



Universidad de Sevilla/Faculty of Philology

Course FA-09

CONTEMPORARY SPANISH CINEMA

(45 class hours)

Lecturer:

Dr. Jose Ma Claver Esteban (josemariaclaver@ono.com)

Co-Lecturer: Dr. Luis Navarrete Cardero (lnavarrete@us.es)

OBJECTIVES:

Keeping visiting students in mind, this Course spans a wide range of cultural perspectives, thus taking it beyond the limits of the cinematic and the historical strictly speaking. Movies are perceived as audio-visual works, approachable as texts, as the artistic expression of an author and, at the same time, determined by circumstances involving their social, historical, linguistic, and literary contextualization.

METHODOLOGY:

Given the amount of accumulated pedagogical experience that exists with regard to this kind of subject matter, as well as keeping in mind the specific needs of students, the aim of the class sessions is to ensure the fruitful interaction of the theoretical and practical dimensions of the study process, while also potentializing the exploration of those aspects of the Spanish language to which, in terms of comprehension and expression, the filmography being studied draws attention.

PRACTICAL SYLLABUS:

- An anthology of significant sequences from key movies and from the work of prominent directors.
- Full-length Movies. The commentary and critical appreciation of the thematic and stylistic features of the following titles: Sevillanas, by Saura, El otro lado de la cama, by Martinez Lazaro, Belle epoque, by Trueba, La lengua de las mariposas, by Cuerda, La nina de tus ojos, by Trueba, Los anos barbaros, by Colomo, !Bienvenido Mister Marshall!, by Garcia Berlanga, Los desafios, by Erice, Guerin and Egea, Los nuevos espanoles, by Bodegas, Ana y los lobos, by Saura, Tristana, by Bunuel, Carmen, by Saura, Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios, by Almodovar, and Tesis, by Amenabar.

THEORETICAL SYLLABUS:

- Spain: Social and Political Contexts (from the Republic to the Civil War). Their Impingement upon



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- Movie-making. Post-war Cinema. Raza, General Franco's Vision. The "No-Do" Newsreels and their Ideological Basis. Censorship.
- Franco-ite Policy and Spanish Cinema. A Muzzled Movie Industry. Literary Genres as Models for Movies. From a Thwarted Neo-realism to Social Realism. The Cinema of Bardem and Berlanga.
- The "New Spanish Cinema". New Directors and Producers. Critical Trends in Postwar Cinema. Auteur Movies: Bunuel and Saura. Popular Genres. The Influence of Spanish Literature on National Cinema.
- Spanish Cinema and the Era of Democracy. A Congress in which to Debate Spanish Cinema. The Socialist Party's Policy for Spain's Movie Industry. Themes and Styles in Present-day Spanish Movies. The Case of Almodovar. Spain's Movie-Industry and the European Union.

ASSESSMENT:

The final grade for this course will be based on the scores from two exams:

FIRST MID-SEMESTER EXAM

Subject-matter: Two syllabus-unit subjects, from amongst those covered thus far, will be included, while students will be expected to deal with one out of the two.

Length: One side of an A4 sheet.

This exam, corrected and graded, will act as proof of commitment vis-a-vis home institutions.

END-OF-COURSE EXAM

Subject-matter: Two syllabus-unit subjects, from amongst those covered throughout the Course, will be included, while students will be expected to deal with one out of the two.

Length: One side of an A4 sheet.

This exam, corrected and graded, will be kept by lecturers as written proof of students' commitment. A fail grade will be given to any student who does not sit either of the exams. The final grade is based on the average grade obtained from both exams.

Exam-session dates cannot be put forward or back unless exceptional circumstances prevail and which would require justification in writing from Program Directors or Tutors.

The following factors will be taken into account when assigning grades:

- The adequate assimilation of fundamental syllabus content.



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- A working knowledge of the orthographic rules, the correct forms of expression, and the vocabulary content of the Spanish language.
- A capacity to set areas of subject-matter in relation to others.
- The understanding of, and the explicative capacity to analyze, any of the key aspects of a cinematographic text which may require comment.

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D'LUGO, M. Carlos Saura: The Practice of Seeing. Princeton: Princeton University Press. 1990.

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