

**BETWEEN MARX AND COCA-COLA:
EUROPEAN CINEMA OF THE 1960S AND 1970S
(CGST/FIST 230)**



2017 Summer Session: May 31 – June 28
Meeting time: Weekdays 11:00am-12:40pm
Location: TBA
Prof. Ulrich E. Bach, PhD.
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Office and office hours: TBA

Course Synopsis

In the 1960s and early 1970s, a growing sense of alienation and social unrest spread across Europe, making their marks in both society and cinema. Borrowing the words of New Wave director Jean-Luc Godard, these years led to the emergence of "the children of Marx and Coca-Cola." This course, taught in English, will introduce students to a multi-faceted portrait of Europe in the 1960s and 70s through avant-garde and popular cinema from England, France, Italy, Spain, and Germany. We will focus on films that depict global capitalism, gender relations, and government control. Some of the themes we will discuss include the critique of consumerism and materialism, the changing role of women in society, life under dictatorship, and youth counterculture. Last but not least, students will learn how directors of the "New Wave" challenged traditional approaches to narrative cinema. All films will be available through your Olin Library account on <http://www.kanopy.com>

Requirements

1. **Class participation and short critical responses:** Informed participation is a crucial component of this course. In order to facilitate discussions in class, students will submit responses to the films (100-200). These responses should make general comments on film

aesthetics or a particular scene of the film. In class, the instructor will ask at least one student to share their critical response with the rest of the class.

2. **Two film reviews:** Students will write two film reviews (400-500 words) making use of film language. Towards the end of the film review, there should be at least one comment as to why the film they have chosen has relevance at present. Students must bring a first draft of their film reviews and participate in peer-editing sessions, as noted on the course calendar.

3. **Short essay:** Students will write a 3-4 page essay based on one film and one reading discussed in class. Students must bring a first draft of their film reviews and participate in peer-editing sessions, as noted on the course calendar.

4. **Oral presentation, proposal for final paper and final paper:** Students will write a 7-8 page final paper based on one or two films discussed in class or from an additional list of films that will be provided by the instructor. During the final session, all students will give a short presentation (8-10 minutes) about their preliminary ideas for their final paper. For this presentation, they will have to show and analyze one clip from the film they will analyze.

Attendance in class is of paramount importance. If you are absent, you should make arrangements to obtain the information missed. More than two absences will put you at risk to fail the course.

Classroom Policies

- Arrive to class on time and remain in class for the entire scheduled period.
- **Bring course reader to every class.**
- Please don't bring food and put your cellphones and other electronic devices away during the class.

Religious Holidays

A student who intends to observe a religious holiday should notify the professor in writing at least a week prior to the absence so necessary arrangements can be made.

Disability Resources

It is the policy of Wesleyan University to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. The procedures for registering with Disabilities Services can be found at: www.wesleyan.edu/studentaffairs/disabilities/ If you require accommodations in this class, please make an appointment with the professor as soon as possible.

The Wesleyan Honor System

Students are expected to abide by the Wesleyan honor system with respect to all work prepared for this class. For details, please refer to the Wesleyan 2016-17 Student Handbook.

COURSE SCHEDULE (Subject to change with instructor's prior notice)

<p>Wednesday, May 31 -Introduction to the course -In class: Chris Marker's featurette <i>La Jetee</i> (1962) and handouts on film language (David Bordwell and Kristin Thompson <i>Film Art</i> [excerpts] and Gerd Gmünden "How to Watch a Film")</p>
<p>Thursday, June 1 - "Youth Culture and the Cultural Revolution of the Long Sixties" (Arthur Marwick)</p>
<p>Friday, June 2 - François Truffaut, <i>400 Blows</i> (1959) - "The French New Wave" (Richard Neupert)</p>
<p>Monday, June 5 - Agnès Varda, <i>Cleo from 5 to 7</i> (1962)</p>
<p>Tuesday, June 6 - From <i>Feminist Film Theory and Cléo from 5 to 7</i> (Hilary Neroni)</p>
<p>Wednesday, June 7 - Gillo Pontecorvo, <i>Battle of Algiers</i> (1966)</p>
<p>Thursday, June 8 - <i>Discourse on Colonialism</i> (Aimé Césaire)</p>
<p>Friday, June 9 In class peer-editing - Film review 1, first draft due</p>
<p>Monday, June 12 - From <i>A New History of German Cinema</i>, "Alexander Kluge Gets Egged in Berlin, Months Later Awarded Golden Lions in Venice" (Kapczynski & Richardson) - From <i>The Use and Abuse of Cinema</i>, "A Cinema of Citation" (Eric Rentschler) - Film review 1, revised draft due</p>
<p>Tuesday, June 13 - Alexander Kluge, <i>Yesterday's Girl</i> (1966)</p>
<p>Wednesday, June 14 - Julio Cortázar's short story "Blow up"</p>

Adaptation of fiction into motion picture
Thursday, June 15 - Antonioni, <i>Blow up</i> (1966)
Friday, June 16 - In class peer-editing - Essay 1, first draft due
Monday, June 19 - Essay 1, revised draft due - Jean-Luc Godard, <i>Weekend</i> (1967)
Tuesday, June 20 - “The Language of Emotion in Godard’s Films” (Anuja Madan)
Wednesday, June 21 - From <i>Spain Transformed: The Late Franco Dictatorship, 1959-75</i> (Nigel Townson)
Thursday, June 22 -Carlos Saura <i>Cría Cuervos</i> (1976)
Friday, June 23 - In class peer-editing - Film review 2, first draft due
Monday, June 26 - Film review 2, revised draft due - Rainer Werner Fassbinder, <i>Ali: Fear Eats Soul</i> (1974) - “Re-Fusing Brecht: The Cultural Politics of Rainer Werner Fassbinder’s German Hollywood” (Gerd Gemünden)
Tuesday, June 27 - Final observations
Wednesday, June 28 - Oral presentations for final essay

Final paper due: TBA