

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN CINEMA
Status: Definitive
Code: **5014FILM** (110871)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2012

Owning School/Faculty: Liverpool Screen School
Teaching School/Faculty: Liverpool Screen School

Team	Leader
Lydia Papadimitriou	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ5
Credit Value: 24.00
Total Delivered Hours: 60.00
Total Learning Hours: 240
Private Study: 180

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	10.000
Seminar	8.000
Workshop	40.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Presentation	AS1	Presentation	20.0	
Exam	AS2	Examination - 2 hours	70.0	2.00
Practice	AS3	Practice - participation element	10.0	

Aims

- 1) To explore the industrial and aesthetic transformations of American cinema from 1960 to date.
- 2) To examine the debates around the notion of "post-classical" cinema.
- 3) To explore the concept of "independent American cinema".

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate awareness of the key industrial and aesthetic transformations of American cinema from 1960 to date.
- 2 Develop an argument regarding the concept of "post-classicism" in contemporary American cinema.
- 3 Show an understanding of the variable meanings of "independence" in contemporary American cinema.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

PRESENTATION	1
EXAM	2 3
PARTICIPATION	1

Outline Syllabus

The New Hollywood, or Hollywood Renaissance
The Blockbuster and High Concept
The package-unit mode of production
Reaganite Entertainment
Technological changes
The classical/post-classical debate
1980s American cinema
Indie cinema and "Indiewood"

Learning Activities

Lectures, Presentations, Seminars and Workshops.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Maltby, R.
Publishing Year	2003
Title	Hollywood Cinema: An Introduction
Subtitle	
Edition	2nd
Publisher	Oxford, UK: Blackwell
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Neale, S. & Smith, M. (eds)
Publishing Year	1998
Title	Contemporary Hollywood Cinema
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London, UK: Routledge
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Williams, L.R. and Hammond, M. (eds)
Publishing Year	2006
Title	Contemporary American Cinema
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	McGraw-Hill
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	King, Geoff
Publishing Year	2009
Title	Indiewood
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London, UK: I.B. Tauris
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	King, Geoff
Publishing Year	2002
Title	Spectacular Narratives: Hollywood in the Age of the Blockbusters
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London, UK: I.B. Tauris
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Tzioumakis, Y.
Publishing Year	2006
Title	Independent American Cinema
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Edinburgh University Press
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Buckland, W. ed.
Publishing Year	2009
Title	Film Theory and Contemporary Hollywood movies
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London, UK: Routledge
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Miller, T. ed.
Publishing Year	2009
Title	Contemporary Hollywood Reader
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London, UK: Routledge
ISBN	

Notes

This course examines American cinema from 1960 to date, focusing on its industrial and aesthetic dimensions. It explores the concept of post-classicism and the theoretical debates around its usefulness and its applicability to contemporary Hollywood films. It focuses both on mainstream, studio-produced, American films, as well as on Independent productions, and explores the changing meanings of independence in post-1960s American film.