**Research Project: A Digital Story 30% (Creative component/Written component)**

You must do this final project in a group of up to five members. The creative project should be accompanied by a written component, a 750 words essay —evaluated individually— that will draw from course material, other bibliographic sources (one peer-reviewed journal article minimum), and creative experience of the students. 15% of this evaluation will be related to presentation and creativity of your project, and 15% to the ways in which you engage with the critical analysis of your contribution. The idea is to establish relations between the theoretical knowledge learned in class and a practice-based cultural product. You can create a digital story using one of the topics discussed in class and incorporating visually/sonically the different elements of that “new wave”. Examples could be: a podcast on Korean Hallyu, a short experimental film (1 to 3 minutes) made in the style of the French Wave or Dogma 95 filmmakers, a photo album interpreting Third Cinema from a political perspective, etc. Using some of the knowledge in the recommended texts would be an asset. Strive to convince the reader of the significance of your theme and sustain a strong argument throughout the text. Edit carefully. Prepare to discuss the abstract of your project in tutorials.

**Grading, Assignment Submission, Lateness Penalties and Missed Tests**

**Grading:** The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar at http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/calendars/2012-2013/academic/grades/.

Students may take a limited number of courses for degree credit on an ungraded (pass/fail) basis. For full information on this option see Alternative Grading Option in the Faculty of Fine Arts section of the Undergraduate Calendar - http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/calendars/2012-2013/faculty_rules/FA/grading.htm.

**Assignment Submission:** Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, assignments for this course must be received on the due date specified for the assignment. Please be prepared to submit some assignments online where they may be submitted to turnitin.com, an academic honesty tool. All assignments must have your student name and number, tutorial
leader, course title and number clearly indicated on the front page. Do not slip printed assignments under doors. Ensure that you keep copies of all submitted work. In case of lost assignments you are responsible for a replacement. Finally, you are responsible for keeping copies of graded work in case of disputes over final grade calculations.

**Lateness Penalty:** Assignments received later than the due date will be one-half letter grade (1 grade point) per day that assignment is late. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the Course Director but will require supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor’s letter).

**Missed Tests:** Students with a documented reason for missing exams, such as illness which is confirmed by supporting documentation (e.g., doctor’s letter) may request accommodation from the Course Director. The Course Director and Teaching Assistant may grant accommodation based on compassionate grounds. Talk to us! Lateness in requiring extensions or accommodation for an assignment will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

**Attendance and Participation**
- Students are expected to attend all lectures, screenings, and tutorials.
- Please arrive on time.
- Please respect your fellow students’ opportunity to learn in class by remaining quiet during lecture and screening. Disruptive behaviour will not be tolerated.
- Please turn your cell phones off. No texting, please.
- Students are responsible for completing all readings for that week before the lecture.
- You are required to attend all screenings, including films you have already viewed. Study copies of most films (but not all) may be available at the Sound and Moving Image Library (SMIL), but a video screening at a monitor does not substitute for a large-screen projection.
- Students are responsible for ensuring that their attendance is noted for each tutorial. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to contact your tutorial leader to explain the circumstances.
- Your participation grade will be determined on the basis of the quality and frequency of participation in tutorial discussion, group work, and other activities, and on the basis of consistent improvement in assignments over the year.

**Writing Skills:** We cannot emphasize enough the importance of good writing skills. We strongly urge you to take advantage of the university’s Writing Department, S329 Ross Bldg (416-736-5134), which offers one-on-one instruction, e-tutoring, mini-courses, and credit courses; see http://www.yorku.ca/laps/writ/ for more details. Writing department tutoring can also take place online. If you have difficulties with the English language or if you have a learning, physical, psychological, or sensory disability, please speak to the lecturer and your tutorial leader so that we can make accommodations. (see Access/Disability below).

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS**
All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information:
- 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.

How NOT to fail this course:

1. Come to class. When you miss class, you miss important course content, changes in assignments, test and exam tips given during lecture and tutorials, and more generally lose sight of the course’s intellectual trajectory. Most students who fail the course mentally ‘drop out’ without telling the Registrar’s Office—or their teachers.

2. Please, tell us if you’re in trouble. If you’re feeling lost, or if something bad happens (anxiety/overwhelming schedules/difficult balance between university and personal life/break-ups/health/depression/etc.), talk to your lecturer and tutorial leader. Many students try to overcome problems only to discover at the end of the year that they are unprepared to write essays and exams, due to personal troubles or learning disabilities. Communicate as early as possible to an academic counsellor that your circumstances merit extensions and permission to write special exams. If you have a learning disability, or suspect you may have some learning issues, you can reach out to the Counselling and Development Centre (CDC). They have study aids, and you may be able to write exams under special conditions. You must be registered with CDC in order to receive accommodations.

3. Make use of York resources. The university has multiple support services (it’s one of the university’s strengths).

4. Don’t plagiarize. Most cases of plagiarism are either committed out of ignorance (“you mean, when I cut and paste that paragraph from a website, it’s plagiarism?” “Duh”) or panic (“I’ve done no work and it is due tomorrow, so I’ll hand in my roommate’s essay”). In either case, plagiarizing is unacceptable. You will be required to complete the Academic Integrity Tutorial for this class and all written assignments will be submitted to turnitin.com.

5. Keep track of your own performance. There are always a few students at the end of the year who find that they have unexpectedly failed the course (or received a lower grade than expected). If you want to appeal your grade, you need evidence. Keep all of your work graded by your tutorial leader until at least the end of the following summer. In case of appeal or lost/miscalculated grades, you are responsible for providing proof of grades awarded for your work.

6. Learn from your mistakes. When we hand back tests and essays, read the comments, consult with your TA and instructor, and try not to repeat your mistakes. This course provides you with a wealth of learning resources: lectures, tutorial discussions, screenings, textbook, website, library. Use them. If you engage with the course, it’s pretty hard to fail.

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

Moodle @ York University