

<b>Veranstalter .....</b>	<b>Dr. Lars Schmeink</b>
<b>Thema .....</b>	<b>Silver Screen Dreams: An Introduction to Film [AA-A3, ENG-7/a, AA11, LAA10, LAA13, AA-W, AA-WB]</b>
<b>Art der Veranstaltung .....</b>	<b>Seminar II (Seminar Ib für Studierende mit Zulassung bis WS 14/15)</b>
<b>Veranstaltungsnummer .....</b>	<b>53-560</b>
<b>Zeit .....</b>	<b>Di 10-12</b>
<b>Raum .....</b>	<b>Phil 1269</b>
<b>Beginn .....</b>	<b>7. April 2015</b>

### **Course description:**

The course will only take place 11 sessions, not the usual 14, instead there is an additional and mandatory symposium: "Film in the 21st Century" student symposium FRI 10.07. – all day (!)

The course will introduce students to the medium of film, giving them tools to analyze and evaluate filmic production. The course concentrates on Hollywood cinema and the feature film as a form, as these are dominant in Western film production, but will also try to take short excursions into other cinemas and film forms. Students will learn to differentiate historical and aesthetic perspectives of film making (early experiments, studio system, auteur cinema, blockbuster vs. avant-garde), as well as to implement analytical tools of film theory. The course is offered both at the University of Hamburg and the HafenCity University and will end in a student symposium, where students present their work as junior researchers.

The course consists of eleven class sessions in which students will be introduced to specific aspects of film analysis, which will then be used in interpreting selected film examples. These sessions will take place in two groups (UHH and HCU), but students of both universities will engage in cooperative group work on specified research projects.

At the end of term, there will be a one day symposium – both universities taking part – on "Film in the 21st Century". During this symposium students will give group presentations of their research projects and engage in scholarly debate with peers. The symposium will be open to the interested public. Allowing secured financing, there will be a conference program incl. an invited keynote lecture by a renowned film scholar.

### **Course Credit**

- Attendance (no more than two sessions missed), symposium day is mandatory
- Active participation
- Sessions needs to be prepared – 1-2 feature films will be assigned to be watched by students on their own discretion. There will be no screenings of films. Films should be available on streaming services or in video stores. Additionally, short texts might be assigned for each session.
- **Research project:** Each student will need to register with [agora.uni-hamburg.de](mailto:agora.uni-hamburg.de) (email is sufficient) and engage in one group research project. This group work will need to commence over the course of the seminar sessions. Research topics are given at the beginning of the semester but students are welcome to suggest their own topics, as long as enough participants

are in one group. Each student needs to be in a group before May 1st, and each group needs to present an outline of their presentation by June 5th at the latest to receive feedback.

- **Presentation:** During the symposium day, each group will be assigned a 30 minutes presentation slot (plus 15 minutes discussion time). Presentations need to address the audience of students, provide a meaningful analysis of the research topic and be engaging for further discussion.
- **SILVER SCREEN AWARD:** Presentations will be evaluated by the audience present and an award for the "best presentation of the symposium" given to the winning group.
- **Term paper:** Each student hands in a term paper of 8-10 pages with an exemplary film analysis of their choosing (topics need to be signed off by the lecturer). Papers need to make use of a theoretical approach and be compliant with the standards of academic work – i.e. use secondary sources, citation rules, bibliography, and have a thesis and argument format. Hand in your papers by August 15th via PDF at [lars.schmeink@uni-hamburg.de](mailto:lars.schmeink@uni-hamburg.de)
- **GRADE:** Your grade will be a composite of the following:
  - **Presentation:** 30% of grade
  - **Term Paper:** 70% of grade