

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department:	Communications, Arts and Social Sciences
Programme:	Film Studies
FHEQ Level:	4
Course Title:	Introduction to Film Studies
Course Code:	FLM 4200
Course Leader:	Caleb Turner
Student Engagement Hours:	120
Lectures:	22.5
Seminar / Tutorials:	22.5
Independent / Guided Learning:	75
Semester:	Fall, Spring
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

This course explores film as a medium across cultural and historical contexts. It covers films in its varied form, from the first projections in the late 19th century to online distribution today. Using examples of noteworthy films, it takes an introductory examination of the most important film theories and concepts, in the process examining how ideologies and meanings are imbedded in this vibrant medium.

Prerequisites: None

Aims and Objectives:

The course aims to:

- ☐ Consider conceptual frameworks for critically assessing issues related to the cultural production of film, including technological changes and industrial innovations.
- ☐ Introduce and discuss the major theoretical approaches in this field including genre and narrative theories, feminism, montage and associated ideologies.
- ☐ Discuss, understand and develop a critical awareness of the ways in which film production and consumption are related to issues of power in society, cultural identities, and the relationship between identity and one's place in society.

- ☐ Use a variety of resources (such as class discussions, artifacts, books, articles and the Internet) to critically engage with the theoretical approaches.

Programme Outcomes:

4A(iii); 4B(i); 4B(ii); 4B(iii); 4C(i); 4C(ii); 4D(i)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at:

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

- ☐ Use theoretical frameworks that will enable them to understand the processes of film production and consumption and begin to identify strengths and weaknesses between these frameworks.
- ☐ Understand how conceptions and representations of national, cultural, gendered and sexualized identities may be apparent in films.
- ☐ Critically engage with theoretical debates and relate them to cinematic experiences.
- ☐ Develop a range of general intellectual knowledge and transferable skills such as the ability to critique interpretations of filmic narratives; understand and evaluate complex arguments; and engage in clear written communication on these topics.
- ☐ Act with limited autonomy under direction or supervision and engages in evaluation of own work and capabilities and outputs in key areas of film studies.

Indicative Content:

The Origins of Cinema
Narratives, Codes and
Structures Introducing Genres
Classic Hollywood
Reception Theories: Spectator, Audience and Response
Gender Trouble
National Identity and
Film Montage Theory
Alternate
Forms
Animation
Documentaries

Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board.

Teaching Methodology:

