

Syllabus – Elective Course

Course title:

Introduction to French art and cinema

Credits:

4 ECTS credits

Teaching language:

English

Target students:

Undergraduate students from all study areas but particularly those with an interest (but little formal background) in art, photography, cinema, visual studies, and/or culture and cultural history

Teacher in charge of the course:

Garrett Epp, PhD, University of Alberta / *Université Catholique de Lille*

COURSE PRESENTATION

Prerequisite:

Students undertaking this course should normally have successfully completed at least one semester at university, or have equivalent experience. They must have some ability to work in a group and to communicate easily in English at a standard university level. In other respects, the course is intended to serve a mix of profiles and learning backgrounds for a diverse international learning experience. No previous background in visual studies, art, or cinema is required.

Content:

This course will provide students with an introductory overview of French art and cinema and the study of visual cultures more generally. We will examine various ways of ‘reading’ a piece of art – whether a painting, a photograph, or a film – while viewing representative works from different periods of French and regional history, both in class and through site visits to local and regional art museums such as Lille’s Palais des Beaux Arts.

In class course sessions will include:

- overviews of French art and cinema history
- introduction to visual analysis: how to read a painting
- introduction to cinema/film studies
- analysis of assorted film clips and still photographs
- critical approaches to film and film analysis
- film viewings including *La Nuit Américaine* (1973) and *Bienvenue chez les Ch’tis* (2008)
- Wrap-up and evaluation

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, the students should be able to:

- understand how to read and analyse a painting, a photograph, and a film
- evaluate pieces of art and cinema as social and cultural documents
- identify major movements and styles within art history
- outline the basic history of cinema in France
- recognize and use some of the essential terminology of film-making and cinema studies

WORKLOAD

French contact hours = 60 minutes (in some countries/institutions, 1 contact hour = 45-50 minutes)

Form:	Number of hours	Comments
Face-to-face, in-class, on-site learning, field trips	24 hours	8 sessions of 3 hours
Approximate homework / other	12 hours	
Student total workload	36 hours	

EDUCATIONAL METHODS

Lecture, discussion, site visits, film-viewing, group work, case-studies.

RESOURCES

All requisite course materials will be supplied in class, including:

- An Introduction to Art Analysis
- *A Basic Glossary of Film Terms*

In addition, students will be directed to specific museum websites, as well as to various other online resources, such as

- https://www.uwgb.edu/malloyk/art_criticism_and_formal_analysi.htm
- <https://www.thoughtco.com/french-movie-terms-1371312> : to supplement your French lessons!

ASSESSMENT

Form	Number	Duration	Comments
Continuous assessment (20%)			Brief reviews and analysis of varied works
Final exam (60%)	1	2 hours	Examination covering all aspects of course
Other (student participation...) (20%)			Attendance, participation, short exercises, and contribution to group discussion

This syllabus is based on information available at the time of publication (October 2023). Changes may occur. For updated information about course content, please contact us: lilleprograms@univ-catholille.fr