uc3m Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Contemporary society and the media

Academic Year: (2023 / 2024) Review date: 28-07-2023

Department assigned to the subject: Communication and Media Studies Department

Coordinating teacher: RODRIGUEZ ORTEGA, VICENTE

Type: Electives ECTS Credits: 3.0

Year: Semester:

OBJECTIVES

- 1. Study how current cinema and other forms of audiovisual expression address various contemporary social issues.
- 2. Ability to understand and critically analyze audiovisual productions from a social, cultural, and aesthetic perspective.
- 3. Knowledge of contemporary auteur cinema and new forms of filmmaking since 2010 to the present day.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

The cinema is a dynamic representation of society in his social and imaginary dimension It informs us of collectives representations of reality, identity and its mutations. This course is structured in the following sections:

- ¿ Existentialism: An approach to the changes in the transition to adulthood and their portrayal in cinema, addressing topics such as depression, discomfort within self-help culture, nostalgia, and difficulty in envisioning the future.
- ¿ Family: Study of family structures as small societies that, in turn, reflect broader trends and chasms, with their implicit and explicit rules, power dynamics, traumas, obsessions, and omissions.
- ¿ Class: Study of the cinematic representation of class relations and the forms of precariousness that structure capitalist society; dynamics of distinction, class consciousness, and the end of work.
- ¿ Gender: Presentation of the foundations of film and gender studies, approaching post-feminism perspectives on gender roles in contemporary society, changes in values in romantic relationships, and the questioning of the male model.
- ¿ Race: Study of discoursive strategies on migration in cinema, multiculturalism, and race, as well as their intersections with gender and social class.
- ¿ Environment: Introduction to the eco-critical perspective in ecocinema, with a special emphasis on generating discourses related to climate change, food production, and animal representation.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

1. Master class

Presentation of original interpretations, theoretical and practical, to analyze the relation between cinema and society. Social, cultural, aesthetic aspects. Abilities 1 and 2 (0,75 ECTS).

2. Practical lessons

Detailed interpretation and analysis about specific examples about the topics included in the program Practical lessons preparation using the movies included in the program and research work about concrete aspects of the program

Student's active comments about the films during the lesson Abilities 3 and 4 (0,75 ECTS).

3. Student's work: the student will need to use the analysis table to understand different audiovisual

productions. He/she will deliver a written assignment.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

- Final test/assignment: 60% of the final mark
- Work / essay / practice: 40% of the final mark
- - Student's active participation during the practical lessons and meetings will be considered and valued in the final

% end-of-term-examination: 60

% of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...): 40

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- CARMONA, Ramón. Cómo se comenta un texto fílmico, Cátedra, 2016
- FONT, Domènec Cuerpo a cuerpo: radiografías del cine contemporáneo, Galaxia Gutenberg, 2012
- IMBERT, Gérard, Cine e imaginarios sociales: el cine posmoderno como experiencia de los límites, (1990-2010)., Madrid, Cátedra., 2010.
- IMBERT, Gérard. Crisis de valores en el cine posmoderno (más allá de los límites), Cátedra, 2019