

**HL 302/3002—The Politics (and Ethics) of Film:
Race, Gender, Class**

Instructor Information

Module Coordinator: Dr. Brian Bergen-Aurand
Office: HSS—03—60
Telephone: 6790-5381
Email: brian@ntu.edu.sg

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| Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 12:30-2:30 or by appointment |
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Module Description

This course examines the politics and ethics of film theory after the 1960s. From the Left Turn of 1968, to the Feminist, Queer, and PostModern politics of the 1990s and 2000s, we will explore questions of cinema's sound and images, authors and genres, and the ever-changing technology that challenges definitions of cinema. Special emphasis will be given to film and culture, film poetics, and film and philosophy.

Print Texts:

Corrigan, Timothy. *A Short Guide to Writing about Film*. New York: Pearson, 2007.
Stam, Robert. *Film Theory: An Introduction*. Oxford: Blackwell, 2000.
Braudy, Leo and Marshall Cohen, eds. *Film Theory and Criticism: Introductory Readings*. Sixth Edition. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2004. (*FTC* on the Schedule)
Additional readings available on reserve in the HSS library. (*HSS Reserves* on the Schedule)

Non-Print Texts:

DVDs and Videotapes are available *on reserve* in the Business Library or at the ADM library.

Course evaluation:

Engagement—20%
Screening Exercise—10%
Midterm & Final Test—20%
Study Guide—10%
Analytical Essay—40%
Total—100%

Module Schedule

| Week | Topic | Reading/Screening |
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| 1 | Introduction—Cinematic Specificity Revisited: Structure, Author, Genre | Corrigan CHs 1-4 Stam 119-130 <i>Casablanca</i> <i>The Searchers</i> |
| 2*** | 1968 and the Left Turn: Apparatus Theory & “Symptomatic Readings” | Stam 130-150 <i>Weekend</i> |
| 3 | The Politics of Reflexivity and Alternative Aesthetics --Film Critique Due-- | Stam 150-158 <i>Memories of Underdevelopment</i> |
| 4 | Semiotics II: From Linguistics to Psychoanalysis | Stam 158-169 <i>Rear Window</i> |
| 5 | Lunar New Year Recess | |
| 6 | Semiotics III: Questions of Gender | Stam 169-179 <i>Vagabond</i> |
| 7*** | Text/Interpretation/Intertext: Beyond Genre? | Stam 179-212 <i>Kill Bill, Vols. 1 & 2</i> |
| 8 | Reading Week | |
| 9 | Film Sound II | Stam 212-223 <i>Jaws</i> |
| 10 | Cultural Studies and Spectator Theory | Stam 223-234 <i>Police Story</i> |
| 11 | Cognitive Theory and The Poetics of Cinema | Stam 235-256 <i>Tokyo Story</i> |
| 12*** | Deleuze and the Time-Image | Stam 256-262 <i>India Song</i> |
| 13 | Queer Theory | Stam 262-267 <i>My Beautiful Laundrette</i> |
| 14*** | Multiculturalism/Race/Globalization | Stam 267-298 <i>The Fast Runner</i> <i>Once Were Warriors</i> |
| | Review—The Pluralization of Film Theory | Stam 298-330 |
| 15 | Final Test | |