



## Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Department of Film and Literature

1FV20E Filmvetenskap, fortsättningskurs, 30 högskolepoäng

Film Studies, Continuation Course, 30 credits

### Main field of study

Film Studies

### Subject Group

Film Studies

### Level of classification

First Level

### Progression

G1E

### Date of Ratification

Approved 2009-09-06

Revised 2020-10-06 by Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Revised literature.

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2021

### Prerequisites

1-30 higher education credits in Film Studies

## Objectives

### Module 1. Documentary film, 7,5 credits

After completing the module, the student should be able to:

- account for the history of the documentary film and its forms of expression,
- independently reflect in writing on the theoretical problems that are connected with documentary film.

### Module 2. Film Criticism: Theory and Practice, 7,5 credits

After completing the module, the student should be able to:

- account for contemporary cultural journalism tendencies, from historical and societal perspectives,
- analyze film reviews and other kinds of film journalism from a larger cultural journalism context,
- write film reviews, columns and other cultural articles connected to film that are well written in terms of style as well as content,
- edit articles within the genres mentioned above.

### Module 3. European Cinema, 7,5 credits

After completing the module, the student should be able to:

- account for some of the most influential films and filmmakers in contemporary

- account for some of the most influential films and filmmakers in contemporary French, German, Spanish, Eastern European and Scandinavian film,
- account for the changes that European film culture has undergone in recent decades,
- problemize “European film” as a concept, based on cultural theoretical perspectives,
- analyze a film based on a perspective that problemizes “the European way” as a cultural identity.

#### **Module 4. World Cinema, 7,5 credits**

After completing the module, the student should be able to:

- account for film-theoretical perspectives on film cultures outside the USA and Europe,
- select appropriate literature for a minor research project on the subject of *world cinema*,
- in speech and writing formulate criticism of their own and others' texts.

#### **Elective course: Independent project, 7.5 credits**

After completing the module, the student should be able to:

- take a critical and analytical approach in a written academic project within the field of film studies.

## Content

### **Module 1. Documentary Film (7.5 credits)**

The module covers the history of the documentary film and its forms of expression. Theoretical problems connected with the documentary film are discussed – for instance the relationship between the documentary film and reality and the ethical questions that this relationship raises.

### **Module 2. Film Criticism: Theory and Practice (7.5 credits)**

The module provides practical and theoretical perspectives on film reviews and other kinds of film journalism. Theory seminars, where newspaper and magazine articles are discussed on the basis of contemporary journalism culture alternate with practical exercises in article writing. Different genres, such as reviews and columns are studied and placed in a larger cultural journalism context. In the practical exercises, students discuss style, disposition and text editing, as well as how to adapt one's writing to a specific audience.

### **Module 3. European Cinema (7.5 credits)**

The module takes a holistic approach to European cinema, based on innovative approaches in contemporary research on European film identity. The traditional idea of European film as national "auteur film" is discussed and problematised, using transcultural perspectives where focus lies on international and regional events and festival cultures, "world cinema", and norm-breaking film creation. Focus lies on contemporary cinema, and the changes that have taken place in European film over the past 20 years. The periods usually considered as the glory days of European cinema – the 1920s and the 1960s – serve as a background for a discussion of the changing European film identity.

### **Module 4. World Cinema (7.5 credits)**

The module deals primarily with film outside of the USA and Europe, for example, film in Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Latin America. Transnational approaches to film culture in a broad sense are introduced, and in this context, trends in European and American film may also be addressed. The meaning of the term "world cinema" is discussed, and the students specialise in a topic of their own choice, falling within the scope of the module.

### **Elective Module. Independent project (7.5 credits)**

Students who wish to obtain a degree in Film Studies can replace one module with an independent project (degree project) in the form of an essay within Film Studies. The purpose of the module is to give the student the opportunity to practice adopting a critical and analytical approach in a written scholarly work. The student writes a short independent paper, and acts as an opponent for another student's project. Note that the students themselves must sign up for the elective module in advance – see "other" below.

### **Type of Instruction**

Teaching is in the form of lectures, classroom teaching, group discussions, practical exercises, seminars and film viewings.

The course may also be offered as a distance course, using an online learning platform.

### **Examination**

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).

Module 1 is examined through written assignments, presentations and seminar

discussions.

Module 2 is examined through seminar exercises, text editing, and article writing.

Module 3 is examined through written assignments as well as presentations and discussions in examining seminars.

Module 4 is examined through presentations and discussions in examining seminars, as well as through a written group project, where the students formulate and answer a question within the scope of the subject.

The elective module, "independent project", is examined through a complete paper, the student acting as an opponent, and seminar discussions.

In order to receive the grade of Pass, the student must achieve the objectives. Grading criteria for the grade of Pass with Distinction will be specified in writing when the course starts. In order to receive a final grade of Pass with Distinction for the entire course, the student must receive the grade of Pass with Distinction for at least 22.5 of the 30 credits.

Repeat examination is offered in accordance with Local regulations for courses and examination at the first and second-cycle level at Linnaeus University. If the university has decided that a student is entitled to special pedagogical support due to a disability, the examiner has the right to give a customised exam or to have the student conduct the exam in an alternative way.

### Course Evaluation

During or shortly after the course, a course evaluation is conducted. Results and analysis of the course evaluation are promptly communicated to the students who have taken the course. Students who are taking the course when it is offered the next time are informed of the results at the start of the course. The evaluation is anonymous.

### Credit Overlap

The course cannot be included in a degree along with the following courses of which the content fully, or partly, corresponds to the content of this course: 1FV201 Documentary film 7,5 credits; 1FV206 European Cinema 7,5 credits; 1FV207 World Cinema 7,5 credits; and 1FV208 Film Criticism: Theory and Practice 7,5 credits.

### Other

Students who wish to exchange one module for the elective module must themselves notify the subject co-ordinator in advance. Full-time students are required to do this before the course starts. For part-time students studying at a distance, the elective module will take place in the second term, regardless of which module the student wishes to change, and the student should notify the subject co-ordinator when the course starts.

### Required Reading and Additional Study Material

**Module 1. Documentary Film** Bruzzi, Stella. 2006 (2nd edition or later). *New Documentary: A Critical Introduction*. London: Routledge. 275 pages.

Nichols, Bill. 2010 (2nd edition or later). *Introduction to Documentary*. Bloomington: Indiana Univ. Press. 341 pages.

Winston, Brian (ed.), *The Documentary Film Book*. London: Palgrave MacMillan/BFI. 400 pages. Latest edition.

Material provided by the department: ca 50 pages.

### Module 2. Film criticism: Theory & Practice

Corrigan, Timothy. 2012. *A Short Guide to Writing about Film*. 8th edition. London:

Conigan, Timothy. 2012. *A Short Guide to Writing about Film*. 5th edition. London: Pearson. 216 pages. ISBN 9780321881816

Nordenson, Magdalena. (2008) *Opinionsjournalistik: att skriva ledare, kolumner och recensioner*. Lund: Studentlitteratur, p 11-245, ISBN 9789144009049

Språkrådets *Svenska skrivregler*. Stockholm: Liber, 4th edition, 2017, 308 pages, ISBN 9789147111497

Hägg, Göran. *Praktisk retorik*. Stockholm: Wahlström & Widstrand, 253 pages, ISBN 9789146222385

Material provided by the department: ca 50 pages.

### **Module 3. European Cinema**

Elsaesser, Thomas. *European Cinema: Face to Face with Hollywood*. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press cop. 563 pages (in selection, 150 p). the latest edition.

Fowler, Catherine. *The European Cinema Reader*. London: Routledge (in selection, ca 100 pages) the latest edition.

Harrod, Mary, Timoshkina, Alissa, Liz, Mariana. (eds). *The Europeanness of European Cinema: Identity, Meaning, Globalization*. In B Tauris. 272 pages. The latest edition. (available as an e-book)

Liz, Mariana. *Euro-visions: Europe in contemporary cinema*. Bloomsbury. New York. 183 pages. The latest edition.

Loist, Skadi. (ed). *Teaching European Cinema*. Dossier. Alphaville. 2017. 59 pages. Online: <http://www.alphavillejournal.com/Issue14/Dossier.pdf>

Additional material supplied by the department, ca 50 pages, articles.

### **Module 4. World Cinema**

Durovicová, Natasa and Kathleen E. Newman (eds). *World Cinemas, Transnational Perspectives*. 384 pages. The latest edition.

Nagib, Lucia, Chris Perriam och Rajinder Dudrah (eds). *Theorizing World Cinema*. 288 pages. The latest edition.

Material provided by the department: ca 150 pages.

In connection with the group assignment, each group of students will present a literature list (at least 700 pages) relevant for their chosen subject area, which the teacher must approve. Guidance regarding suitable reference literature will be given at the beginning of the course.

### **Elective Module. Independent project**

*Att skriva uppsats i filmvetenskap*. Kompendium. 28 pages.

*Svenska skrivregler*. 2008. (Third, expanded edition or a later edition). Stockholm: Liber. 263 pages.

Subject specific literature list (at least 700 pages)