

# The University of Suwon

## History of Film

### Spring 2017 Syllabus

Professor James Whalley



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**Office Hours:** Tuesday and Wednesday 9:30-3:00

#### Course Description:

**THIS COURSE IS PRESENTED ONLINE ONLY.** In this course, we will study the history of film and the film industry. Each week students will study a different film movement from around the world, starting with earlier movements and finishing with contemporary movements. As well as viewing presentations about these movements, students will also watch films and film clips that exemplify these movements. Students will participate in online discussion groups to discuss topics relating to the movements studied, films watched, and related topics.

This is a course best suited for students with intermediate level English skills that are interested in international filmmaking history.

**MATERIALS IN THIS CLASS (FILMS, LECTURES, DISCUSSIONS, AND READINGS) WILL ONLY BE PRESENTED IN ENGLISH. THIS CLASS IS ONLY RECOMMENDED FOR INTERMEDIATE LEVEL ENGLISH SPEAKERS. PLEASE CONTACT THE PROFESSOR BEFORE REGISTERING IF YOU ARE UNSURE OF YOUR ENGLISH ABILITY.**

이 수업의 자료들 (필름, 강의, 토론 그리고 읽을거리) 는 영어로만 제시될 것입니다. 이 수업은중간의 레벨의 영어 사용자에게만 추천됩니다. 만일 여러분의 영어 능력에 대해 확신이 서지 않는다면, 등록 전에 교수님과 상의하세요.

**Film content may include violence, profanity, sexual situations and nudity. If you are likely to be offended by this material, or you believe that you cannot distance yourself enough from such films to analyze them critically, you should reconsider your enrollment in this course.**

**주의하세요: 영화들의 내용안에는 폭력, 욕설과 모독, 성 (섹스)의 상황들 그리고 누드 (벌거벗음) 등이 있습니다. 만일 여러분이 이 내용들 때문에 언짢거나, 또는 이런 내용들 때문에 영화들을 창의적으로 분석할만큼 거리를 둘 수 없다고 믿어지면, 여러분은 이 수업에 등록하는 것을 다시 고려해봐야 합니다.**

#### Course Objectives:

By the end of this course, using English, students will be able to:

- Identify the movement to which a film belongs and support their position.
- Discuss films and film movements using film terminology.
- Assess the importance of film movements in the development of filmmaking.
- Design plans for a film that would align with an established film movement.

## Course Guidelines:

- Students **must** view required films, readings, and presentations weekly.
- Students **must** actively participate in discussions. Students must act respectfully and courteously in all discussions.

## Required Text/Material:

- All readings, films, and presentations will be provided online through Blackboard.

## Course Websites:

<http://blackboard.suwon.ac.kr/>

## Class Components:

### Attendance:

- Attendance is based on access of the Blackboard course. Materials will be made available each Thursday. Between Thursday and the end of the day Wednesday, students will need to log in to the Blackboard course and answer “yes” to a single question on the attendance item.
- There are **NO** excused absences.
- If students are absent more than **four** times, they will fail the course.

### Discussions:

- Discussion forums will be open a full 7 days each week.
- These discussions will be led by the instructor. Students will answer instructor-developed questions.
- Discussion participation will not be judged on English ability. Although proper English grammar is preferred, it is more important that students adequately communicate their ideas.
- Students will be expected to use topic specific vocabulary learned through the glossary, presentations, and films.
- Students will need to post in discussion forums twice a week. Students do not need to post in every thread and may choose whether they post replies directly to the instructor-provided questions or reply to the answers provided by other students.
- Discussion posts that do not contribute to the development of the conversation will be deleted and will not count towards the two mandatory weekly posts. Examples of such posts include:
  - “I agree. I think Citizen Kane was the best movie ever.”
  - “That’s a good idea.”
  - “Wow. That sounds like a good movie.”

### Assignments:

- Multiple choice assignments will be made available on Thursdays with the related materials. Students will have a total of 7 days to finish assignments. (For example: An

assignment made available on Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup> is due by the end of the day on Wednesday the 16<sup>th</sup>.)

- Each assignment will relate to the presentation(s), vocabulary, or film(s) made available weekly.
- Students will be allowed unlimited attempts on the assignments (up until the due date).
- Assignments are meant for students to be able to determine how well they have retained the knowledge the instructor deems important.

**Team Project:**

- There will be a small team project that involves students working together to develop proposals for new films that align with existing film movements.

**Midterm and Final:**

- There will be a multiple choice midterm and final in this course. These will be based off of the weekly presentations, films, and vocabulary from the first half of the semester and the second half of the semester.

**Grading:**

- Discussions = 25%
- Presentation Assignments = 10%
- Film Assignments = 10%
- Vocabulary Assignments = 5%
- Team Film Proposal = 10%
- Midterm Exam = 20%
- Final Exam = 20%

**NOTE:** As is required by the University of Suwon, this course is graded on a curve (relative grading). The curve is as follows: A0/A+ ≤ 30%, B0/B+ ≤ 40%, C0/C+/D0/D+/F ≥ 30%. Students who do not achieve an absolute grade above 60% will automatically receive an F, no matter their relative standing in the course.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Lecture Topic</b>	<b>Film</b>
Week 1: Mar 2 - 9	Introduction to the Course and Blackboard	--
Week 2: Mar 10 - 16	French Impressionism, German Expressionism, and Soviet Montage	<i>The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari &amp; Battleship Potemkin</i>
Week 3: Mar 17 - 23	Golden Age of Hollywood	<i>The Wizard of Oz</i>
Week 4: Mar 24 - 30	Italian Neorealism	<i>The Bicycle Thief</i>
Week 5: Mar 31 - April 5	French New Wave	<i>Breathless</i>
Week 6: April 6 - 12	British New Wave	<i>A Taste of Honey</i>
Week 7: April 13 - 19	Japanese New Wave	<i>Cruel Story of Youth</i>
Week 8: April 20 - 26	<b>~~~~ Midterm Exam ~~~~</b>	
Week 9: April 27 - May 3	New German Cinema	<i>Aguirre, the Wrath of God</i>
Week 10: May 4 - 10	New Hollywood	<i>Taxi Driver</i>
Week 11: May 11 - 17	Cinema du Look	<i>Leon: The Professional</i>
Week 12: May 18 - 24	Hong Kong, Korean, & Taiwanese New Wave	<i>Rouge</i>
Week 13: May 25 - 31	Dogme 95	<i>The Celebration</i>
Week 14: June 1 - 7	Mumblecore	<i>Funny Ha Ha</i>
Week 15: June 8 - 14	<b>~~~~ Final Exam ~~~~</b>	

\*The schedule of lecture topics and films are subject to change based upon the availability of the films and feedback from the students.