

27854 - Films in Context II

Syllabus Information

Academic Year: 2020/21

Subject: 27854 - Films in Context II

Faculty / School: 103 - Facultad de Filosofía y Letras

Degree: 416 - Degree in English

ECTS: 6.0

Year: 3

Semester: Second semester

Subject Type: Optional

Module: ---

1.General information

1.1.Aims of the course

1.2.Context and importance of this course in the degree

1.3.Recommendations to take this course

2.Learning goals

2.1.Competences

2.2.Learning goals

2.3.Importance of learning goals

3.Assessment (1st and 2nd call)

3.1.Assessment tasks (description of tasks, marking system and assessment criteria)

4.Methodology, learning tasks, syllabus and resources

4.1.Methodological overview

The methodology followed in this course is oriented towards achievement of the learning objectives. It follows the methodology inspired by the European Higher Education Area. Its advanced level of film analysis requires knowledge of both formal and cultural approaches to film texts.

Material is made available to students through a page on the Moodle platform.

4.2.Learning tasks

This is a 6 ECTS course organized as follows:

- Lectures (1.2 ECTS: 30 hours). Theory: formal, historical and cultural approaches to film.
- Practical sessions (1.2 ECTS: 30 hours). Practice: analysis of individual films.
- Individual or group tutorials (0.1 ECTS: 2.5 hours). Assessment on how to write critical analyses of film.
- Individual work:
 - a. Essay writing (2.2 ECTS: 55 hours). Viewing of film texts and writing of essays.
 - b. Individual study (1.2 ECTS: 30 hours). Individual work, reading of compulsory critical texts.
- Assessment tasks. A written exam on theory and practice (0.1 ECTS: 2.5 hours).

4.3.Syllabus

The course will address the following topics:

- **Topic 1. Hollywood in transition: the New Hollywood and the blockbuster**
 - Film: Grease (Randal Kleiser, 1978)
 - Reading: Buckland, Warren. "A close encounter with Raiders of the Lost Ark: Notes on narrative aspects of the New Hollywood blockbuster." In Steve Neale, Murray Smith eds. Contemporary Hollywood Cinema. London, New York: Routledge, 1998. 166-177.
- **Topic 2. Gender and genre: from Reaganism to the New Sincerity**
 - Film: Toy Story (John Lasseter, 1995)
 - Reading: Kemper, Tom. "Power Pop." Toy Story. London: Palgrave/BFI, 2015. 7-17.
- **Topic 3. Contemporary realisms, New Individualism and transnational cinema**
 - Film: A Mighty Heart (Michael Winterbottom, 2007).
 - Reading: Douthat, Ross. "The Return of the Paranoid Style." The Atlantic. April, 2008. <http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2008/04/the-return-of-the-paranoid-style/306733/>
- **Topic 4. U.S. independent cinema in the 1990s.**
 - Film: Smoke (Wayne Wang, 1995)
 - Reading: Tzioumakis, Yannis. "Introduction" to American Independent Cinema: An Introduction. Edinburgh: Edinburgh U.P., 1-15.
- **Topic 5. Spanish post-dictatorship cinema of the 1980s and 1990s.**
 - Film: Todo sobre mi madre (Pedro Almodóvar, 1999)
 - Reading: Acevedo-Muñoz, Ernesto. "The Body and Spain: Pedro Almodóvar and All about my Mother." Quarterly Review of Film and Video, 21 (2004), 25-38.
- **Topic 6. Cosmopolitanism and Contemporary Transnational Cinemas**
 - Film: Babel (Alejandro González Iñárritu, 2006)
 - Reading: Shaw, Deborah. "Deconstructing and Reconstructing 'Transnational Cinema'." In Dennison, Stephannie, ed. Contemporary Hispanic cinema: Interrogating Transnationalism in Spanish and Latin American film. Woodbridge: Tamesis, 2013, 47-66.

4.4. Course planning and calendar

Further information concerning the timetable, classroom, office hours, assessment dates and other details regarding this course, will be provided on the first day of class or please refer to the Faculty of Philosophy and Arts website (academic calendar: <http://academico.unizar.es/calendario-academico/calendario>, timetable: <https://fyl.unizar.es/horario-de-clases#overlay-context=horario-de-clases>; assessment dates: <https://fyl.unizar.es/calendario-de-examenes#overlay-context=>)

4.5. Bibliography and recommended resources