



蘇州大學  
Soochow University

## FIL 230 Film History

Summer 2024

**Course Credits:** 4

**Contact Hours:** 56 hours

**Instructor:** TBA

**Email:**TBA

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

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This course offers an introduction to the film history from the invention and early years of the cinema in the 1880s to the postwar era to the 1960s. This course is divided into four parts, which are early cinema; the late silent era, 1919-1929; the development of sound cinema, 1926- 1945 and the postwar era: 1945- 1960s. Artistic movements include the French Impressionist Movement, the German Expressionist Movement, the Soviet Montage Movement, Hollywood Classicism, Neorealism and etc. Students will learn about the development of cinema and form their own insights into the film history.

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the film history from the 1880s to the 1960s;
2. Have a fundamental understanding of film form and technique, including a knowledge of basic film terms;
3. Demonstrate an understanding of film history and a variety of cinematic styles;
4. Identify significant movements, innovations, and figures in film history;
5. Articulate and describe the defining attributes of various film genres as they were practiced during different historical moments.

### PREREQUISITES

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N/A

### GRADING

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Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the



maximum, as follows:

ITEM	POINTS
Quizzes	20 Points
Essays	20 Points
Midterm Exam	25 Points
Final Exam	35 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F.$$

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

## COURSE MATERIALS

### **Required Texts:**

Kristin Thompson, David Bordwell, *Film History: An Introduction*, 4th Edition, McGraw-Hill Humanities/Social Sciences/Languages.

### **Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:**

None

## COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	<p><b>Topics:</b>  Topic 1: Early Cinema; The Invention and Early Years of the Cinema, 1880s-1904  Topic 2: The International Expansion of the Cinema, 1905- 1912  Topic 3: National Cinemas, Hollywood Classicism, and World War I, 1913-1919  Topic 4: The Late Silent Era, 1919- 1929; France in the 1920s</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b>  Quiz#1 due</p>



Module 2	<p><b>Topics:</b> Topic 5: The French Impressionist Movement Topic 6: Germany in the 1920s; The German Expressionist Movement Topic 7: Soviet Cinema in the 1920s; Export and Classical Style Topic 8: Increased State Control and the Montage Movement, 1925- 1930</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b> Essay#1 due</p>
Module 3	<p><b>Topics:</b> Topic 9: The Late Silent Era in Hollywood, 1920- 1928 Topic 10: International Trends of the 1920s Topic 11: The Development of Sound Cinema, 1926- 1945; The Introduction of Sound Topic 12: The Hollywood Studio System, 1930- 1945; The New Structure of the Film Industry</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b> Quiz#2 due Midterm Exam</p>
Module 4	<p><b>Topics:</b> Topic 13: Continued Innovation in Hollywood; Other Studio System Topic 14: Cinema and the State: the USSR, Germany, and Italy, 1930- 1945 Topic 15: Leftist, Documentary, and Experimental Cinemas, 1930- 1945 Topic 16: The Postwar Era: 1945- 1960s; American Cinema in the Postwar Era, 1945- 1960</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b> Essay#2 due</p>
Module 5	<p><b>Topics:</b> Topic 17: Postwar European Cinema: Neorealism and its Context, 1945- 1959 Topic 18: Postwar European Cinema: Scandinavia, and Britain, 1945- 1959 Topic 19: Postwar Cinema beyond the West, 1945- 1959; Art Cinema and the Idea of Authorship Topic 20: Art Cinema and the Idea of Authorship</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b> Final Exam</p>

## ATTENDANCE

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1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow



University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning and might be prohibited from attending final exam.

2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.

### **LEARNING REQUIREMENTS**

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

### **TECHNOLOGY POLICY**

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (eg., note taking, reading course documents).

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.



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## **DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION**

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Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.