CINEMA AND CULTURAL STUDIES (CCS) - COURSES

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CCS

Cinema and Cultural Studies

CCS 101 - B: Introduction to Cinema and Cultural Studies
An examination of the images and texts of film, television, art, photography and advertising, and how they characterize and shape our everyday lives. Students learn how to recognize, read, and analyze culture within a particular social, cultural, or political context, with special attention to race, gender, class, ideology, and censorship. Since this is the first course in our Cinema and Cultural Studies major, primary emphasis will be placed on film.

3 credits

CCS 201: Writing About Culture
The course teaches research methodology, develops critical thinking, and hones argumentative writing skills. A range of cultural artifacts, issues, and approaches are considered along with the ways that various discourses appropriate or critique them. Students gain extensive training in the methods essential to the use of resources and to critical writing.

Prerequisite: Completion of D.E.C. category A
3 credits

CCS 225 - I: The Classical Tradition
The literature of Greece and Rome has had a profound impact on the West in terms of Philosophy, Literature, Political Theory and Art. The course will explore the writings of Greece and Rome and show how they affected Western literature and thought. Authors will include Homer, Hesiod, and Greek tragedians Thucydides, Virgil, and Ovid.

3 credits

CCS 301 - G: Theorizing Cinema and Culture
Recent trends in critical theory applied to the study of film, television, literature, popular music, and other types of "cultural production." In-depth analyses of specific literary, visual, and musical texts are situated within structures of power among communities, nations, and individuals.

Prerequisites: Two courses toward the major in cinema and cultural studies
3 credits

CCS 311 - G: Gender and Genre in Film
Examination of the notion of genre as a category of analysis and its often conflictive relationship to gender in the context of specific genres (the western, film noir, the horror film) and film story. Attention is paid to a particular genre's appeal to men and/or women as well as its relationship to larger social, cultural, and political issues.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 status; completion of DEC B
Advisory prerequisites: CCS 101, HUM 201, or HUM 202
3 credits

CCS 312 - I: Cinema and the Ancient World
A reading of Classical Texts alongside their representation in the cinema. Readings will include classical literature, contemporary treatments of the classics, and film theory. We will pay special attention to how filmmakers are much more attentive to ideas from the present than from the past when they construct their films around ancient texts.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing; completion of DEC B
Advisory prerequisite: CCS 101, HUM 201, or HUM 202
3 credits

CCS 313 - H: Television Studies
This course maps the social, cultural, and technological changes that the medium/media of television has experienced from its early ties to radio models of broadcast to the changes in reception wrought by the iPod.

3 credits

CCS 390 - J: Latin American Cinema
This course studies a variety of aspects connected with the production, distribution, and reception of cinema in Latin America. Course includes a representative sample of films produced in every one of the major Latin American film producing nations (Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, and Cuba). It will also review a short selection of minor Latin American cinematographies and of indigenous film productions. All films will always be studied within the social, political and artistic context in which these works are produced. Readings include works by Latin American film directors and theorists that have contributed to the study of the films in the region and of film as a world art form.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing; completion of DEC B
Advisory prerequisite: CCS 101, HUM 201, or HUM 202
3 credits

CCS 391 - J: Contemporary African Cinema and Cultural Studies
This course will examine African traditions of graphic writing in their theoretical, literary, and cinematographic application. The emphasis will be placed on the visual arts and their political significance in contemporary African debates, and of particular interest will be the production of contemporary artists, the strategies they use, and their impact in both global and local discussions. The artifacts will additionally serve as tools to investigate the modalities of a contemporary African self-understanding through the lenses of images and graphic design.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing; completion of DEC B
Advisory prerequisite: CCS 101, HUM 201, or HUM 202
3 credits

CCS 392 - K: American Cinema and Cultural Studies
The history of cinema as art has been directly linked to the evolution and increment of multicultural societies. This course studies the ways in which film has either included or excluded representations of multiculturalism in the United States. The course studies theoretical concepts such as difference, ethnicity, migration, incorporation and cultural contact zones.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 status; completion of DEC B
Advisory prerequisites: CCS 101, HUM 201, or HUM 202
3 credits

CCS 393 - I: European Cinema and Cultural Studies
A comparative study of European cinema in a historical, cultural, and political context. The course will concentrate on those films and movements that achieved a major impact in their country of origin as well as received international critical attention.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 status; completion of DEC B
Advisory prerequisites: CCS 101, HUM 201, or HUM 202
3 credits

CCS 394 - J: Asian Cinema and Cultural Studies
This course is an overview of the history of Asian cinemas, with an emphasis on the geopolitical study of China, Hong Kong, India, Japan, and Taiwan. By focusing on issues
relating to nationhood, cultural production, gender relations, and the impact of colonialism and globalization, the course will explore the commonalities, and/or particularities between the various cinemas, based on a set of overlapping themes and cultural aesthetics.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing; completion of DEC B
Advisory prerequisite: CCS 101, HUM 201, or HUM 202
3 credits

CCS 395 - H: Digital Cultural Studies
This course critically examines how digital media and technology assist in the redesign of our political, economic, social, and cultural worlds. Special attention is paid to theories of digital media and historical developments of new technologies, as well as cultural practices with emergent technology.

Prerequisites: U3 or U4 status; 1 DEC F course
Advisory prerequisites: CCS 101, HUM 201, or HUM 202
3 credits

CCS 396 - H: Video and Computer Game History
The course examines video/computer games as historical artifacts while studying the processes of writing/documenting the history of videogames. Students will engage with histories of gaming companies and platforms, game designer memoirs, fiction, criticism, game analysis, theoretical writing, descriptive historical accounts, preservation practices, and ephemeral forms of historic documentation. Students will also have hands-on access to various console games from the 1970s to the present. This course is offered as both CCS 396 and DIA 396.

Prerequisites: U3 or U4 status; ARS/MUS/THR 208 or CCS 101 or DIA/CCS/ARH 207; completion of DEC E and DEC F
3 credits

CCS 397 - H: Video and Computer Game Culture
The course critically examines videogames within cultural, social, and political contexts. It will showcase the interaction between technology and culture and society by examining videogames in terms of play and game play, racial and gendered representation, racism and sexism, games in a global context of online play, power-relations between gamers, violence and moral panics, and military propaganda. This course is offered as both CCS 397 and DIA 397.

Prerequisites: U3 or U4 status; ARS/MUS/THR 208 or CCS 101 or DIA/CCS/ARH 207; completion of DEC E and DEC F
3 credits

CCS 401: Senior Seminar in Cinema and Cultural Studies
Intensive study in a specific area of cinema and cultural studies. Possible topics include a film genre, a focused theoretical perspective, and the life and work of an important director or artist. Semester supplements to this Bulletin contain specific description when course is offered. May be repeated as the topic changes.

Prerequisites: U4 standing; CCS major
3 credits

CCS 475: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum
Work with a faculty member as an assistant in one of the faculty member's regularly scheduled classes. The student is required to attend all the classes, do all the regularly assigned work and meet with the faculty member at regularly scheduled times to discuss the intellectual and pedagogical matters relating to the course.

Prerequisites: U3 or U4 standing; permission of instructor and department
3 credits, S/U grading

CCS 487: Independent Research in Cinema and Cultural Studies
Intensive readings and research on a special topic undertaken with close faculty supervision. May be repeated.

Prerequisites: Permission of instructor and department
0-6 credits

CCS 488: Internship
May be repeated up to a maximum of 6 credits, but only 3 credits may be applied toward the cinema and cultural studies major.

Prerequisite: Permission of program advisor
0-6 credits, S/U grading

CCS 495: Senior Honors Project in Cinema and Cultural Studies
A one-semester project for cinema and cultural studies majors who are candidates for the degree with departmental honors. The project involves completion of an honors thesis or project under the close supervision of an appropriate faculty member and the written and oral presentation of the thesis or presentation of the project to the program faculty colloquium.

Prerequisites: Permission of instructor and undergraduate program director