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FILM 2759G-600 History of Cinema

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Film 2759G, History of Cinema

Dr. Robin L. Murray

Spring 2023: Online

Phone (please text): 549-0199 before 10 pm

Office Hours: [M 12:30-2](#) and [W 12:30-2](#) on Zoom (and by appt.) (note times linked to Zoom)

Course Description: Film 2759G will offer a comprehensive yet selective overview of the history of cinema, integrating the basic tools for analyzing film as art. It will examine how the uses of camera, editing, lighting, sound, and acting contribute to the construction of meaning for various audiences, as well as consider how meaning is filtered through various cultural contexts. WI. This course fulfills the Cultural Diversity and Fine Arts requirements for General Education.

For IT Help, please call the Help Desk at 217-581-HELP.

Grade Response Time: All work will be graded within a week after submission.

Text: Thompson, Kristin, Bordwell, David, and Smith Jeff. *Film History: An Introduction* 5th Edition, McGraw Hill, 2021.

Course Objectives: The following outlines the course objectives:
Students completing this course will:

- a. Identify and analyze the historical forces that helped shape the development of various national and world cinemas, including industrial, technological, and cultural influences through both readings and film screenings.
- b. Identify and analyze the emergence of prominent world film movements.
- c. Evaluate the uses of camera, editing, lighting, sound, and acting, as well as their contributions to the construction of meaning for audiences.
- d. Analyze how cinema reveals and responds to the social, economic, and cultural contexts of their production.
- e. Examine how meaning in cinema is filtered through various cultural contexts through both readings and film screenings.
- f. Identify, critique and apply film theories in relation to global historical contexts through both readings and film screenings.
- g. Write analytically and effectively about film in relation to its historical and cultural contexts.

Learning Goals: Course objectives are designed to help students achieve each of four learning goals of general education and university-wide assessment as follows:

I. Critical Thinking

EIU graduates question, examine, evaluate, and respond to problems or arguments by:

- Asking essential questions and engaging diverse perspectives.
- Seeking and gathering data, information, and knowledge from experience, texts, graphics, and media.
- Understanding, interpreting, and critiquing relevant data, information, and knowledge.
- Synthesizing and integrating data, information, and knowledge to infer and create new insights
Anticipating, reflecting upon, and evaluating implications of assumptions, arguments, hypotheses, and conclusions.
- Creating and presenting defensible expressions, arguments, positions, hypotheses, and proposals.

Objectives “a,” “b,” “c,” and “d” above.

II. Writing and Critical Reading

EIU graduates write critically and evaluate varied sources by:

- Creating documents appropriate for specific audiences, purposes, genres, disciplines, and professions.
- Crafting cogent and defensible applications, analyses, evaluations, and arguments about problems, ideas, and issues.
- Producing documents that are well organized, focused, and cohesive.
- Using appropriate vocabulary, mechanics, grammar, diction, and sentence structure.
- Understanding, questioning, analyzing, and synthesizing complex textual, numeric, and graphical sources.
- Evaluating evidence, issues, ideas, and problems from multiple perspectives.
- Collecting and employing source materials ethically and understanding their strengths and limitations.

Objectives “a,” “d,” “e,” “f” and “g” above.

III. Speaking and Listening

EIU graduates prepare, deliver, and critically evaluate presentations and other formal speaking activities by:

- Collecting, comprehending, analyzing, synthesizing and ethically incorporating source material.
- Adapting formal and impromptu presentations, debates, and discussions to their audience and purpose.
- Developing and organizing ideas and supporting them with appropriate details and evidence.
- Using effective language skills adapted for oral delivery, including appropriate vocabulary, grammar, and sentence structure.
- Using effective vocal delivery skills, including volume, pitch, rate of speech, articulation, pronunciation, and fluency.
- Employing effective physical delivery skills, including eye contact, gestures, and movement.
- Using active and critical listening skills to understand and evaluate oral communication.

Objectives “d,” “e,” and “f” above.

IV. Responsible Citizenship

EIU graduates make informed decisions based on knowledge of the physical and natural world and human history and culture by:

- Engaging with diverse ideas, individuals, groups, and cultures.
- Applying ethical reasoning and standards in personal, professional, disciplinary, and civic contexts.
- Participating formally and informally in civic life to better the public good.
- Applying knowledge and skills to new and changing contexts within and beyond the classroom.

Objectives “d,” “e,” and “f” above.

Course Requirements: Please note: There will be prompts in D2L under content for each of these elements.

1. **Weekly Quizzes:** You will complete a quiz each of ten weeks answering questions about the film(s) screened and/or text read for that class. Questions on group days will respond explicitly to the group’s multimedia presentation for the chapter you read.

2. **Midterm:** This exam will provide an opportunity to internalize material all students read for class and to carefully read the films in the class till midterm.
3. **Group Multimedia Presentation:** In small groups, you will have the opportunity to present the cinema history of a particular region and period as a multi-media summary and response to one of the chapters in the book. You will also provide quiz questions in your slideshow.
4. **Final Exam:** This exam will not be cumulative. It will provide an opportunity to internalize material read for class as a group and as a class from Midterm forward and carefully read the last films in the class.
5. **Formal Paper:** You will also write **one paper** due by the final class session. This paper will allow you to look beyond films screened for class to examine a particular historical period and region in a paper of approximately 1500 words. You will need to complete a proposal (I will approve) before completing the paper and work with a peer on a draft.
6. **Film Log:** This Log will offer a place for you to write brief responses to the films we watch for class. These should be informal and approximately 150 words and can be completed on the film analysis worksheets. Respond to them in relation to Film Narrative and Style or our class focus (film history). I will provide choices most weeks for your film screening and log.

Grades: Grades will be determined as follows for a total of 100%:

Quizzes -----	15%
Midterm -----	20%
Multimedia Presentation -----	10%
Final Exam -----	20%
Final Paper with Proposal and Draft -----	20%
Film Log -----	15%

Grading of Presentations and Papers:

Paper grades will be based on the following areas: Audience awareness, organization, development, sentence structure, word choice, grammar/usage/mechanics. The first three areas will be weighted more heavily than the second three (60% vs. 40%). I will also distribute the English Department’s grade analysis in class and a paper rubric in class and on D2L.

Multimedia Presentations will be evaluated according to a rubric I will share on D2L.

Plagiarism: The English Department states, "Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism -- 'The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work' -- has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of "F" in the course."

Electronic Writing Portfolio: This class is a writing intensive class, so you may submit your paper as a writing portfolio sample, following the instructions on the CASL Website (<https://www.eiu.edu/assess/ewpmain.php>). Submissions must be made during the course of the class to receive my approval. According to CASL, EWP submissions for the fall 2022 semester are due by December 16.

Writing Center: Ambitious students can also seek help from the Writing Center (for your paper and other writing assignments). Call for an appointment (581-5920) or visit ((CH3110) at any point in the writing process, from brainstorming, planning and drafting, to final editing. Bring your assignment sheet and any written work and/or sources with you. The Writing Center is open Monday-Thursday, 9-3 and 6-9, and Friday from 9-1. Take advantage of this free service.

Academic integrity- Students are expected to maintain principles of academic integrity and conduct as defined in EIU's Code of Conduct (<http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>). Violations will be reported to the Office of Student Standards.

Students with disabilities: If you are a student with a documented disability in need of accommodations to fully participate in this class, please contact the [Office of Accessibility and Accommodations](#). All accommodations must be approved through the office. Please stop by McAfee Gym, Room 1272, or call 217-581-6583 to make an appointment.

The Student Success Center: Students who are having difficulty achieving their academic goals are encouraged to contact the Student Success Center (www.eiu.edu/~success) for assistance with time management, test taking, note taking, avoiding procrastination, setting goals, and other skills to support academic achievement. [The Student Success Center](#) provides individualized consultations. To make an appointment, call 217-581-6696, or go to McAfee Gym, Room 1301.

Student Well-Being: EIU is committed to supporting and advancing the mental health and well-being of our students. Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and their personal mental health and well-being. These may include academic pressure and challenges associated with relationships, anxiety, depression, alcohol or other drugs, identities, and finances.

If you are experiencing concerns, seeking help is a courageous thing to do for yourself and those who care about you. Below is a list of available campus resources to assist with student well-being:

- [EIU Counseling Clinic](#): Human Services Building, 1st floor; 217-581-3413; for after-hours urgent support, call 1-866-567-2400. The Counseling Clinic offers individual and group counseling, emergency services, and resources.
- [Online Mental Health Screening](#): online, private screening tool for depression, anxiety, eating disorders, and alcohol and substance misuse.
- [EIU Health Clinic](#): Human Services Building, 1st floor; 217-581-3013. The Health Clinic services include lab work, pharmacy, and women's health and men's health programs.
- [Health Education Resource Center](#) (HERC): 2201 Blair Hall; 217-581-7786. The HERC offers health programming in the areas of alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention and education, flu and cold prevention and education, nutritional analysis and education, and sexual health education, in addition to other health-related topics.
- [Center for Gender and Sexual Diversity](#) (GSD): Stevenson Hall, lower level; 217-581-7117. The GSD Center provides services such as the Trans*formation Station, a large library full of books and movies, year-round programming, and a comprehensive Safe Zone Training program.

- [EIU Campus Food Pantry](#): 1347 McAfee. The EIU Campus Food Pantry is a means to support students and the campus community by alleviating barriers to consistent, adequate, and healthful food. Anyone with a Panther Card can visit the pantry two times per month.
- [Student Legal Service](#): MLK Jr University Union Room 2420; 217-581-6054. Student Legal Service can assist with off-campus housing issues, traffic violations, misdemeanor criminal offenses, municipal ordinance violations, and expungement.
- [Financial Aid and Scholarships](#): Student Services Building East Wing; 217-581-6405, Fax: 217-581-6422, fnaid@eiu.edu. The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships provides information and guidance to secure the necessary financial resources to meet educational goals and financial obligations to the university.

Also Note: You must complete all major assignments to complete this course.

Spring 2023 Film 2759G Tentative Course Calendar, Subject to Change

August

Part One: Early Cinema

Week of 8/21: Invention and International Expansion of Cinema: Complete Survey for introductions, view multimedia presenting early technologies and the American takeover after WW1, read chapter 2, “The International Expansion of the Cinema (Europe, America, Narrative Clarity), film screenings

Assignments due by Sunday at midnight:

- Complete survey and review syllabus
- View multimedia regarding technologies and American cinema takeover after WWI
- Read chapter 2, “The International Expansion of the Cinema”
- **Complete a quiz!**
- After reviewing information about responding to movies, watch a selection of very short silent films on D2L.
- Choose one of your silent films and complete a film log (a short analysis of the narrative and style of your chosen film).

Part Two: The Late Silent Era, 1919-1929

8/28 France and German Film Histories in the 1920s: Read chapters 4 (“France in the 1920s”) and 5 (“Germany in the 1920s”), view multimedia regarding these histories, watch *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari* and clips from two other German Expressionist films for film log and quiz.

Assignments due by Sunday at midnight:

- Read chapters 4 (“France in the 1920s”) and 5 (“Germany in the 1920s”)
- View multimedia regarding these histories
- Watch *Cabinet of Dr. Caligari* and short film clips from *Nosferatu* and *Metropolis*
- **Complete a quiz!**
- Complete a film log responding to *Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*.

September

Please Note: September 4 is Labor Day—no classes

Week of 9/5 Soviet Montage and Late Silent Hollywood: View multimedia addressing Soviet Montage, read chapter 7, “The Late Silent Era in Hollywood, 1920-1928,” complete a quiz, watch a film comedy (choices on D2L), and complete a film log. (Last Day to Drop a Full-Term Course...)

Assignments due by Sunday at midnight:

- View multimedia describing Soviet Montage
- Read chapter 7, “The Late Silent Era in Hollywood, 1920-1928”
- **Complete a quiz!**
- Complete a film log responding to your chosen film comedy

Part Three: The Development of Sound Cinema, 1926-1945

9/11 The Introduction of Sound and the Hollywood Studio System (1930-45): Read chapters 9 (“Introduction of Sound” and 10 (“The Hollywood Studio System...”), view multimedia, complete a quiz, watch a musical or screwball comedy of your choice, and complete a film log.

Assignments due by Sunday at midnight:

- Read chapters 9 (“Introduction of Sound” and 10 (“The Hollywood Studio System...”)
- View multimedia
- **Complete a quiz!**
- Watch a musical or screwball comedy of your choice on D2L
- Complete a film log

9/18 Other Studio Systems and Movements: Read chapter 11, “Other Studio Systems,” view multimedia regarding propaganda cinema and French poetic realism, complete a quiz, view one of the film choices on D2L, including *Zéro de conduite* (1933) by Jean Vigo, and complete a film log.

Assignments due by Sunday at midnight:

- Read chapter 11, “Other Studio Systems”
- View multimedia regarding propaganda cinema and French poetic realism
- **Complete a quiz**
- Watch one of the films on D2L for this week
- Complete a film log

Part Four: The Postwar Era, 1945-1960s

9/25 American Cinema in the Post-WWII Era: Work on your paper proposal, read chapter 15, “American Cinema in the Postwar Era, 1945-1960,” view multimedia, complete a quiz, watch one of the film choices on D2L, and complete a film log.

Assignments due by Sunday at midnight:

- Read chapter 15, “American Cinema in the Postwar Era, 1945-1960”
- View multimedia

- **Complete a quiz**
- Watch one of the films on D2L for this week
- Complete a film log

Assignment due by Monday at midnight:

- **Complete a paper proposal by Monday at Midnight!**

Reminder: Group I will prepare a multimedia presentation for chapter 16 by Wednesday, 10/4 at midnight

October

10/2 **Paper Proposal Due by midnight tonight!**

Postwar Cinema and its Context, 1945-1959: Group I will prepare a multimedia presentation summarizing chapter 16 with quiz questions by Wednesday at midnight. Everyone: read chapter 16, "Postwar European Cinema: Neorealism and its Context, 1945-1959," complete a quiz (answering group 1 questions), watch a neorealist film on D2L, complete a film log.

Assignment for Wednesday at midnight—Group 1 only:

- Prepare a multimedia presentation with quiz questions summarizing chapter 16 (see prompt)

Assignments for Sunday at midnight—Everyone:

- Read chapter 16, "Postwar European Cinema: Neorealism and its Context, 1945-1959"
- View Group I Multimedia Presentation
- **Complete a quiz**
- Watch a neorealist film on D2L
- Complete a film log

Reminder: Group II will prepare a multimedia presentation summarizing chapter 18 for October 18.

10/9 Midterm due by October 15! More Postwar European Cinema: watch a film and complete a film log

Assignments for Sunday at midnight:

- **Complete your midterm!**
- Watch a postwar European film on D2L
- Complete a film log

10/16 Postwar Cinema Beyond the West, 1945-1959: Group II will provide a multimedia presentation with quiz questions summarizing chapter 18. Everyone: Read chapter 18, "Postwar Cinema Beyond the West, 1945-1959," complete a quiz, watch a film on D2L, complete a film log.

Assignment for Wednesday at midnight—Group II only:

- Prepare a multimedia presentation with quiz questions summarizing chapter 18 (see prompt)

Assignments for Sunday at midnight—Everyone:

- Read chapter 18, "Postwar Cinema Beyond the West, 1945-1959"
- View Group II multimedia

- **Complete a quiz**
- Watch a postwar non-Western film on D2L
- Complete a film log

Reminder: Group III will provide a presentation for chapter 20 by Wednesday, 10/25 at midnight

Please Note: October 20 is Fall Break—No classes

10/23 New Waves and Young Cinemas, 1958-1967: Group III will provide a multimedia presentation with quiz questions summarizing chapter 20. Everyone: Read chapter 20, “New Waves and Young Cinemas, 1958-1967,” View Group III presentation, complete quiz, watch French New Wave film on D2L, complete a film log.

Assignment for Wednesday at midnight—Group III only:

- Complete a multimedia presentation with quiz questions summarizing chapter 20

Assignments for Sunday at midnight—Everyone:

- Read chapter 20, “New Waves and Young Cinemas, 1958-1967”
- View Group III presentation
- **Complete a quiz**
- Watch a French New Wave film on D2L
- Complete a film log

Reminder: Group 4 will complete a multimedia presentation with quiz questions summarizing chapter 22 by Wednesday, November 1 at midnight

Reminder: Everyone will complete a paper draft for peer review by Wednesday 11/6 at midnight

Part Five: The Contemporary Cinema Since the 1960s

10/30 Hollywood’s Fall and Rise, 1960-1980: Group 4 will complete a multimedia presentation with quiz questions summarizing chapter 22. Everyone: Read chapter 22, “Hollywood’s Fall and Rise, 1960-1980,” view group 4 multimedia presentation with quiz questions, watch a Hollywood 1970s film on D2L, complete a film log

Assignment for Wednesday at midnight—Group IV only:

- Complete a multimedia presentation with quiz questions summarizing chapter 22

Assignments for Sunday at Midnight—Everyone:

- Read Chapter 4, “Hollywood’s Fall and Rise...”
- View Group IV presentation with quiz questions
- **Complete a quiz**
- Watch a 1970s Hollywood film
- Complete a film log

Note: Complete a paper draft for peer review by Monday 11/6 at midnight

November

11/6 **Paper Draft due for Peer Review today. at midnight!**
Complete your paper draft!

Assignment for Sunday at Midnight:

- Complete a peer review as a quiz (I will assign your partner)
- Watch a contemporary film from a developing country on D2L
- Complete a film log

11/13 A Developing World and Cinema Rising: Read chapters 26 (“A Developing World...”) and 27 (“Cinema Rising”) for Sunday, view multimedia, complete a quiz, watch a developing cinematic film on D2L, complete a film log.

Assignments for Sunday at midnight:

- Read chapters 26, “A Developing World: Continental and Subcontinental Cinemas Since 1970,” and 27, “Cinema Rising: Pacific Asia and Oceania Since 1970”
- View multimedia presentations
- **Complete a quiz**
- Watch a contemporary film from a developing country on D2L
- Complete a film log

Note: Final Draft of Paper due by Sunday, 12/3!

Please Note: November 20-24 is Thanksgiving Break—No Classes

Part Six: Cinema in the Age of New Media

America, Global Cinema, and the Digital Age: Final Draft of Paper due by Sunday, 12/3!

11/27 Make up work and watch a contemporary American film (2010-present) and complete a film log by midnight on Sunday.

Assignments for Sunday at midnight:

- Revise your paper draft!
- Complete any quizzes or film logs you missed
- Watch a contemporary (2010-present) American Film of your choice (some on D2L)
- Complete a film log

December

12/4 America, Global Cinema, and the Digital Age: Read 1 of the following chapters, complete a quiz:

Chapter 28 – American Cinema and the Entertainment Economy, the 1980s and After

Chapter 29 – Toward a Global Film Culture

Chapter 30 – Digital Technology and the Cinema

Watch a contemporary (2010-present) international (not American) film of your choice and complete a film log. I will have some available on D2L, just in case.

Assignments for Sunday at Midnight:

Read one of the following chapters: 28, 29, or 30

Complete a quiz

Watch a 2010-present International film of your choice

Complete a film log

Note: Prepare for final exam due by midnight on 12/14!

12/11 Final Exam Week

12/14 Final Exam due by midnight. All make-up work due by midnight today, as well.