

EngLit 0400  
Spring 2007  
Trenz, J.

# Introduction to Film syllabus

Spring 2007; 0400: 1025

Instructor John Trenz

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 12-1 p.m. at Crazy Mocha (Oakland Ave.) or by appt. (617U)  
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Textbooks: *The Cinema Book* (2nd ed.)

*Cinema Studies: The Key Concepts* (3rd ed.)

Requirements: Midterm Exam (30%); Final Exam (30%); 2 Short Papers (20%); Attendance and Participation (20%)

Course Schedule:

Date	Topic	Film Selections	Reading
Jan. 3	Early Cinema	Thomas Edison, Edwin Porter Louis Lumière, Georges Méliès: DVD-697	CB: Introduction (pp. 3-5), Early Cinema (pp. 93-97), and Looking at Film (pp. 319-323). CS: Cross-cutting, Cut, Documentary, Eyeline matching, Fade, Shot/reverse-angle shot, Realism.
Jan. 8	Soviet Cinema	<i>Man with a Movie Camera</i> (Dzgia Vertov, 1929, 68 min): DVD-432	CB: Soviet Cinema (pp. 73- 76). CS: Cinéma-Vérité, Apparatus, Editing/Soviet Montage, and Soviet Cinema School.
Jan. 10	German Expressionism		CB: German Expressionism (pp. 67-69). CS: German Expressionism and Tracking shot.
Jan. 15	NO CLASS		
Jan. 17		<i>The Last Laugh</i> (F.W. Murnau, 1924, 91 min.): DVD-653	

Jan. 22	Classical Hollywood Narrative/Classical Hollywood Cinema (CHC) and Comedy		CB: Rise of the American Film Industry (pp. 5-7), Classic Hollywood Narrative (pp. 39-42), Comedy (pp. 223-225), and Howard Hawks (pp. 295-296). CS: Classical Hollywood Cinema/Classical Narrative Cinema, Continuity Editing, 180 Degree Rule, and Vertical integration.
Jan. 24		<i>Bringing Up Baby</i> (Howard Hawks, 1939, 102 min.): DVD-2580	
Jan. 29	Genre: The (Integrated) Hollywood Musical		CB: Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (pp.16-19), History of Genre Criticism (pp. 137-147), and the Musical (pp. 209-217). CS: Diegesis/Diegetic, Framing, Sound, and Studio System.
Jan. 31		<i>Meet Me In St. Louis</i> (Vincente Minnelli, 1944, 113 min.): DVD-1803	
Feb. 5	French Nouvelle Vague		CB: French Nouvelle Vague (pp. 80-83) and French New Wave (pp. 253, 255). CS: French New Wave, Jump Cuts and Unmatched Shots.
Feb. 7		<i>Breathless</i> (Jean Luc Goddard, 1960, 90 min.): DVD-505	
Feb. 12	Auteur Theory and the Western		CB: Authorship and Cinema (pp. 235-236), Nicholas Ray (257, 260), Structuralism (pp. 323-330) and Gender and Sexuality in the Western (152-153). CS: Auteur/Auteur Theory, Hollywood Blacklist, Ideology and Westerns.
Feb. 14		<i>Johnny Guitar</i> (Nicholas Ray, 1954, 110 min.): D-298	

Feb. 19	Film Noir	<b>Short Paper Due</b>	CB: Film Noir (pp. 184-191). CS: Ambiguity, Day for Night, Lighting, and Film Noir.
Feb. 21		<i>Double Indemnity</i> (Billy Wilder, 1944, 107 min.): DVD-5461	
Feb. 26	Avant-Garde and Queer Cinema	TBA	CB: Avant-Garde (pp. 114-117), Queer Theory (pg. 362) and Alternative Production Formats (58-59). CS: Avant-Garde, Queer Cinema, Subjectivity and Surrealism.
Feb. 28		<b>Midterm Exam</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> hour) More Films and Discussion (2 <sup>nd</sup> Hour)	
Mar. 4-11	SPRING BREAK!!!		
Mar. 12	Melodrama		CB: Melodrama (pp. 157-171, 288-289, 291-292) and Spectatorship and Audience Research (366-369). CS: Class and Melodrama.
Mar. 14		<i>All That Heaven Allows</i> (Douglas Sirk, 1955, 89 min.): DVD-411	
Mar. 19	New Hollywood and Post-Modernism		CB: New Hollywood (pp. 98-102). CS: Fantasy and Modernism.
Mar. 21		<i>Brewster McCloud</i> (Robert Altman, 1970, 104 min.): Laserdisc (My copy).	

Mar. 26	Science-Fiction/Action and Teenpics		CB: Event Cinema (pp. 102-103) Teenpics (pp. 218-220), Science Fiction (191-194) and “New” Technologies (60-64). CS: Action Movies, Blockbusters, Intertextuality Post-Modernism and War Films.
Mar. 28		<i>Starship Troopers</i> (Paul Verhoeven, 1997, 129 min.): DVD-5	
Apr. 2	Independent American Cinema and Race	<b>Short Paper Due</b>	CB: Into the Nineties (pp. 103-105). CS: Black Cinema, Independent American Cinema and Music.
Apr. 4		<i>Jungle Fever</i> (Spike Lee, 1991, 132 min): DVD-2292	
Apr. 9	Feminist Film Theory and Psychoanalysis		CB: Feminist Film Theory (pp. 353-358). CS: Metalanguage, Psychoanalysis, Scopophilia, Suture and Voyeurism.
Apr. 11		<i>Talk to Her</i> (Pedro Almodóvar, 2003, 114 min): DVD-1195	
Apr. 16	Classic Realist Text and Interrogating the Cannon	<i>Night of the Hunter</i> (Charles Laughton, 1955, 93 min.): DVD-2273	
Apr. 18			CB: Roland Barthes: The Analysis of Narrative (pp. 330-332) and Narrative and Audience: The Classic Realist Text (pp. 332-335). CS: Adaptation, Codes and Conventions/Classic Cannons
	<b>Final Exam:</b> Date, Time and Place TBA		