

Film Genres

Code: 103076
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2501928 Audiovisual Communication	OT	4	0

Contact

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: english (eng)
Some groups entirely in English: Yes
Some groups entirely in Catalan: No
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Prerequisites

None.

Objectives and Contextualisation

This subject, with 6 ECTS, is part of the Film syllabus of the faculty.

Its goal is to explore the narrative and iconographic structure of genres in film history. The subject is structured around lectures, screenings, class debates and the making of a film essay applying the concepts analysed in class.

Competences

- Demonstrate a critical and self-critical capacity.
- Demonstrate a self-learning and self-demanding capacity to ensure an efficient job.
- Develop autonomous learning strategies.
- Develop critical thinking and reasoning and be able to relay ideas effectively in Catalan, Spanish and a third language.
- Differentiate the disciplines main theories, fields, conceptual developments, as well as their value for professional practice.
- Disseminate the areas knowledge and innovations.
- Generate innovative and competitive ideas in research and professional practice.
- Manage the different forms of audiovisual programming according to various audiovisual genres.
- Manage time effectively.
- Research, select and arrange in hierarchical order any kind of source and useful document to develop communication products.
- Respect the diversity and plurality of ideas, people and situations.
- Use ones imagination with flexibility, originality and ease.
- Value diversity and multiculturalism as a foundation for teamwork.

Learning Outcomes

1. Apply theories learned to the analysis of the media reality and the development of audiovisual products.

2. Demonstrate a critical and self-critical capacity.
3. Demonstrate a self-learning and self-demanding capacity to ensure an efficient job.
4. Develop autonomous learning strategies.
5. Develop critical thinking and reasoning and be able to relay ideas effectively in Catalan, Spanish and a third language.
6. Disseminate the areas knowledge and innovations.
7. Generate innovative and competitive ideas in research and professional practice.
8. Implement presentation, discursive and argumentative techniques to adapt them to audiovisual genres.
9. Innovate by means of production and audiovisual programming.
10. Manage time effectively.
11. Promote innovations in product building.
12. Research, select and arrange in hierarchical order any kind of source and useful document to develop communication products.
13. Respect the diversity and plurality of ideas, people and situations.
14. Use ones imagination with flexibility, originality and ease.
15. Value diversity and multiculturalism as a foundation for teamwork.

Content

1. Introduction to film genre theory.
2. Birth of the concept in the context of classic Hollywood.
3. Types of genres, with a semantic and syntactic approach to their study.
4. Selected genre criticism - Western: genre and history; *film noir*: genre and society; melodrama: genre and film language.
5. From *slapstick* to *blockbusters* - how labels evolve.
6. Film genre hybrids and the impact on other formats.

Methodology

The course is structured round:

1. Lectures, debates, case studies and readings.
2. The making of a film essay to apply the theoretical concepts analysed in class.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Contribution to the seminar debates	15	0.6	14, 1, 3, 5, 8, 13, 15
Lectures	15	0.6	1, 2, 5, 7, 8
Shooting and editing of the visual essay	22.5	0.9	14, 12, 3, 4, 2, 6, 7, 10, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15
Type: Supervised			
Tutorials	7.5	0.3	14, 12, 3, 2, 7, 10, 11
Type: Autonomous			

Assessment

To pass the course, the student needs to get 5 over 10 or higher in the written exam and 5 over 10 or higher in at least two of the sections listed above.

The student can ask to undergo re-examination if the marks obtained in the written exam and the paper outlining the theoretical background of the visual essay are at least 3,5 over 10.

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Contribution to the seminar debates	10%	2	0.08	14, 1, 12, 3, 4, 2, 5, 6, 10, 8, 11, 13
Paper outlining the theoretical background of the visual essay	15%	0	0	14, 1, 12, 3, 4, 2, 5, 6, 7, 10, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15
Visual essay	40%	3.5	0.14	14, 1, 12, 3, 4, 2, 5, 6, 7, 10, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15
Written exam	35%	2	0.08	1, 12, 4, 2, 5, 6, 8

Bibliography

ALTMAN, Rick (2000): *Los géneros cinematográficos*. Barcelona: Paidós.

GRANT, Barry Keith (2013): *Film Genre Reader IV*. Austin: University of Texas Press.

KITSES, Jim (2004): *Horizons West. Directing the Western from John Ford to Clint Eastwood*. London: British Film Institute.

LANGFORD, Barry (2005): *Film Genre: Hollywood and Beyond*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

MERCER, John; SHINGLER, Martin (2004): *Melodrama, Genre, Style, Sensibility*. London: Wallflower Press.