

FILM 331
FILM ANALYSIS
CRN 6666



Captain Blood

Teaching staff

Coordinator: Dr Russell Campbell, Room 311, 83 Fairlie Tce, ph 463 6824, email russell.campbell@vuw.ac.nz. Office hours Mon 2-3, Thurs 9-10, Fri 9-10, or by appointment.
Tutor: Dick Whyte, Room 101, 83 Fairlie Tce, email dickwhyte@gmail.com. Office hours tba.

Class times and venues

First trimester. Screenings and lectures: Tues, Fri 10-1.
77 Fairlie Tce, Room 306.

One-hour tutorial (commencing second week of term):

Mon 10-11, 11-12, 12-1, 1-2, 2-3 or 3-4.

77 Fairlie Tce, Room 205.

Please sign up to a tutorial via S-Cubed. The link is <https://signups.vuw.ac.nz/>.

Texts

There are no required text books. There will be set readings for each week which will be available for purchase as course notes from Student Notes (\$16.97).

The following text book is *recommended* :

Robert Lapsley & Michael Westlake, *Film Theory: An Introduction* 2nd edition (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2006) (\$62.00).

Course aims, content and objectives

The aims of FILM 331 Film Analysis are to build on the foundation laid in FILM 231 History & Criticism of Film by stimulating students to think in depth about film as a cultural medium. The course will survey the major critical approaches to cinema, and provide an introduction to film theory. Close analysis of individual films will explore the implications of this critical methodology. A small amount of practical work in the form of a mise-en-scene exercise using video equipment will be undertaken. Students passing the course should be able to demonstrate through their writing and class contributions a good understanding of the cinema as a cultural medium and be able to carry out sustained critical analysis of a film from a specific perspective.

Workload

The university anticipates that you should be able to devote about 18 hours per week to a 24-point course at 300 level. Therefore you should probably expect to spend, on average, about 11 hours per week (apart from class time) in reading, preparation, viewing films and essay writing. Some projects (e.g. a genre study) may require more time in film viewing.

Group Work Requirements

You will work in tutorial groups for the mise-en-scene exercise but this is not assessed. There are no other group work requirements.

Mandatory Course Requirements

To be eligible to pass the course you must complete all assignments and attend at least 7 tutorials (if on a particular week you are unable to be present at your scheduled tutorial you may, with the tutor's permission, attend another). Regular attendance is also expected at screenings and lectures, though there will be no rollcalls.

Assessment

All assessment will be internal. Details of each assignment will be given in class. The requirements are as follows:

	Due Date	Weighting
Essay 1 (2500-3000 words)	Thurs 27 Mar, 1 pm	25%
Essay 2 (2500-3000 words)	Thurs 8 May, 1 pm	25%
Test (80 min)	Fri 30 May, 10:00-11:20 am	25%
Tutorial presentation (10 min)	tba	10%
Journal entries (3)	tba	15%

If you wish to ask for an extension (e.g. because of pressure of work) please do so on the supplied form and well before the due date. Extensions will be given only by the course coordinator, not the tutor. Except in special circumstances (e.g. medical reasons with certificate), work handed in late may lose up to 10%. *No work will be accepted more than two weeks after the due date unless specific prior arrangements have been made.* Essay assignments should have a cover sheet attached and be placed in the drop box in the corridor of 85 Fairlie Tce. It is your responsibility to keep a copy of your work.

Aegrotat provisions may apply if you are unable to sit the test on 30 May for medical reasons. In such a case you should contact the course coordinator.

The assignments are designed to help fulfil the aims of the course by requiring students to read the set texts carefully, analyse closely a chosen film or films, and develop sustained arguments conveying the insights they have gained into the cinema.

School Facilities

FILM 331 students are encouraged to make full use of the Robert Lord Library in 77 Fairlie Tce; however, please note that **library materials do not leave the building**. There is a coin-operated photocopy machine on Level 3 of 77FT. The Green Room is also available to students working in the building. You are expected to clean up after yourself, including returning to the Green Room any mugs removed from there.

Award

The Prize for Film Studies, arising from a fund established by the Wai-te-Ata Press, will be awarded to the best student of film history, criticism or production in FILM courses.

Communication

Any additional information, or changes to the course, will be announced in class and posted on the course noticeboard in 85 Fairlie Tce.

FILM 331 FILM ANALYSIS – TIMETABLE 2008

Mon (Tue)	Tues 10-1	Fri 10-1
	FEB 26 Introduction Tilai (81)	29 Modes of analysis Captain Blood (119)
MAR 3 <i>Intros</i>	4 Genre First Blood (94)	7 Speed (116) The action-adventure genre <i>Mark Ellsworth</i>
10 <i>Genre</i>	11 Feminism Fatal Attraction (119)	14 A Question of Silence (92)
17 <i>Feminism</i>	18 On the Waterfront (103) The star <i>Sean Redmond</i>	21 GOOD FRIDAY
Easter	25 UNIVERSITY HOLIDAY	28 Authorship Le Genou de Claire (105)
30 <i>The star Authorship</i>	AP I Pauline à la plage (94)	4 Eric Rohmer Les Nuits de la pleine lune (98)
7 <i>Rohmer as auteur</i>	8 Mise-en-scene Vivre sa vie (85)	11 Mise-en-scene exercise
----- MID-TRIMESTER BREAK -----		
28 <i>Mise-en-scene</i>	29 Semiotics The Navigator (1988) (90)	MAY 2 Trainspotting (94)
5 <i>Semiotics</i>	6 National cinema Stella Does Tricks (97)	9 My Name is Joe (105) Scottish cinema
12 <i>National cinema</i>	13 Ideology The Terminator (108)	16 Realism La Bête humaine (97)
19 <i>Ideology Realism</i>	20 Strike (80) Neoformalism <i>Tim Groves</i>	23 guest lecture <i>Richard Whyte</i>
26 <i>Neoformalism</i>	27 Film music Thelma & Louise (125)	30 TEST

Note: Figures in brackets are running time in minutes.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND POLICIES

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* available in hardcopy or under "about Victoria" on the Victoria homepage at:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html

Information on the following topics is available electronically under "Course Outline General Information" at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/newspubs/universitypubs.aspx#general>

- Student and Staff Conduct
- Academic Grievances
- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support