

Veranstalter:	Dr. Stefan Schenk-Haupt
Modul:	How to Read a Film: Nicolas Roeg (<i>Don't Look Now</i>, <i>Bad Timing</i>) and Alan Parker (<i>Angel Heart</i>) [AA-A2, ENG-6/a, AA10, LAA9, LAA12, AA-W, AA-WB]
Art der Veranstaltung:	Seminar II (Ib für Studierende mit Zulassung vor WS 14/ 15)
Veranstaltungsnummer:	53-543
Zeit:	2st., Donnerstag 16-18/19 (for mandatory screenings)
Raum:	Phil 1269
Beginn:	7. April 2016

Course description:

Films are (mostly) conceived as continuous arcs of audiovisual units, and not so much as frame set after frame to form a string of 'moving pictures'. We will take a different approach in this course. The composition of single frames and shots that arrange visual information on-screen shall be highlighted in analysis and discussion. Films, in a way, can be *read* as a configuration of frames, just as a text is a configuration of words. In our discussions we will refine our capabilities to understand and dissect visual narration (camera employment, frame composition, cadrage, semiotics). Silent movies set apart, we have to consider the audio-acoustic dimension as well. Continuity and even cohesion of plot and characters is not the prime concern, but rather the consecutiveness and interlocking of images.

Nicolas Roeg and Alan Parker are both distinguished British directors. *Don't Look Now* (1973) is – like the other two films – a thriller revolving around guilt and (possible) redemption. *Bad Timing* (1980) garnered considerable controversy and further investigates Roeg's take on discontinuous narration. *Angel Heart* (1987) is a mystery thriller featuring unreliable narration. It is a co-production (UK, US, Canada) featuring American actors, but its coding heavily on British literary traditions (morality play, wit duel, stream-of-consciousness) as well as post-colonial backgrounds.

NOTE: Screenings are mandatory, they are integrated into the course, which is why you have to reserve an additional hour (18-19) in your schedule, if you intend to participate.

DVDs to buy

Angel Heart. DVD Kinowelt, 2011, Leipzig.

Blackout – Anatomie einer Leidenschaft. DVD Koch Media, 2015, O.O.

Wenn die Gondeln Trauer tragen. Arthaus – StudioCanal. DVD Kinowelt, 2010, Leipzig.

Book (recommended as a primer)

Monaco, James. ⁴2009. *How to Read a Film. Movies, Media and Beyond*. Oxford.

Course requirements:

Participation: Regular attendance, thorough preparation of the films at hand, a protocol

Studienleistung: Analysis and presentation of one or two selected scenes

Prüfungsleistung: Term Paper (8-12 pp. – Sem. 1b / 16-20 pp. – Sem. II)

Sprechstunde während der Vorlesungszeit:	t.b.a.
Sprechstunde in der vorlesungsfreien Zeit:	t.b.a. / appointment per mail