

FILM 233 / 333 – National Cinema C

Trimester 2 2011

11 July to 12 November 2011

20 Points



TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates:	11 July to 14 October 2011
Mid-trimester break:	22 August to 4 September 2011
Study week:	17 to 21 October 2011
Last piece of assessment due:	25 October 2011

WITHDRAWAL DATES

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Dr. Miriam Ross

Email: Miriam.Ross@vuw.ac.nz Phone: 463 9655 Room: 312, 83 Fairlie Terrace

Office Hours: Mon 1-2pm; Wed 1-2pm Tutors: tbc

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Lectures

Monday	2-5	Maclaurin Lecture Theatre 102
Wednesday	2-5	Maclaurin Lecture Theatre 102

Tutorials

All tutorials will be held on a Thursday. Details of Thursday times and locations will be posted on S-Cubed.

You must ensure you log on and sign up.

COURSE DELIVERY

This course will involve two lecture/screening sessions per week. Normally, the film will screen after the lecture. Lectures may be interactive. There will also be a weekly tutorial where students will discuss the issues raised by screenings, lectures and readings.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

At the start of lectures; in tutorials; posted on blackboard; and via email. In particular, you should be sure to check Blackboard frequently for further updates, suggested readings and other material

If you are not going to use the Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

COURSE PRESCRIPTION

A study of the cinema of a selected country or countries from cultural, historical, and economic perspectives. In 2011 the course will explore South American Cinema.

COURSE CONTENT

This course examines the existence of a shared South American film culture that is fostered through production, distribution and exhibition practices. It takes into account the industrial, cultural and socioeconomic conditions that lead to the emergence of this film culture and the impact this culture has on its surroundings. The course will explore similarities and differences amongst South American films through a week by week focus on different thematic units such as third cinema, genre films, gender and sexuality, co-productions, andean images, exile cinema and film festivals. Students will engage with relevant critical concepts such as realism, transnationalism, indigeneity and diaspora.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students who successfully complete this course will acquire a good understanding of South American cinema. They will be:

- Familiar with the commercial and artistic nature and history of South American cinema, and its impact on world cinema;
- Able to critically analyse the narrative, thematic, and audio-visual conventions of films made in South America (by certain directors, genres, and in relation to historical issues and ideological conditions and trends);
- Able to examine the cultural issues that South American Cinema raises for the Western viewer;
- Able to recognise and critically comment on the formal and stylistic qualities of films made in various South American countries

The course will enhance the analytical and critical skills of students. It will improve their proficiency at film analysis and independent research. It will further develop their written and oral communications skills, as well as their capacity to work with others.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

This is a 20 point course, so the University expects you to devote 200 hours to it. In addition to attending lectures, screenings and tutorials, you should spend about eight hours per week during the teaching period on reading, preparing for tutorials, working on assignments, and reflecting on lectures and screenings. The remaining hours should be devoted to assignments and other related workload.

GROUP WORK

Students will undertake group work for assessment purposes as part of Assignment Three. This will involve working in a team of four or five and making a presentation in tutorials in week 9 which will be marked as a group. Students will also undertake informal group work regularly during tutorials, but this will not be counted for assessment.

READINGS

Essential texts:

A list of weekly readings will be posted. These readings will be available through Electronic Closed Reserve in the library and will be accessible via the Internet. All students must read these in advance of the classes.

Recommended Reading:

The library holds a number of books dealing with South American cinema and has access to all major the journals that contain articles dealing with this topic. Students should use their research skills to seek out these resources and read around the themes covered in class.

Recommended Films:

The library has additional South American films, as do many video stores in Wellington. Students should seek out and watch further films in order to enhance their knowledge of South American cinema.

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

The assessment for this course will be internal. Note that for the second and fourth assignments there will be higher expectations, in analytical skills, in research, and in argument, of students who take the course at 300 level and the difference in word count reflects this. Further information about assessment will be distributed during the course and placed on Blackboard.

Assignment One: Article Review (10%)

Due Date: Wednesday, July 27, 3pm

Length: 350 words

Description:

This assignment asks you to seek out and review an academic article on South American cinema via the MLA or the JSTOR databases (both available through the library website). The article may relate to wider topics concerning Latin American cinema and culture but should have a significant proportion dedicated to South American film. Your review should summarise the main points in the article and suggest why it is useful for understanding South American cinema.

Assessment Criteria:

- Fulfilling the set task in a clear, direct, relevant and complete manner
- Use of the correct databases
- Clear analysis of the material presented in the article.
- Understanding and correct application of terms and concepts used in the article
- Quality and fluency of your expression
- Accurate and complete referencing of the article

Relationship to Learning Objectives:

This assignment will enable you to develop your skills at independent research, as well as your ability to summarise academic arguments. It will also enhance your written skills.

Assignment Two: Essay (40%)

Due Date: Wednesday, August 17, 3pm

Length:

200 Level Students: 2000-2500 words

300 Level Students: 2500-3000 words

Description:

This assignment will cover topics discussed in the first five weeks of the course, such as cinematic stereotypes, Third Cinema, and depictions of Third World identity. You will conduct independent research into your chosen topic, develop a critical position on the topic, and construct a persuasive argument in essay form to communicate your findings.

Assessment Criteria:

- Fulfilling the set task in a clear, direct, relevant and complete manner
- Clear evidence of engagement with the ideas and materials discussed in class
- The originality and quality of your findings. This will include your ability to conduct independent research from reputable academic sources, synthesise research materials, engage in textual analysis, and develop and express your ideas
- Coherency, structure and argumentation of your essay
- Quality and fluency of your expression
- Understanding and correct application of terms and concepts
- Accurate and complete referencing of all sources, including a bibliography and filmography

Relationship to Learning Objectives:

This assignment will improve your knowledge of one of the topics studied in the first five weeks of the course. It will enable you to develop your skills at independent research and textual analysis, as well as your ability to construct and sustain a critical argument. It will also enhance your written skills.

Assignment Three: Group Presentation (10%)

Due Date: Tutorials in week 10

Length: 10 minutes

Description:

You will work with other students in your tutorial to create a South American film festival programme that consists of 8 to 10 films. In your presentation you will explain your choice of films, how they are thematically linked and what kind of information about them you would present to the public. You will include reference to at least two scholarly works on film festivals to explain your reasoning. You should provide your tutor with a hard copy of the film festival programme. The presentation will take place during tutorials in week 9.

Assessment Criteria:

- Fulfilling the set task in a clear, direct, relevant, complete and **timely** manner
- Clear evidence of engagement with the ideas and materials discussed in the course
- The originality and quality of your findings. This will include your ability to research your chosen films and create a film programme.
- Coherency, structure and argumentation of your presentation

- Quality, creativity, and fluency of your presentation, including your verbal expression, teamwork and ability to use audiovisual aids
- Understanding and application of relevant film terms and concepts

Relationship to Learning Objectives:

This assignment will enhance your research and analytical skills, and your ability to sustain a persuasive argument. It will further develop your written and oral communication skills, as well as your capacity to work with others. It will enable you to acquire a deeper understanding of South American films and how they are exhibited.

Assignment Four: Essay (40%)

Due Date: Tuesday, October 25, 3pm

Length:

200 Level Students: 2000-2500 words

300 Level Students: 2500-3000 words

Description:

This assignment will cover topics discussed in the last seven weeks of the course, such as film festivals, co-productions, Andean identity, South American genre films, gender and sexuality, exilic cinema and new technology . You will conduct independent research into your chosen topic, develop a critical position on the topic, and construct a persuasive argument in essay form to communicate your findings.

Assessment Criteria:

- Fulfilling the set task in a clear, direct, relevant and complete manner
- Clear evidence of engagement with the ideas and materials discussed in class
- The originality and quality of your findings. This will include your ability to conduct independent research from reputable academic sources, synthesise research materials, engage in textual analysis, and develop and express your ideas
- Coherency, structure and argumentation of your essay
- Quality and fluency of your expression
- Understanding and correct application of terms and concepts
- Accurate and complete referencing of all sources, including a bibliography and filmography

Relationship to Learning Objectives:

This assignment will improve your knowledge of one of the topics studied in the first five weeks of the course. It will enable you to develop your skills at independent research and textual analysis, as well as your ability to construct and sustain a critical argument. It will also enhance your written skills.

ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS

Assignment cover sheets and extension forms can be found on Blackboard or outside the Administration office in 83FT. Remember to fill in your tutor's name.

EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES

Extensions will be granted only in exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. Issues of workload do not constitute exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. If you require an extension, you must complete an extension request form (available on your course Blackboard site) prior to the assignment due date. This must be accompanied by relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor's certificate) where appropriate. Tutors cannot grant extensions.

Work submitted after the deadline will be penalised by a 2.5 percent deduction from your total mark per work day. Late work also receives only minimal comments from your marker.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To qualify for a pass in this course you must:

- Attend 8 tutorials
- Submit all work for assessment.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

STATEMENT ON LEGIBILITY

You are expected to present work that meets appropriate standards. Work submitted during the course (i. e. work that is internally assessed) should be typed or prepared on a computer. Where handwritten work is required you are expected to write clearly. If this is deemed 'illegible', you will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study.

Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic.

COURSE PROGRAMME

Week 1	Date	Introduction: South American Cinemam Stereotypes and Preconceptions
Week 2	Date	Third Cinema Revolutions
Week 3	Date	Repression and Exile
Week 4	Date	Third World Poverty
Week 5	Date	Third World Elites
Week 6	Date	Film Festivals and Awards
Mid Trimester Break:	Monday 22 August to Sunday 4 September 2011	
Week 7	Date	Co-productions
Week 8	Date	Andean Images
Week 9	Date	Genre Films
Week 10	Date	Presentations Week
Week 11	Date	Gender and Sexuality
Week 12	Date	New Technology
Study Week:	Monday 17 October to Friday 21 October 2011	