



School of English, Journalism
& European Languages

Unit Outline

HES203/303
Film Movements and Genres
Semester 2, 2008
www.utas.edu.au/ejel

Convenor:	Dr Lisa Fletcher Room: HUM 566 Phone: 6226 1725 Email: Lisa.Fletcher@utas.edu.au
Consultation Hours:	Monday 12.00 -1.00 pm Tuesday 12.00 -1.00 pm
Unit Description:	This unit explores the major movements and genres in the history of film. It situates Hollywood and Independent films within a range of historical, theoretical and cultural contexts as a way of interrogating the way films make meaning. It aims to provide students with an understanding of the key movements and genres in film studies, an appreciation of the history of filmmaking practices and an ability to read film contextually.
Unit Aims and Objectives:	The aims of this unit are to enable students to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• engage critically and analytically with films from diverse historical and cultural contexts;• develop knowledge of key theories and methodologies used in the study of film movements and genres; and• gain an appreciation of the significance of film movements and genres to the production, distribution and reception of films.
Learning Outcomes:	Students taking this unit will: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. build <i>knowledge</i> in the areas described in the Unit Aims and Objectives (above);2. develop advanced proficiency in techniques for conducting <i>research</i> in film studies, through the preparation of an Annotated Bibliography and Research Essay;3. enhance skills in:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) written <i>communication</i>, with special emphasis on writing about film; andb) oral <i>communication</i>, through short class presentations and participation in tutorial activities; and

	4. enhance skills in <i>problem solving</i> through assessment tasks and tutorial activities, which develop critical analysis techniques in screen studies.
Required Texts:	Bordwell & Thompson <i>Film Art: An Introduction</i> 8 th edition (McGraw Hill)
When Taught:	<p>Lectures: Wednesday 10.00 – 11.00am, SB.UniCentre103.Flex</p> <p>Film Screening: (Weeks 15 – 25) Monday 9.00 – 10.50am, SB.Physics314.LT2 You are required to watch one film in preparation for the lecture and tutorial each week. If you are unable to attend the weekly screening, you must make arrangements to watch the film in your own time. Please remember that only some of the films will be available for purchase or loan. All of the films will be available for short-term loan from the Morris Miller library</p> <p>Tutorials: Wednesday 11.00am – 12.30pm, SB.UniCentre103.Flex Wednesday 2:10pm – 3:40pm, SB.Hum548</p> <p>Students will be instructed on how to sign up for a tutorial group at the first lecture. Tutorials begin in the second week of semester (week 15).</p>
Assessment:	3000 words internal assessment (60%); 2-hour examination (40%).

LECTURE/SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Date	Module	Topic	Screening
Week 14		Introduction: Studying Film Movements and Genres	
Week 15	MODULE 1: STUDYING FILM GENRES THE WESTERN & THE HORROR FILM	The Iconic Western	<i>Shane</i> . Dir. George Stevens, 1953 (113 mins)
Week 16		The Australian Western	<i>The Proposition</i> . Dir. John Hillcoat, 2006 (100 mins)
Week 17		Horror and the "Final Girl"	<i>Halloween</i> . Dir. John Carpenter, 1978 (93 mins)
Week 18		Horror and the "Antagonistic Child"	<i>Hard Candy</i> . Dir. David Slade, 2005 (104 mins)
Week 19	MODULE 2: FROM REALITY TO ABSTRACTION DOCUMENTARY & EXPERIMENTAL FILM	"Subjective Documentarian" I	<i>Tarnation</i> . Dir. Jonathan Caoutte, 2003 (88 mins)
Week 20		"Subjective Documentarian" II	Selections from <i>by Brakhage: An Anthology</i> (DVD) 2003
Mon 1 Sep – Fri 5 Sep Mid-Semester Break			
Week 21		Experimental Film On-Line No Lecture or Screening. See Study Guide for Instructions.	
Week 22	MODULE 3: NEW MOVES ITALIAN NEOREALISM, THE NEW HOLLYWOOD & INDEPENDENT FILMMAKING	Italian Neorealism I	<i>Ladri di biciclette (The Bicycle Thief)</i> Dir. Vittorio De Sica, 1948 (93 mins)
Week 23		Italian Neorealism II	<i>I Vitelloni</i> . Dir. Federico Fellini, 1953 (105 mins)
Week 24		The New Hollywood: Martin Scorsese	<i>Mean Streets</i> . Dir. Martin Scorsese, 1973 (112 mins)
Week 25		Independent Filmmaking: Gus Van Sant	<i>Paranoid Park</i> . Dir. Gus Van Sant, 2007 (85 mins)
Week 26		Exam Preparation	
Study Period: 20-24 October			
Examination Period: 25 October – 11 November			

ASSESSMENT

Assessment in this unit takes the form of three assignments to be submitted during the semester and a formal examination in the examination period. Detailed instructions and assessment criteria for the assignments will be distributed in the first lecture.

ASSIGNMENT 1: Screening Reports

Students are required to submit 5 screening reports during the semester.

The Screening Reports are worth 10% of your final mark.

The Screening Reports will assess learning outcomes 1 & 2.

ASSIGNMENT 2: Annotated Bibliography (1000 words)

Assignments 2 and 3 are designed to develop advanced proficiency for conducting research in screen studies.

The Annotated Bibliography is worth 20% of your final mark.

DUE DATE: 4pm, **29 August**

This assignment will assess learning outcomes 1, 2, 3a & 4.

ASSIGNMENT 3: Research Essay (2000 words)

The Research Essay is worth 30% of your final mark.

Note: Students in this unit are required to participate in “film study groups” in tutorials. This will involve leading small group discussion in one tutorial. Students who do not meet this requirement will lose 5% of the available marks for this assignment; i.e. the essay will be marked out of 25.

DUE DATE: 4pm, **3 October**

EXAMINATION

The examination will be scheduled in the official examination period. The timetable is published on the UTAS website.

The Exam is worth 40% of your final mark

This assignment will assess learning outcomes 1, 2a and 3.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Submission of Assignments

Students are required to submit a signed cover sheet with every assignment. This includes a declaration that all material submitted is their own work except where there is clear acknowledgement or reference to the work of others and that they have read the University statement on Academic Misconduct (Plagiarism) on the University website at www.utas.edu.au/plagiarism or in the Student Information Handbook.

Assignment cover sheets are available from the School office or the School website. **Assignments submitted without a signed cover sheet will not be marked.** Students who submit assignments without a signed cover sheet will be contacted once via their UTAS email address; in such instances the cover sheet must be completed within two weeks of the due date.

All assignments must be submitted in hard-copy (not by email) and placed in the essay box at the School office on or before 5pm on the due date. Students are required to keep copies of all submitted assignments. Assignments submitted on time will be returned within three weeks of the due date; once on time assignments have been returned no further late assignments will be accepted. All marked assignments will be returned in tutorials unless otherwise advised.

Late Assignments

Late submissions will be penalized as follows: 5% of the available marks for the first day, and then 2% per working day thereafter. Late work will be accepted without penalty if accompanied by a medical certificate for the relevant period or a letter from a counsellor in the case of a serious non-medical reason.

Difficulties with your Studies

If you are experiencing difficulties with your studies or assignments, have personal or life planning issues, disability or illness which may affect your course of study, you should raise these with your lecturer and/or one of the following Student Services staff as soon as possible:

- Learning Skills Adviser
- Disability Adviser
- Careers Adviser
- Student Counsellor

University Statement on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

"Plagiarism is a form of cheating. It is taking and using someone else's thoughts, writings or inventions and representing them as your own; for example, using an author's words without putting them in quotation marks and citing the source, using an author's ideas without proper acknowledgment and citation, copying another student's work.

If you have any doubts about how to refer to the work of others in your assignments, please consult your lecturer or tutor for relevant referencing guidelines, and the academic integrity resources on the web at <http://www.utas.edu.au/tl/supporting/academicintegrity/index.html>.

The intentional copying of someone else's work as one's own is a serious offence punishable by penalties that may range from a fine or deduction/cancellation of marks and, in the most serious of cases, to exclusion from a unit, a course or the University. Details of penalties that can be imposed are available in the Ordinance of Student Discipline – Part 3 Academic Misconduct, see <http://www.utas.edu.au/universitycouncil/legislation/>.

The University and any persons authorised by the University may submit your assessable works to a plagiarism checking service, to obtain a report on possible instances of plagiarism. Assessable works may also be included in a reference database. It is a condition of this arrangement that the original author's permission is required before a work within the database can be viewed.

Assignment Presentation

The Screen Studies core units use MLA Style, which is characterized by in-text referencing and a list of works cited. See the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 6th ed. Ed. Joseph Gibaldi (New York: The Modern Language Association of America, 2003). For a brief introduction, refer to http://www.utas.edu.au/english/english1/mla_citation_syst.doc, MLA Citations System: A Brief Guide.

Marking Scale

The following distribution of marks and grades is applied in assessing your work:

- High Distinction (HD)—80-100%
- Distinction (DN)—70-79%
- Credit (CR)—60-69%
- Pass (PP)—50-59%
- Fail (NN)—0-49%

All marks are subject to moderation.

Assessment Criteria

The following criteria apply to assessment of the essay:

- Effectiveness of introduction
- Relevance and coherence of argument
- Effectiveness of conclusion
- Scope of textual referencing
- Use of critics
- Attention to expression, spelling, proof-reading and stylesheet.

IT Support

Learning online—for online learning and Vista support – <http://www.utas.edu.au/coursesonline/>
Information Technology Services—for general IT Support (includes link to UTAS download website)
<http://www.utas.edu.au/servicedesk/student/index.html>

Library Services—for information literacy support – <http://www.utas.edu.au/library/>
Help Desk (email HelpDesk@utas.edu.au or 6226 1818, within University 1818)