

## Course Guidelines

### Core Course 1

### Formations of Cinema Studies: Critical Approaches, Contemporary Challenges Fall 2017

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**Start of the course:** Aug 30, kl. 13.00 i Sem 1

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#### Course description:

The course serves as an advanced introduction to the disciplinary formation of cinema studies, its current research areas, and contemporary scholarly debates, with a focus on theoretical and methodological issues. Students will engage with a wide range of research traditions and approaches within cinema studies. The aim is to foster critical thinking and the development of analytical skills and research practices.

This semester, the course will pay particular attention to four themes/research areas/scholarly debates: (a) Inventing Cinema Studies; (b) Cinema Studies after Film; (c) Film, Feminism, and Global Media Cultures; and (d) New Cinema History.

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#### Expected learning outcomes:

On completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an enhanced understanding of the range of methodologies and theories currently employed within cinema studies.
  2. Identify and critically reflect upon key scholarly debates concerning the field of moving images, and relate their own research interests to these debates.
  3. Discuss a selection of research issues that are relevant to a changing media landscape and that relate to current interdisciplinary research fields (e.g. visual culture, cultural studies, and media studies).
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#### Assessment:

The course is assessed through the following assignments (detailed instructions will be made available separately):

1. Group assignment: Mapping the field of cinema studies. In-class presentations on Sept 8 (plus written summary). 10% of the final grade.
2. Individual assignment: Midterm paper on "objects and objectives of cinema studies in the era of digital media." Paper (approx. 3,000 words) due Friday Oct 6, midnight. 40% of the final grade.

3. Group assignment: Researching a specific film and conducting a case study. In-class presentations on Oct 11 (Group 1; case film: *The Headless Woman*), Oct 12 (Group 2; case film: *Spider Lilies*), and Oct 18 (Group 3; case film: *Silent Waters*). 20% of the final grade.
4. Individual assignment: Doing cinema historical research. Written report, incl. methodological reflection (approx. 2,000 words) due Nov 3, midnight. 30% of the final grade.

Students need to compose their written assignments so that they can be presented electronically, if the teacher so requires. Written exams may be scanned with the tool Urkund. Possible fraud, such as plagiarism, will be reported to the University Disciplinary Committee. Corrected exams can be collected at the Student Office.

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### Assessment criteria:

Assessment is based on a criterion-referenced scale. A (excellent), B (very good), C (good), D (satisfactory) and E (sufficient) are approved grades. Fx (insufficient) and F (entirely insufficient) are failed grades. In order to obtain final approval the course requires a minimum grade of E for the written exam and that all course requirements are met.

The assessment criteria below set out the minimum requirements for the different levels of grades awarded at the end of the course. These assessment criteria directly reflect the learning objectives of the course.

### Advanced Level

#### Areas of assessment

- Scientific argumentation and analytical ability
- Theoretical and methodological awareness (independence, relevance and reflexivity)
- Relation of students' work to the course material (course literature and screenings)
- Appropriate level of discourse and written expression

A	<p>In addition to the requirements for the attainment of a B grade, the student's assessed work is distinguished by the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A distinctly independent, innovative and nuanced approach to argumentation and analysis.</li> <li>• The analysis is formulated with originality and clarity.</li> <li>• Thorough, innovative problematization of the current research situation.</li> <li>• A particularly thorough and sustained analysis throughout all parts of the work.</li> <li>• A notably original and detailed problematization of the course material.*</li> <li>• Impeccable written presentation; there is great accuracy in the provision of footnotes and references.</li> </ul>
B	<p>In addition to the requirements for a C grade, the student's assessed work is distinguished by the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An independent and nuanced approach to argumentation and analysis.</li> <li>• The analysis is formulated with originality as well as a critical perspective.</li> <li>• A detailed and independent explanation of the problem area together with a thorough problematization of research in this field.</li> <li>• Convincing analysis and argumentation throughout the work.</li> <li>• An original and detailed problematization of the course material.*</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impeccable written presentation; there is great accuracy in the provision of footnotes and references.</li> </ul>
C	<p>In addition to the requirements for D, the student's assessed work has the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Competent, consistent and balanced analysis and argumentation.</li> <li>The analysis is formulated somewhat independently and takes account of previous research in this field.</li> <li>The relevant aspects of the chosen problem area are thoroughly presented and explained.</li> <li>Thorough and coherent analysis and argumentation throughout most of the work.</li> <li>Competent problematization of the course material.*</li> <li>Written presentations have no major flaws; there is accuracy in the provision of footnotes and references.</li> </ul>
D	<p>In addition to the requirements for the E grade, the student's assessed work has the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The argumentation shows some analytical ability.</li> <li>The analysis is clearly formulated and relevant to previous research in this field.</li> <li>The main aspects of the chosen problem area are adequately presented and explained.</li> <li>There is a coherent analysis and argumentation throughout most of the work, including the discussion of research findings.</li> <li>There is adequate and consistent treatment of the course material.*</li> <li>Written presentations have no major flaws; there is accuracy in the provision of footnotes and references.</li> </ul>
E	<p>The student's assessed work has the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are noticeable limitations in analysis and argumentation.</li> <li>The analysis is relevant to previous research in this field.</li> <li>Basic aspects of the chosen problem area are adequately presented.</li> <li>The use of the course material is limited but adequate.*</li> <li>Written presentations fulfil the basic requirements for academic writing, including a structured written presentation.</li> <li>Written presentations have no major flaws; footnotes and references are provided with a fair degree of accuracy.</li> </ul>
FX	Almost all of the criteria for E have been fulfilled, but some revision is required.
F	Most of the criteria for E have not been fulfilled and/or the student has not completed all course requirements. A full supplementary examination is required.

\* The course material comprises course literature, screenings, etc.

For Chicago standard, see

<<http://library.osu.edu/sites/guides/chicagogd.php>>

<[http://www.chicomanualofstyle.org/tools\\_citationguide.html](http://www.chicomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html)>

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## Plagiarism

As a student, you will be writing and submitting different types of written assignments. It is fundamental that you know that no kind of plagiarism is permitted.

Plagiarism consists of:

- Students copying from each other;
- Students copying from the internet, books, articles or other sources without a clear reference;
- Students passing a work or a citation as their own when it is not;
- All kind of cut-and-paste writing strategies.

Any incident of this kind will be reported to the Disciplinary committee of Stockholm University. In case you are found guilty you might be suspended from the University for a period of time.

In order to avoid plagiarism you need to:

- Clearly reference your sources by specifying the author(s), the book/article/text and the page;
- Highlight that you are citing someone else's words by using quotation marks;
- Make clear whose thoughts you are presenting if they are not your own;
- Not share your work with other students while in the process of writing the exam assignment.

Writing your own text in your own words is part of your learning process. This will develop your ability to think independently and express your thoughts in speech and writing.