Film Studies

Academic Year: (2020 / 2021) **Review date: 22-07-2020**

Department assigned to the subject: Communication and Media Studies Department

Coordinating teacher: FERNANDEZ-RODRIGUEZ LABAYEN, MIGUEL

Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 4 Semester : 1

REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

Students are expected to have completed 'Moving Image History' and 'Reading Moving Image'.

OBJECTIVES

1-Competence to understand and analyse cinema from an academic perspective.

2-A broad knowledge of the main film theories and methodologies.

3-Competence to apply the different theories and methodologies in film analysis and research.

4-Competence to research the field of film studies and understand its problematics.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

1-What is cinema? Introduction and basic concepts.
1.1-Ways of understanding Cinema. Industry, Institution, Culture, Aesthetic.
1.2-Film Modes and Worlds: Documentary, Experimental and Fiction.
1.3-Development of film theories.
1.4-Film studies as a discipline.

2-Realism and Auteur Cinema.
2.1-The problem of realism: Aristarco, Bazin, Kracauer.
2.2-New realisms: from frame to pixel.
2.3-Film's vindications: auteur cinema and Third Cinema. Art and Politics.

3-Formalism and Textual Analysis.
3.1-Russian Formalism: Vertov, Eisenstein.
3.2-Textual passion and film as a language: semiotics and structuralism.
3.3-The post-stucturalist reform.

4-Identity Politics and Reception Theories.
4.1-Feminism and gender studies.
4.2-Cultural studies, multicultural phenomena.
4.3-Visionary pleasures. Reception and fandom.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

1-Lectures
Theoretical classes that give the student a notion about the different film theories.

2-Practices
Case studies.

3-Student work
Writing of an essay supervised by the professor.

4-Midterm exam

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

-Final Exam: 50 %

-Essay/Student work/Debates/Class Participation: 50 %

-Active participation is highly encouraged and will be taken into consideration in terms of the final grade of each student.

-Students must pass the final exam in order to pass the course. That is to say, a minimum grade of 2,5 out of 5 (5 out of 10) in the final is needed so as to be able to pass the class.

-Plagiarism is strictly forbidden and implies a 0 out of 10 on the final grade.

-Attendance to class is mandatory. Students who do not come to 70 % of the classes will have to take the final exam for a total of 60 % of their final grade in January (being their in-class grade a 0) or for 100 % of their final grade in June.

% end-of-term-examination:	50
% of continuous assessment (assigments, laboratory, practicals…):	50

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- CHURCH GIBSON, Pamela and HILL, John (eds.). Film Studies: critical approaches., Oxford University Press, 2000

- CORRIGAN, Timothy A short guide to writing about film, Longman, 2010

- DAVIS, Glyn; DICKINSON, Kay; PATTI, Lisa; VILLAREJO, Amy. Film Studies: A Global Introduction, Routledge, 2015

- ELSAESSER, Thomas y HAGENER, Malte Film Theory: An Introduction through the Senses, Routledge, 2009

- McDONALD, Kevin Film Theory: The Basics, Routledge, 2016

ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

- BORDWELL, David y CARROLL, Nöel (eds.). Post-theory. Reconstructing film studies., University of Wisconsin Press, 1996

- BRAUDY, Leo y COHEN, Marshall (eds.). Film Theory and Criticism. Introductory Readings., Oxford University Press, 2009

- CHURCH GIBSON, Pamela y HILL, John (eds.). Film Studies: critical approaches, Oxford University Press, 2000

- ELSAESSER, Thomas y HAGENER, Malte Film Theory: An Introduction through the Senses., Routledge., 2009

- GLEDHILL, Christine y WILLIAMS, Linda (eds.) Reinventing Film Studies, Oxford University Press, 2000

- GRIEVESON, Lee y WASSON, Haidee (eds.). Inventing Film Studies, Duke University Press., 2008

- MILLER, Toby y STAM, Robert (eds). Film and theory. An anthology, Blackwell Publishers, 2000

- MILLER, Toby y STAM, Robert (eds.). A Companion to Film Theory, Blackwell Publishers, 2004

- NICHOLS, Bill Engaging Cinema. An Introduction to Film Studies, W.W. Norton., 2010

- NICHOLS, Bill (ed.). Movies and Methods. Volume 2, University of California Press, 1985

- POLAN, Dana Scenes of Instruction: The Beginnings of the U.S. Study of Film, University of California Press, 2007

- RODOWICK, D. N. The Virtual Life of Film, Harvard University Press, 2007

- SITNEY, P. Adams (ed.). The Avant-Garde Film. A Reader of Theory and Criticism, Anthology Film Archives, 1987.

- WASSON, Haidee Museum movies: The Museum of Modern Art and the birth of art cinema, University of California Press, 2005