

## **2.3.1.8 Film Studies**

As we enter the second decade of the 21st Century, cinema remains a significant medium of mass communication, entertainment, and information-dissemination in our modern, globalized, intensely media-oriented environment. As a cultural form, film continues to reflect, interrogate and help shape the ideas, beliefs and perspectives of audiences world-wide. As a business and industry, filmmaking encompasses the small number of multi-billion dollar, international, multi-media enterprises alongside the contributions made by smaller, independent cultural producers. It remains a powerful form of creative expression and functions as a social and political force for both stability and change.

Our students inhabit a world in which they are inundated by images and by the multiple, sophisticated and complex appeals made by a growing range of increasingly interrelated image-based media.

Considering the on-going importance and impact of films and other related forms of popular visual media in contemporary culture, a Minor in Film Studies programme will help prepare students for the challenges associated with negotiating life in this contemporary context. Familiarity with film's history, its aesthetic elements, and its industrial contexts will allow students to develop the fundamental and vital skills to address, critically assess and engage with cinema in its myriad contexts.

The Minor in Film Studies aims to give students a rich understanding of the medium of film. Drawing from the wide range of module offerings on films from the various departments in FASS, students in the programme will benefit from the broad exposure to different disciplines and approaches to examining the cinematic medium.

The programme will introduce students to a range of perspectives on the study of film, hone critical and analytical skills, and enhance a thoughtful and engaged appreciation of film culture in its historical, industrial, political and socio-cultural contexts. The inter-disciplinary nature of the minor offers students the opportunity to interrogate moving images from the varied vantage points of different disciplines, examining film as art, culture, and business, and as text, discourse and product.

More specifically, the Minor in Film Studies encourages and trains students to critically read cinematic representation and analyse film from an informed position. Students will gain insight into the history of film and its key aesthetic practices; interrogate the social meanings, functions and uses of film; develop their media literacy through film analysis skills; and cultivate an informed, critical approach towards the role of images in our society.

### **Programme Requirements**

Pass at least 24 MCs of recognised modules, which must include the following:

1. EN2203 Introduction to Film Studies

2. two modules must be drawn from the list of recognised modules in Band A
3. the remaining three modules must be drawn from the list of recognised modules in Band B

### List of Recognised Modules

Recognised film modules are listed under two bands: Band A and Band B. Band A modules adopt a medium specific focus and offer students a more detailed examination of the key ways in which the cinematic medium has evolved historically, aesthetically, and socio-culturally. These modules provide additional foundation in the key aspects and features of the cinematic medium itself. Band B modules offer the valuable interdisciplinary perspectives that are vital to a varied and sophisticated understanding of the myriad ways in which film functions within our contemporary globalized context.

### Band A Modules

- EN2274 Introduction to Screenwriting
- EN3242 History of Film
- EN3248 Reading the Horror Film
- EN3880A History of Non-Western Film
- EN4247 Film Theory
- GES1029 Singapore Film: Performance and Identity
- TS2241 Writing the Short Film
- TS2243 Film Genres: Stars and Styles
- GEH1007 Asian Cinema: The Silent Era
- GEH1009 Framing Bollywood: Unpacking the Magic
- GEH1023 Exploring Chinese Cinema: Shanghai-Hong Kong-Singapore
- JS2216 Postwar Japanese Film and Anime
- MS4207 Malay Film
- SN3274 South Asian Cinema

### Band B Modules

- EN3249 Introduction to Visual Culture: Art, Film and Media
- GEH1053 Film Art and Human Concerns
- GEH1055 Religion and Film
- CL3283 Film and Television Subtitling Translation
- CH2292A Understanding Modern China through Film (in English)
- JS3216 Japanese Film and Literature
- TS3232 Performance and Social Space
- TS3238 Acting for the Screen
- TS3243 Stage and Screen
- TS4220 Shakespeare and Film
- EU2224 Europe since 1945 in Film
- GEH1011 Film and History
- PH2224 Philosophy and Film
- PS2256 Politics on Screen
- PS3260 Politics and the Visual
- PS4214 Politics, Art, and Popular Culture

Note: A maximum of 8 MCs from the minor can be used to satisfy the requirements of a major or another minor.

Please refer to the guidelines/requirements pertaining to the Minor programmes at the FASS Student Portal and the Registrar's Office (Minor programmes) website.

Note to English Literature (EN) Major students who have declared a Minor in Film Studies (and reading EN-coded modules to fulfil the Minor in Film Studies requirement)

Since students are allowed a MAXIMUM of 8 MCs to fulfil both the EN Major and Minor in Film Studies requirements, this means that EN Major students who have declared the Minor in Film Studies may have to read extra EN-coded modules.

EN Major students should check their study plan carefully to ensure that they fulfil all EN Major requirements.

For reasons of staff availability and student enrolment, not all elective modules will necessarily be offered every academic year. Students are to check the Department website for the modules offered, and the relevant prerequisites and preclusion(s).

For the latest updates, please visit the Department website: <http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/ell>