



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

BMI-FLMD-213E.14 Contemporary Cinemas: nations, authors and new waves

Teacher: László Strausz

Monday 09:00-10:30 ONLINE

This class is designed as a selective course for global contemporary film after Italian Neorealism. It does not attempt to cover the development of the medium in a comprehensive way, but rather engages with chosen authors and/or national cinemas that proved influential from a stylistic/narrative perspective. The english-language course is recommended for students as an introduction to contemporary cinema.

BMI-FLMD-213E.16 Domestic melodramas in American Cinema címmel

Teacher: László Strausz

Monday 10:45-12:15 ONLINE

This lecture works with the assumption that in a large majority of American domestic melodramas the middle-class family represents a miniature model of society. Through an investigation of the development of the genre, we will interrogate issues of sexuality, gender and ethnic- and class identities in American society across the 20th-century. The first part of the class focuses mainly on theoretical questions, which will be followed by a historically motivated study of the various transformations of domestic melodrama, from its beginnings towards the contemporary remakes. In last section of the course, we will examine conceptual issues related to genre theory, and attempt to locate the position of melodramas amongst other traditional genres within American cinema.

BMI-FLMD-322E.63 Theories of Adaptation

Teacher: Katalin Teller COMBINED COURSE

Friday, 12.30 - 14:00

The goal of the course is to introduce the intermedial dimensions of adaptation strategies that go beyond sole film adaptations. The course will cover selected theories of adaptation in a broad sense with special focus on the outcomes of research on intermediality. By clarifying diverse medial and ideological dimensions of the notion of adaptation, the course will analyze the historical roots of film adaptations, the problem of (literary) ekphrasis and the characteristics of audiobooks. The seminar will also entail a discussion of an adaptation in different media formats that will be selected by the course participants.

BMI-FLMD-322E.62 Environmental Aesthetics

Teacher: Endre Szécsényi

Wednesday, 9:00-10:30 ONLINE

This series of lectures offers a survey of one of the most prosperous branches of the contemporary philosophical aesthetics. It will map the major theories of the aesthetic relationship to the natural, urban and virtual (digital) environment, and will discuss the views of some of the most significant philosophers of the field like R. Hepburn, A. Carlson, A. Berleant, E. Brady, M. Budd, Y. Saito, A. Haapala and others. We will focus on both the manifoldness of the philosophical background of these aesthetic theories and their novelty in the history of modern aesthetics. The discussion of this novelty will highlight the tight connections of the environmental aesthetics to certain social, cultural, economic and even religious/theological issues and interests of our age. The evaluation will be based on active seminar participation and on a written assignment. Latter can cover either a case study of a selected adaptation or an essay comparing diverse theoretical approaches discussed during the seminar. For formal requirements follow the MLA guidelines.

BMI-FLMD-322E.65 Cartographic Power and Imagination

Teacher: Katalin Orbán

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ONLINE

This course examines mapmaking and the use of maps from the vantage point of cultural studies. Based on historical and theoretical readings as well as case studies, we will explore how the production of maps is determined by various cultural forces and conditions (such as the commissioners' interests, possibilities of use, and hierarchies of importance and meaning) and how the often hidden meanings of maps shape our knowledge of the world. We will also explore maps of imaginary worlds, alternative maps of the real world, and non-Western modes of orientation without maps as we understand them. Finally, we will reflect on how contemporary digital culture and new technologies have transformed mapping. Assessment is based on class participation, timely reading of assigned material, a presentation, and a final paper or creative project.

BMI-FLMD-322E.64 Ethical Challenges in Digital Journalism

Teacher: Gábor Polyák ONLINE

The technological developments since the end of the 20th century have not only impacted on journalistic practices, but the global, digital age effects journalism ethics. The entry of digital technology acts as one of the most significant factors changing the ethical practice of journalism today, as one example they name the journalists' dilemma of often having to decide between speed or verification and accuracy. The increase of journalistic investigations and publications online poses many other new challenges – besides the rather classical questions such as impartiality, conflict of interest, deception and betrayal – at the forefront is an ever-increasing amount of fake news that urges extensive fact checking, and dealing with hate speech in comments sections. Other ethical issues include questions arising from linking content from other sources, including content from citizen journalism and whistle blowers, handling large amounts of data as well as the products of digital visualisation (photo, video, graphics), plagiarism, and problems of privacy in the digital age.

BMI-FLMD-322E.58 Freedom of Speech

Teacher: Mihály Szilágyi-Gál ONLINE

The course addresses the phenomena of hate speech and free speech. By offering an overview of the international literature of the main related conceptual controversies, the course also addresses the Hungarian case both as example and as exception. As such we focus both on cross-national aspects of

free speech and its abuses through fighting words and on some specific elements of the development of these matters in Hungary since 1990 onwards.

The requirements for obtaining a final grade are the following: 1. in-class test (50% of the final grade), 2. the participation of the student on an in-class debate between two or more students about a freely chosen topic regarding hate speech and free speech and discussing the scholarly existing pro and contra arguments of the topic (50% of the final grade). As an alternative, students can make individual presentations on some chosen case or topic related to free speech and hate speech. To be eligible for a final grade you must both write the test and hold a class presentation or participate in a debate. The readings are available on a personal website and will be shared in due time.

BMI-FLMD-322E.63 A Philosophy of Vision

Teacher: Sándor Sajó ONLINE

We shall discuss the meaning and significance of vision in experience in general. We shall start with a text from Foucault, continue with Diderot's classical text, then focus on phenomenology (Sartre, Merleau-Ponty, Lévinas, Marion). We shall also read authors from the psychoanalytical tradition (Lacan) and art history (Didi-Huberman). Fundamental philosophical issues, closely connected to vision, shall also be discussed such as the problem of consciousness, the relation of mind and body, the relation of the I and the other.

Requirements: regular attendance (3 classes may be missed), active participation in the discussions, submission of an essay at the end of the semester.

BMI-FLMD-322E.66 Film and city: cinematic representations of urban space

**Teacher: Strausz László, Hermann Veronika
ONLINE**

Tuesday, 10.45-12.15

This course on the cinematic representations of urban space will progress through three blocks. After an initial discussion on the theoretical differences between space as a geometrical- and space as a social construction, we will (1) investigate in early, and classic modernist films the interdependence of early metropolitan spaces and their cinematic representations. The second block (2) will consist of detailed filmic analyses of post-WWII American cities, and encourage participants to dissect discourses on the Cold War, civil rights movement, social, technological and economic changes etc, that have fundamentally shaped the narratives of American identity. Lastly, we will (3) engage with interpretations of postcolonial spaces through an analysis of the cinematic representations of Hong Kong's urban spaces.