

Liverpool John Moores University

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Title: American Cinema
Status: Definitive
Code: **5020FILM** (121829)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

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

Team	Leader
Lydia Papadimitriou	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ5 **Credit Value:** 20 **Total Delivered Hours:** 48
Total Learning Hours: 200 **Private Study:** 152

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 1

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	12
Seminar	12
Workshop	24

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Presentation	Pres	Group Presentation	30	
Essay	Essay	Essay - 2500 words	70	

Aims

1. To introduce key aspects of American cinema history
2. To examine the concepts of 'classical' and 'post-classical' cinema
3. To explore both Hollywood and independent American cinema from industrial and aesthetic perspectives

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate awareness of key aspects of American cinema history
- 2 Identify the characteristics of 'classical' and 'post-classical' cinema
- 3 Show an understanding of industrial and aesthetic dimensions of Hollywood and independent cinema at different stages of American cinema

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Presentation	1	2	3
Essay	1	2	3

Outline Syllabus

Early and silent American cinema
The Studio System
Censorship
Genre
The Star System
New Hollywood
The Blockbuster and High Concept
Independent, Indie, Indiewood
Black American cinema
New Queer cinema

Learning Activities

Lectures, Presentations, Seminars, Workshops, Screenings

Notes

The module offers an overview of historical developments in American cinema from the silent period to the present, highlighting key industrial, technological and aesthetic transformations in its history. It explores the concepts of classical and post-classical cinema, and assesses their usefulness for understanding the recurring group characteristics of American cinema. It focuses on both mainstream and Independent films, and explores the changing social and industrial landscape in which they are produced, distributed and exhibited, and the effects of these changes on the form and style of the films.