Description: Cinema Text and Theory

**Subject**   | **Cat-nbr** | **Class** | **Term** | **Mode** | **Units** | **Campus**
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
CMS      | 2013 | 75442 | 1, 2008 | ONC | 1.00 | Springfield

**Academic group:** FOART
**Academic org:** FOA003
**Student contribution band:** 1
**ASCED code:** 100700

**STAFFING**
Examiner: Andrew Mason
Moderator: Daryl Sparkes

**SYNOPSIS**
This course provides students with a study of aspects of the expressive and aesthetic history of cinema, with attention to feature films prior to the 1960s. Key theories of the evolving narrative, anti-narrative and textual dynamics of cinematic forms and the institutional practices of film production will be studied with close reference to a selection of popular and "classic" moving pictures. Considerable emphasis will be placed on viewing and analysing representative films and on the analytic theories and written statements of various seminal film makers and theorists. A selection of "national" cinemas, including American and Australian, will be studied.

**OBJECTIVES**
On completion of this course students will be able to:
1. conduct an informed discussion of a selection of theoretic approaches to the analysis of film (assessment items 1, 2 & 3 refer);
2. display knowledge and understanding of selected classical realist Hollywood and oppositional texts (assessment items 1, 2 & 3 refer);
3. participate effectively in informed firsthand post-viewing group responses to films screened in lectures (assessment items 1, 2 & 3 refer).

**TOPICS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The pre-history of cinema.</td>
<td>10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Lumiere, Melies, and the early stages of narrative development.</td>
<td>10.00</td>
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<td>3. Porter, Griffiths, and the emergence of continuity editing.</td>
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4. German Expressionist cinema, Russian Formalism and Australian film before and after World War II.  
5. Genre and the classical realist text.  
6. Auteur film criticism.  
8. Semiotics of cinema.  
9. Psychoanalysis and feminist critiques.  
10. Modern and postmodern cinema.

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).


REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

1981, Pictures and words (videorecording), Australian Film & Television School, North Ryde.  
1995, The celluloid heroes (videorecording), Film Australia, Lindfield, NSW.  
Lotman, J 1981, Semiotics of cinema, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.  
STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Directed Study</td>
<td>58.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examinations</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
<td>15.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Study</td>
<td>60.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seminars</td>
<td>30.00</td>
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</table>

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks out of</th>
<th>Wtg (%)</th>
<th>Due date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESSAY 1 2000 WDS</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>10 Sep 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESSAY 2 2000 WDS</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>26 Oct 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXAMINATION 2 HOURS</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>END S1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(see note 1)

NOTES
1. Exam dates will be advised when timetable is finalised.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

1. Attendance requirements:
   It is the students’ responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities
   (such as lectures, tutorials, laboratories and practical work) scheduled for them, and to
   study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their
   chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related
   activities and administration. To satisfy course objective (3) above, students should attend
   all screenings and subsequent tutorial discussions. For this course normal class attendance
   consists of one three hour lecture and screenings and one two-hour tutorial each week.

2. Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
   To complete each of the assessment items satisfactorily, students must obtain at least 50%
   of the marks available for each assessment item.

3. Penalties for late submission of required work:
   If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval, then a penalty
   of 10% of the total marks available for the assignment will apply for each of the first FIVE
   working days late, after which a zero mark will be given.

4. Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
   To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must achieve at least 50% of the total
   weighted marks available for the course.

5. Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
   The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of
   the marks (or grades) obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.

6. Examination information:
   The exam for this course is a CLOSED EXAMINATION, and candidates are allowed to
   bring only writing and drawing instruments into the examination.
7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
Any deferred or supplementary examinations for this course will be held during the next
examination period.

8 University Regulations:
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10
Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene
University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL
http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm or in the current USQ
Handbook.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

9 (a) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must lodge the assignment
at the USQ. (b) All Faculty of Arts assignments must be lodged in the Faculty Assessment
Centre on the Ground Floor of Q Block no later than 12 noon on the due date. (c) Students
must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be despatched to
USQ within 24 hours if requested by the Examiner. (d) In accordance with University's
Assignment Extension Policy (Regulation 5.6.1), the examiner of a course may grant an
extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances such as
documented ill-health. (e) Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments
in the course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of the course
within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM
Incomplete-Makeup). An IM grade will only be awarded when, in the opinion of the
examiner, a student will be able to achieve the remaining objectives of the course after a
period of non-directed personal study. (f) Students who, for medical, family/personal, or
employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or sit for an examination
at the scheduled time, may apply to defer an assessment in the course. Such a request must
be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary
grades may be awarded: IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination; IDM (Incomplete
Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1 If assignments in the course require the use of surveys, interviews, etc., students should
be aware of the University and Faculty of Arts ethical requirements/guidelines. (The
course syllabus distributed to students in the first week of teaching provides this
information.)

2 Students can expect that questions in assessment items in this course may draw upon
knowledge and skills that they can reasonably be expected to have acquired before enrolling
in the course. This includes knowledge contained in pre-requisite courses and appropriate
communication, information literacy, analytical, critical thinking, problem solving or
numeracy skills. Students who do not possess such knowledge and skills should not expect
to achieve the same grades as those students who do possess them.

3 Students will require access to email and have internet access to USQConnect for this
course.