

107-421 Contemporary Film Theory

Credit Points:	12.50
Level:	4 (Undergraduate)
Dates & Locations:	2009, This subject commences in the following study period/s: Semester 1, - Taught on campus.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: A 2-hour seminar and 2-hour screening per week Total Time Commitment: 4 contact hours/week, 6 additional hours/week. Total of 10 hours per week.
Prerequisites:	Admission to the postgraduate certificate or diploma or fourth year honours in Cinema Studies or Gender Studies.
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	<p><p>For the purposes of considering request for Reasonable Adjustments under the Disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Student Support and Engagement Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Overview, Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Generic Skills sections of this entry.</p> <p>It is University policy to take all reasonable steps to minimise the impact of disability upon academic study, and reasonable adjustments will be made to enhance a student's participation in the University's programs. Students who feel their disability may impact on meeting the requirements of this subject are encouraged to discuss this matter with a Faculty Student Adviser and Student Equity and Disability Support: http://services.unimelb.edu.au/disability</p></p>
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Subject Overview:	This subject will examine the development of contemporary film theory of the post-1968 period. Students will be expected to critically evaluate the significance and applicability of some of the following theoretical approaches: formalism and structuralism; apparatus theory; feminist film theory and spectatorship; Lacanian and Althusserian paradigms; postmodernism; queer, and postcolonial theory. In particular, the emphasis will be on redressing the balance in a tradition of film theories that have favoured vision over sound. Through the writings of Altman, Chion, Lastra and others, consideration will be given to the significance that film sound has in the context of film 'spectatorship', materiality, technology and interpretation. Students will attend seminars that involve a variety of approaches: close analysis, close readings, research, thesis writing, paper presentation. Finally, students will be required to present a paper based on a close reading of a specific film text with reference to its use of film language. Students will also conduct research into this film in relation to its production history, distribution and reception and relate their findings as to the place of the film within the history of film theory.
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # be able to have a comprehensive understanding of key film theoretical models of the post-60s; # be able to apply various theories to an analysis of the cinema; # be able to critically evaluate the significance of film theory for film interpretation.
Assessment:	A 2000 word tutorial paper 40% (due during the semester), and a 3000-word essay or web site 60% (due during examination period).
Prescribed Texts:	None

Breadth Options:	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Generic Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # possess advanced skills of critical thinking and analysis; # develop research and writing skills; # be able to account for the relationship between the film industry and film form; # possess an ability to communicate knowledge intelligibly, economically and effectively; # have an understanding of social, ethical and cultural context.
Notes:	Formerly available as 107-096. Students who have completed 107-096 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.
Related Course(s):	Bachelor of Arts (Honours)(Media and Communications) Master of Cinema Management Master of Global Media Communication Postgraduate Diploma in Arts (Media and Communication)
Related Majors/Minors/ Specialisations:	Australian Studies Australian Studies Cinema Studies Cinema Studies Cinema Studies Gender Studies Gender Studies Gender Studies