# History of Cinema (with Workshop)

## Prof. Massimo Locatelli; dr. Matteo Asti (workshop)

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to introduce students to the history of cinema, providing them with the basic skills for interpreting audiovisual texts accurately and understanding the relative historiographical debate. The course is accompanied by a workshop on the codes and languages of cinema. By the end of the course, students will be able to identify and define key historical milestones in the development of cinema, from its origins to the present day, and to present their analysis of a film product, including by means of short editing clips.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course will proceed chronologically: Semester 1 will investigate the classical period from the origins of cinema to 1960; Semester 2 will investigate modern cinema from 1960 to today. The course will provide students with a historical overview of the main models, genres and styles developed by the film industry, underlining key turning points and interventions. The course will also focus on the production of the noir and thriller genre, as an exemplary case study for the various eras. The course will focus on the history of cinema in Italy.

The workshop will include an introduction to the languages of cinema in Semester 1, followed by a practical assignment, whereby students will produce an edited film clip on the topics and films studied.

***READING LIST***

Kristin Thompson, David Bordwell, *Storia del cinema.Un'introduzione*, 5. edizione, McGraw-Hill 2018.

Gian Piero Brunetta*, Guida alla storia del cinema italiano* *(1905-2003)*, Einaudi, 2003.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures in class for the introductory section. Seminars in which students will be engaged in analysing material (advanced lectures) for the in-depth study component. Group project work for the applied part of the workshop.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The final assessment will consist of a Blackboard-based test, a video editing project (project work) to be carried out in group, and an oral exam.

The written test, aimed to assess the students’ knowledge of the subject, will determine 40% of the final mark (12 points).

The content and the guidelines for the project work – that must be submitted on Blackboard – will be defined by the lecturer. The aim is to assess the students’ ability to put into practice what they have learnt during the course. It will determine 10% of the final mark (3 points).

The oral exam will assess the knowledge of the different historiographical approaches to cinema, and the ability to interpret TV series, films, and other audiovisual products from a clear and coherent historical perspective. It will determine 50% of the final mark (15 points). The maximum score is 30 cum laude.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

As this is an introductory course, there are no prerequisites in terms of content. Students are nevertheless expected to demonstrate an interest in and intellectual curiosity about historical and theoretical reflection on the media. They are encouraged to procure a good filmography (details of suitable films and screening invitations will be provided on Blackboard).

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.