The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

An Introduction to the Aesthetics of Film - 50320

Last update 13-08-2018

<u>HU Credits:</u> 2

<u>Degree/Cycle:</u> 1st degree (Bachelor)

<u>Responsible Department:</u> Communication & Journalism

<u>Academic year:</u> 0

<u>Semester:</u> 1st Semester

<u>Teaching Languages:</u> Hebrew

<u>Campus:</u> Mt. Scopus

<u>Course/Module Coordinator:</u> Prof Raya Morag

<u>Coordinator Email:</u> raya.morag@mail.huji.ac.il

<u>Coordinator Office Hours:</u> Tuesday, 1600-1700

<u>Teaching Staff:</u>

Prof Raya Morag

Course/Module description:
  The course will present an introduction to the aesthetics of film by means of a discussion of the classical, modern and postmodern cinema. We will be able to answer the question how are we to analyze a film through considering narrative and non-narrative forms, and highlighting the four central components that distinguish the cinema: mise-en-scène, shooting, editing and sound.

Course/Module aims:
  Learning the language of cinema. Familiarity with the classical, modern and postmodern cinema. Introduction to the world of Truffaut, Hitchcock, Marker and Almodóvar.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
  At the end of this course, the students will be familiar with the language of cinema, will be exposed to different approaches to cinema analysis (psychoanalytic vs. cognitive; queer), as well as to the viewing experience in different modes (classical, modern, postmodern). In addition they will be introduced to the canonical research on Truffaut, Hitchcock, Bertolucci and Almodóvar.

Attendance requirements(%):
  100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: The course is based on scene by scene analysis of the films.

Course/Module Content:
  No. Date Topic
1. 16.10.18 Introduction: Day for Night, François Truffaut.
2. 23.10.18 Continued.
3. 6.11.18
4. 13.11.18 The classical cinema: Rear Window, Alfred Hitchcock.
5. 20.11.18
6. 27.11.18
 7. 4.12.18 The modern cinema: La Jetée, Chris Marker
8. 11.12.18
9. 18.12.18 The postmodern cinema: Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown,

Pedro Almodóvar.
10. 1.1.19
11. 8.1.19 Continued. All About My Mother, Pedro Almodóvar.
12. 15.1.19
 Summary.

<u>*Required Reading:*</u>
 1. Mauerhofer Hugo (1949) "Psychology of Film Experience", Penguin Film Review 8: 103- 109.
2. Modleski, Tania (1988) "The Master`s Dollhouse – Rear Window" The Women Who Knew Too Much Hitchcock and Feminist Theory New York London Methuen: 73-85
3. Truffaut, François (1994) "Alfred Hitchcock: Rear Window" The Films in my Life New York Da Capo Press: 77-79.
4. Truffaut, François (1984). "Introduction", "Rear Window" Hitchcock New York Simon & Schuster: 13-25, 209-223.
5. Ben-David, Benny & Meiri, Sandra (2016) "Cinema and Ideology" (Chapter 8) Introduction to Film Theory Ra'anana The Open University: 487-530. [Hebrew]
6. Gross, Aeyal & Ziv, Amalia (2001) "Between Theory and Politics: Gay and Lesbian Studies and Queer Theory" In Yair Kedar, Amalia Ziv & Oren Kenner (Eds.), Beyond Sexuality: Selected Articles in Gay and Lesbian Studies and Queer Theory Hakibbutz Hameuhad: 9-44. [Hebrew]
Réda Bensmaïa, Alison Rowe, and Elisabeth Lyon (1990) "From the Photogram to the Pictogram: On Chris Marker's La Jetée" Camera Obscura 8.3 (24): 139-161.

<u> *Additional Reading Material:*</u>

 <u>*Course/Module evaluation:*</u>
 End of year written/oral examination 100 %
 Presentation 0 %
 Participation in Tutorials 0 %
 Project work 0 %
 Assignments 0 %
 Reports 0 %
 Research project 0 %
 Quizzes 0 %
 Other 0 %

Additional information:
  Course Requirements:
• Bibliography reading. All the items can be found on the site of the course.
• Final exam, based on the lectures and bibliography.
• Required autonomous viewing of 4 films. It is possible to watch the films via the video tab on mail.
Required viewing of films:

For the class no. 12 - All About My Mother, Pedro Almodóvar.
For the class no. 12 - All About Eve, Joseph Mankiewicz.
For the class no. 12 – A Streetcar Named Desire, Elia Kazan.