

University of Calgary
Department of History

HTST 495-01

Film and History

Fall 2017

T 2.00-3.50pm (EDC 264); Th2.00-4.45pm (EDC 264)

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Course Description

Film is much more than merely an amusing form of entertainment. Film can be used as a historical source to discover social, political and cultural aspects of a particular period. All films tell us about the time in which they were made, whether or not they were set in a distant past or a nebulous future. The historian can use film to show gender relations, attitudes towards race, class divisions, or daily ephemeral items or activities. While many of these are for the most part displayed unconsciously by filmmakers, film can also be used more directly as a means to convey particular and pointed meaning. In this way, the propaganda element of film is its most powerful aspect, particularly if an audience does not believe it is being fed propaganda.

Objectives of the Course

The goal of this class is to encourage students to look at film in a completely different way than is usual, and to understand that studying the context of a film is as important as its entertainment value. This course will concentrate primarily on European and American films, and all the films we will be examining in class are available either in the library on Reserve or on the internet.

Textbooks and Readings

History and Film, Maarten Pereboom, Prentice Hall, 2011

Internet and electronic communication device information

Please turn off cell phones and other non-educational devices and use your computers for only academically related purposes. Please do not film, record, or take photos in class without permission.

Assignments and Evaluation

The assignments in the course are designed to balance between written assignments, which will build upon each other so that the skills developed in one assignment will be employed in the next. Students must NOT book holidays or employment in the expectation of having an early examination. Accommodation for assignments will be made only for those in extreme and difficult circumstances. All assignments must be completed in order to pass the course.

Outline and Bibliography

Students will be asked to write an outline – with a thesis statement – of at least one page in length. In addition, students will add a bibliography of at least 10 sources (one of which must be a primary source). This assignment is designed to encourage students to begin the process of research for their term paper, but it is not a contract, as your topic may change.

Due: October 12

Value: 20%

Film Analysis

Students will examine a film that is central to their term paper as a primary document within the historical context in which it was made. The length of this analysis is to be 5 pages and utilize some of the sources you discussed in your annotated bibliography. This assignment will utilize the skills needed for the final term paper. Length is to be five pages with standard margins, Times New Roman 12pt. font.

Due: November 16

Value: 20%

Term Paper

Students will be asked to write a 15-20-page term paper on any subject relating to film as an historical source. This is designed to follow the direction of the outline and bibliography and build upon the review paper, but that is not required. Your essay must contain primary documents and demonstrate historical use of those documents and conform to the standards found in *The History Student's Handbook* for essay writing. Length is to be 15-20 pages with standard margins, Times New Roman 12pt. font.

Due: December 7

Value: 50%

Participation

Participation is more than turning up for class (although that's crucial). Students are expected to engage and discuss ideas in class.

Due: On going

Value: 10%

Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: No

All assignments must be completed or a course grade of F may be assigned at the discretion of the instructor.

Submission of Assignments: Please hand in your essays directly to your instructor if possible in class. If it is not possible to do so, a daytime drop box is available outside the History Department office on the 6th Floor of the Social Science Building. Assignments will be removed usually at 4.00pm each day, stamped with that day's date, and placed in the instructor's mailbox.

Please include your name and ID number on all assignments. Personal information is collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act*. For more information, see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

Note: It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment. For courses in which assignments are submitted electronically, it is the student's responsibility to ensure that the correct copy of the assignment is submitted. (Including the version date or version number in your file name may help you avoid submitting the wrong version of your written assignments.)

Policy for Late Assignments

Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

This schedule is a rough guide and might be altered to take into consideration student interest, time constraints or other unforeseen situations. You should note that lectures will *supplement* the readings and the readings will be necessary background to understand the lectures. I will *not* be reading the chapters for you in class. My suggestion is that you read the assigned reading for the week before class taking notes of important ideas, issues, people, and events; attend and take notes during lectures, and then re-read the assigned reading for the week. This way not only will you grasp the material more completely, it will be easier for you to study and attain the grade you desire.

Week 1 (September 12-14)

Introductions and Pre-WWI Film

Week 2 (September 17-19)

Film and War (I)

Week 3 (September 26-28)

Interwar Film: The 1920s and Experimentation

Week 4 (October 3-5)

Interwar Film: The 1930s and the Depression

Week 5 (October 10-12)

Nazi Film and Propaganda

*****OUTLINE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE*****

Week 6 (October 17-19)

Interwar Film: War, Spies and Espionage

Week 7 (October 24-26)

Film and War (II)

Week 8 (October 31-November 2)

Film Noir

Week 9 (November 7-9)

The Western in the 1950s

Week 10 (November 14-16)

Essay Prep and Film Screening

*****FILM ANALYSIS DUE*****

Week 11 (November 21-23)

Post-War Britain: 1950s

Week 12 (November 28-30)

The Swinging Sixties

Week 13 (December 5-7)

The Anxious Sixties

*****TERM PAPER DUE*****

Please note: This course outline is subject to change. It is important therefore to attend classes and read e-mail to receive updated changes. Examination dates and locations are the students' responsibility and should be determined before the examination period.

Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information

Department Twitter @ucalgaryhist

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at Social Sciences 102, call 403-220-3580, or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. For detailed information on common academic concerns, you can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Arts Students Centre (ASC) in SS 102, call 403-220-3580, email artsads@ucalgary.ca, or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising>.
- For registration issues, paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK (7625), visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block (MLB) or their website at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/>.

Writing:

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

Writing Support:

Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library (TFDL). Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Copyright:

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. This means that instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. What this simply means is that no copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or that you will have to consult books on reserve at the library. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

Red Box Policy:

Essays and other assignments may be handed in to the red box located outside of the History Department office (Social Sciences, Room 656). Please include the following information on your assignment: **1) course name and number, 2) instructor, 3) your name and 4) your student number**. Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. will be date stamped with the date of the next business day. We do not time stamp any papers. Please do not bring your paper into the office to be stamped. The box is emptied promptly at 8:30 a.m. and at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Departmental Grading System:

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme has been adopted for use in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent—superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
80-84	A-	3.70	
77-79	B+	3.30	
73-76	B	3.00	Good—clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-72	B-	2.70	

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
67-69	C+	2.30	
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter.
60-62	C-	1.70	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation.
56-59	D+	1.30	Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
50-55	D	1.00	
0-49	F	0	Fail—unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. As noted in *The History Student's Handbook* (http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history_students_handbook_2015.pdf), plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.
- Borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works.
- The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Arts' associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*.

Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI):

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference. Please participate in USRI surveys.

Academic Accommodations (implemented July 1, 2015):

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should

communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Campus Resources for Mental Health

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Other Useful Information:

- Faculty of Arts Representatives: 403-220-6551, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.
- Campus Security & Safewalk: 403-220-5333, <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>.
- Freedom of Information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/foip-hia>.
- Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>.
- Student Union Information: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>.
- Graduate Student Association: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>.
- Student Ombudsman Office: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

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