

Information on a General Education Course							
Course Title:		Cinema: West to East					
		(Chinese)					
Credit Units:		3					
Medium of Instruction:		English					
Course Aims:							
This course aims to introduce students to an overview of the cinema as a global and cultural phenomenon, help them relate their film watching experiences with the social context, and engage them in an inter-disciplinary examination of film by looking into both historical and technological development of cinema, the entertainment/artistry forms of debates, and the indispensable social and cultural role of cinema. The course also develops students’ inquiry and analytical skills, which in turn help cultivate a critical sense of appreciation towards film and foster a better understanding of the relationship between culture and society.							
Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs) (What the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance)							
Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:							
1. Explain the elements, features and styles in different film expressions;							
2. Examine cinema topics and issues in the social, economic, cultural and political contexts; and							
3. Analyse and interpret films in relation to technological advancement, artistic values and social implications.							
Alignment of the CILOs with the ILOs of General Education:							
Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)		CILOs (Please ✓ if the CILO(s) is/are aligned with the PILO					
		1	2	3			
I.	Demonstrate a solid foundation of inquiry skills for life-long learning		✓	✓			
II.	Apply critical and creative thinking skills	✓		✓			
III.	Communicate coherently in written and spoken language	✓					
IV.	Apply quantitative reasoning / problem solving skills		✓				
V.	Demonstrate capacity for ethical reasoning and responsible actions			✓			
VI.	Recognize the important characteristics of diverse peoples and cultures		✓				
VII.	Examine the major regional and global issues and relate them to the socio-political, cultural, economic and technological factors.						
VIII.	Appreciate the impact of scientific and technological development on society and individual.			✓			
Keyword Syllabus: (a brief description of the syllabus of the course)							
1. Film Text							
Film as a form of language; Film expressions and meanings; Elements of <i>mise-en scene</i> ; Film editing; Music and sound in film; Story, plot and film narrative.							
2. Film Art							

Film criticism; meanings and interpretation; Film style; the Soviet Montage cinema; French New Wave and its legacy; Cinematic authorship and its debate.

### 3. Social Cultural Context of Film

Film history; sociology of film; Cinema and the cultural studies of mass media; Film representation and cultural identities; Gender and sexuality in cinema.

### 4. Film Industry

Political economy of cinema; Hollywood and the establishment film production, distribution and exhibition; Star system; Significance of film genre and its limitation; Technology development of cinema; film policy making; Bollywood; Hong Kong film industry.

**Pre-requisites: NIL**

**Pre-cursors: NIL**

**Equivalent Courses:**

**Exclusive Courses: NIL**

**Course Duration:** 1 semester

**Semester:**

**Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs):** *(designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs)*

Types of TLAs	Hours per week (if applicable)
a. Lectures focus on the introduction and explanation of the key concepts of cinema, explore different film expressions, and critically examine the social cultural context of cinema. The screening of film clips will be used to illustrate specific topics. In-class brief discussions will also be organized to stimulate students' reflection on certain film subjects.	2
b. Tutorials provide students with the opportunity to apply the concepts acquired in lectures on different types of films selected for tutorial screenings. Activities may include oral presentations and discussion. Also, students may form groups and be assigned a specific topic to conduct an enquiry.	1 hour (3-hour tutorial, once every three weeks)

**Assessment Tasks/Activities:** *(designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs)*

Type of assessment tasks/activities	%	Remarks
i. Tutorial presentation	20	Students form groups and present on a topic related to film elements, film form, film narrative, film genre, and film representation. Individual student's performance as well as the overall performance of a group will be assessed.
ii. Group written assignment	30	Students are required to form groups, work on a cinema topic, and explain the discovery and analysis in a 3500-word paper.
iii. Self reflection report	20	Students critically reflect on their consumption pattern of cinema and examine the relationship between cinema and society.
iv. Examination	30	Students are tested for their understanding of the key concepts of film and the social, economic, cultural and political context of cinema.

Alignment of TLAs and Assessment Tasks/Activities with the CILOs:										
CILOs		TLAs (Please ✓ if the TLA(s) is/are aligned with the CILO				Assessment (Please ✓ if the Assessment(s) is/are aligned with the CILO				
		a.	b.			i.	ii.	iii.	iv.	
1	Explain the elements, features and styles in different film expressions	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	
2	Examine cinema topics and issues in the social, economic, cultural and political contexts	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
3	Analyse and interpret films in relation to technological advancement, artistic values and social implications		✓			✓	✓			

<b>Assessment Schedule</b> (on the basis of Assessment Tasks/ Activities identified above)			
Examination (%): 30	Duration (Hrs): 1.5	Coursework (%): 70%	Participation (%): ---
Grading Mode: Standard or Pass/Fail * (delete as appropriate)			
<b>Indicative Readings</b>			
<b>Recommended Textbook</b>			
Nelmes, J. (2012). <i>Introduction to film studies</i> . Abingdon, NY: Routledge.			
<b>References</b>			
Boggs, J.M., & Petrie, D.W. (2008). <i>The art of watching films</i> . Boston, MA: McGraw-Hill.			
Bordwell, D., & Thompson, K. (2010). <i>Film art: an introduction</i> . New York: McGraw-Hill.			
Cheung, M.K., & Chu, Y.W. (eds). (2004). <i>Between home and world: a reader in Hong Kong cinema</i> . Hong Kong: Oxford University Press.			
Donald, J., & Renov, M. (eds). (2008). <i>The SAGE handbook of film studies</i> . London, UK: Sage.			
Hayward, S. (2006). <i>Cinema studies: the key concepts</i> . London, UK: Routledge.			
Hill, J., & Gibson P.C. (eds). (1998). <i>The Oxford guide to film studies</i> . Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.			
Mamet, D. (1991). <i>On directing film</i> . New York: Viking.			

## **Feedbacks from Local Academics and Fulbrighters**

Generally a good GE course to cultivate students' appreciation of cinema and enhance their awareness of the social context and implications of cinema

I am a bit wary of a group-authored 3500-word paper! Why not individually authored papers? This would provide a balance with the group-authored presentation, which is difficult to assess both as a group and at the level of individual contribution. I can imagine this being a very compelling offering.