

HUM 202.01: Film History

Winter 2010 T-F, 1:30-5:55, **Room TBA**

Instructor: Monica Sanning
Office: Humanities, Rm. 2063

Email: Monica.Sanning@sunysb.edu
Office Hours: TTh 12:15-1:15 and by appt.

Course Description

The course explores the historical development of film through works of renowned international directors. Besides introducing key national movements that have shaped cinema history, we will also examine a number of influential movements that have produced significant artists and words that are not necessarily products of national movements.

This course fulfills the DEC “D” requirement.

Materials

Required Texts:

1. Wexman, Virginia Wright. *A History of Film*. 6th edition. ISBN 0-205-44976-X
Other required readings are available on Blackboard (BB).

The book is available for purchase at Stony Books on Route 25A across the street from the Long Island Railroad stop. You can also buy them at the University Bookstore on the ground floor of the Melville Library. You may, of course, use library copies if available, but it is part of the course requirement to come to class with text in hand.

Texts on Blackboard (BB)

Certain required readings may be found on blackboard and are listed with (BB) after the title in the Class Schedule section. You are responsible for coming to class with the material **in hand**. If you do not have a blackboard account, you must set one up (see below, “Resources”). No excuses will be accepted.

Course Requirements

There is no make up for any late work, nor for any tests and/or exams missed due to class absence or tardiness. Please check your schedule to make sure you can fulfill all class requirements.

Your final grade will be determined based on the following:

| | | |
|------------|------|--------------------|
| Test I | 25% | Friday, January 8 |
| Test II | 25% | Friday, January 15 |
| Final Exam | 35 % | Friday, January 22 |

Participation/Attendance 15%

Grading

Grading system:

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| | B+: 87-89 | C+: 77-79 | D: 60-69 |
| A: 93-100 | B: 83-86 | C: 73-76 | F: 0-59 |
| A-: 90-92 | B-: 80-82 | C-: 70-72 | |

Policies

Attendance: *Attendance is mandatory; regular attendance and active participation will greatly enhance your final grade. Missing more than two sessions will result in a lowering of your final grade by one half grade. Missing more than three sessions will result in a failing grade for the course. Leaving early or arriving late will count as half an absence.

Participation: Attendance and Participation are very different things. Participation means coming to class having done the readings and then contributing during class. Coming with questions is also encouraged. After the fourth session, I will be available to discuss your class participation grade at any time. Cell phone use, texting, and internet use will lower your participation grade.

Resources

Blackboard: In addition, there is a **BLACKBOARD** site for this course. Please make sure that you check it regularly for course information. You can access class information on-line at: <http://blackboard.sunysb.edu>. If you have used Stony Brook's Blackboard system previously, your login information (Username and Password) has not changed. If you have never used Stony Brook's Blackboard system, your initial password is your SOLAR ID# and your username is the same as your Stony Brook (sparky) username, which is generally your first initial and the first 7 letters of your last name. For help or more information see:

<http://www.sinc.sunysb.edu/helpdesk/docs/blackboard/bbstudent.php>.

For problems logging in, go to the helpdesk in the Main Library SINC Site or the Union SINC Site, you can also call: 631-632-9602 or e-mail: helpme@ic.sunysb.edu

Certain documents may be available only on BLACKBOARD. They are noted in the schedule as (BB). You are responsible for printing the articles out and bringing them to class.

From time to time I will put up announcements and certain documents. If you have a question on the readings, please post it to Blackboard instead of writing me an email. If one person has a question on something, chances are, others do as well. I will respond, either on Blackboard or during class, depending on when the message is posted.

Americans with Disabilities Act: If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Disability Support Services, ECC (Educational Communications Center) Building, rm.128, (631) 632-6748. They will determine with you what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

Students requiring emergency evacuation are encouraged to discuss their needs with their professors and Disability Support Services. For procedures and information, go to the following web site: <http://www.ehs.sunysb.edu/fire/disabilities/asp>.

SUNY Critical Management Initiative: Stony Brook University expects students to maintain standards of personal integrity that are in harmony with the educational goals of the institution; to observe national, state, and local laws and University regulations; and to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Judicial Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, and/or inhibits students' ability to learn.

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism is simply the use of others' words and/or ideas without clearly acknowledging their source. As students, you are learning about other people's ideas in your course texts, your instructors' lectures, in-class discussions, and when doing your own research. When you incorporate those words and ideas into your own work, it is of the utmost importance that you give credit where it is due. Plagiarism, intentional or unintentional, is considered academic dishonesty and all instances will be reported to the Academic Judiciary. To avoid plagiarism, you must give the original author credit whenever you use another person's ideas, opinions, drawings, or theories as well as any facts or any other pieces of information that are not common knowledge. Additionally quotations of another person's actual spoken or written words; or a close paraphrasing of another person's spoken or written words must also be referenced. Accurately citing all sources and putting direct quotations – of even a few key words – in quotation marks are required. For further information on plagiarism and the policies regarding academic dishonesty go to the Academic Judiciary website at <http://naples.cc.sunysb.edu/CAS/ajc.nsf>.

ANY INSTANCE OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY WILL BE REPORTED TO THE ACADEMIC JUDICIARY COMMITTEE AND WILL RESULT IN AN F FOR THE COURSE.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

(From the Academic Judiciary Website, USB: <http://naples.cc.sunysb.edu/CAS/ajc.nsf>.)

CATEGORIES OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

1) CHEATING ON EXAMS

- Copying test answers from someone else.
- Allowing someone else to copy your answers.
- Using unpermitted notes of any kind during an exam.

- Using unauthorized electronic devices to cheat in an exam.
- Receiving unauthorized access to an exam prior to the test.
- Altering an answer after receiving a grade and resubmitting it for a re-grade.
- Impersonation (e.g., having a "ringer" take an exam in your name, serving as a "ringer" for someone else, signing in someone's name on an attendance roster if that person is absent, having someone do so for you)

2) PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is defined as "the unacknowledged use of another person's work, in the form of original ideas, strategies, and research as well as another person's writing, in the form of sentences, phrases, and innovative terminology" (Spatt, 183, p. 438). Students should be clear about their instructors' standards for citing sources and should seek help when in doubt. Whether plagiarism is intentional or unintentional, it is still a violation of the university's Code of Academic Conduct and is prosecutable. The following are all cases in which a student can be charged with plagiarism:

- Using a paper or pieces of a paper from the Internet without properly citing the source.
- Buying or selling written work.
- Representing someone else's written work as one's own, *even if only the ideas*, and not the words themselves, are taken from someone else. If another person's words or ideas are being used, they must be properly cited.
- Unpermitted collaboration (on a paper, homework, lab reports, etc.). Unless an instructor has explicitly approved working together, students should assume, for their own protection, that it is not permitted.
- Helping someone else to plagiarize from one's own paper or homework (for example, by giving them a copy of yours, or giving them the idea on which to base theirs, or doing it for them).

3) SUBMITTING THE SAME WORK FOR DOUBLE CREDIT

- For example, using the same paper for two courses.

4) ALTERING OR FALSIFYING RECORDS

- Fabricating or altering an excuse note
- Making up references in a paper.
- Falsifying one's own course records.
- Presenting a false or altered transcripts

5) INVENTING OR ALTERING DATA

6) SABOTAGE

- Inappropriately and deliberately harming someone else's academic performance.

7) COERCING OR OFFERING BRIBES

- For example, coercing a fellow student for answers, or offering favors to an instructor or TA.

8) ASSISTING SOMEONE ELSE IN AN ACT OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Inclement Weather

We will adhere to the official Stony Brook policy on university closings due to snow and ice. Updated information can be found on the Stony Brook webpage or by phone at (631) 632-SNOW.

Course Schedule

Week One

- Tues. Jan 5: Introduction; Early Cinema
Screening: Films of the Lumière Brothers, films from the Edison Company, Films of Méliès
Films of D.W. Griffith
- Wed. Jan 6: European Avant-Gardes
Readings: Wexman, Ch. 1: "Birth and Childhood of a New Art"
Wexman, Ch. 3: "Great German Silents"
Peter Lehman, "Introduction: What is Film Theory" (BB)
Screening: *Nosferatu*
- Thurs. Jan 7: The Soviets and Montage
Readings: Wexman, Ch. 4: "Art and Dialectic in the Soviet Film"
Eisenstein, "Beyond the Shot" (BB)
Screening: *Battleship Potemkin*
- Fri. Jan 8: Classical Hollywood/Genres
Readings: Lehman, Peter and William Luhr, "Genres" (BB)
Bordwell, "Classical Hollywood Cinema: Narrational Principles and Procedures" (BB)
Screening: *The Philadelphia Story*
Test I

Week Two

- Tues. Jan 12: Another Kind of Hollywood
Readings: Wexman, Ch. 7: "Hollywood in the Thirties and Early Forties"
Screening: *Citizen Kane*

Wed. Jan 13: Italian Neorealism

Readings: Wexman, Ch. 8: "Italian Neorealism"
Wexman, Ch. 16: "Modernisms and Metaphor in Italy"

Screening: *Rome, Open City*

Thurs. Jan 14: French New Wave

Readings: Wexman, Ch. 12: "Film of the Auteurs: The French New Wave"
Wexman, Ch. 19: "New Theories, New Films, New France"

Screening: *Jules and Jim*

Fri. Jan 15: Japanese New Wave

Readings: Wexman, Ch. 11: "Japanese Film: A Pictorial Tradition and a Modernist Edge"

Screening: *Throne of Blood*

Test II

Week Three

Tues. Jan 19: Western Europe

Readings: Wexman, Ch. 13: "Other Western European Cinemas: National Cinemas or Eurofilms?"

Screening: *Law of Desire*

Wed. Jan 20: Hollywood without the Studio System

Readings: Wexman, Ch. 17: "American Reemergence"
Wexman, Ch. 20: "A Blockbuster Mentality: The United States"

Screening: *Chinatown*

Thurs. Jan 21: Gender and Sexuality

Readings: Lehman, Peter and William Luhr, "Gender and Sexuality"
Mulvey, Laura, "Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema" (BB)

Screening: *My Beautiful Laundrette*

Fri. Jan 22: **Screening;** *In the Name of the Father*

Final Exam