



MMCC1005

Introduction to the Cinema

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2026

School of Communication, Society and Culture

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Convenor

Jane Simon

jane.simon@mq.edu.au

Contact via Email

25B Wally's Walk Room 452

Zoom consultation times available on iLearn

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit is an introduction to 1) some of the main theoretical issues and debates that have defined film studies as an area of cultural interest; and 2) some of the key historical moments in filmmaking and the moving image (from the 1920s through to more recent times). The unit will consider topics such as the codes, conventions, and aesthetics of film narrative; film genres; film styles; film canons; modes of storytelling; the relation between fiction film and documentary film (and their hybrids); and contemporary moving image culture.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: identify key debates, themes and concepts in the broad field of Film Studies

ULO2: demonstrate an expansive historical knowledge of film theory.

ULO3: distinguish between theoretical positions on film practices and texts.

ULO4: analyse films according to themes, genres, form and cultural contexts.

ULO5: identify and use appropriate articles in academic journals.

General Assessment Information

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a mark of '0' (zero) will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue. This late penalty will apply to written reports and recordings only. Late submission of time sensitive tasks (such as tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs) will be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special consideration application.

If you find you cannot submit your assignment on time, please apply for Special Consideration through AskMQ. Make sure you read Macquarie University's policy regarding Special Consideration requests before you apply: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/assessment-exams/special-consideration>

FEEDBACK

During the semester you will receive feedback in many forms. Sometimes this feedback will be verbal and informal and will come from your tutor such as during tutorials when you offer up ideas or questions. At times, your tutor and lecturer will also offer more general feedback about the group's progress during tutorials. At other times feedback will be more formal, in the case of written feedback on your written assessments.

You will also receive valuable feedback from your peers through the semester via online forums on ilearn and through activities and discussions during tutorials.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
Film log	50%	No	10/09/2026	Individual	No	Open
Exam	50%	No	During formal exam period	Individual	No	Observed

Film log

Assessment Type ¹: Professional task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 42 hours

Due: **10/09/2026**

Weighting: **50%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Open

A film log with entries responding to specific prompts and questions about films from the unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- identify key debates, themes and concepts in the broad field of Film Studies
- demonstrate an expansive historical knowledge of film theory.
- distinguish between theoretical positions on film practices and texts.
- analyse films according to themes, genres, form and cultural contexts.
- identify and use appropriate articles in academic journals.

Exam

Assessment Type ¹: Examination

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **During formal exam period**

Weighting: **50%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Observed

Exam based on visual analysis

On successful completion you will be able to:

- identify key debates, themes and concepts in the broad field of Film Studies
- distinguish between theoretical positions on film practices and texts.
- analyse films according to themes, genres, form and cultural contexts.

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- [Academic Success](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation.

³ An automatic short extension is available for some assessments. Apply through the [Service Connect Portal](#).

Delivery and Resources

CLASSES

Please consult [your timetable](#) for up-to-date timetabling of lectures and tutorials. **Both lectures and tutorials begin in Week One.**

Tutorials:

Tutorials begin in **Week One**.

Please note, **you must attend the tutorial you are enrolled in**. If you wish to change your tutorial time you can do so via eStudent. Your tutor/lecturer will not be able to change your tutorial enrolment. Do not turn up to a tutorial in which you are not enrolled. We cannot accept extra students into a fully enrolled tutorial.

ATTENDANCE

This unit has a one-hour live lecture and a one-hour tutorial every week. Each week, lectures are delivered live and this is recorded and available on iLearn. Each week you are expected to watch the required film available online through the Leganto link on iLearn. Students are required to prepare for tutorials by having listened to the lecture, having viewed the film, having done the week's readings and prepared questions and notes.

REQUIRED VIEWING

Each week there is a required film to view. These films are available online via the Leganto link on iLearn. See iLearn for more details.

REQUIRED READING

Required readings are available online through the Leganto link on iLearn.

RECOMMENDED READING

There is a list of further recommended reading for each topic - please refer to iLearn.

TECHNOLOGIES USED AND REQUIRED

Lectures are given live and also recorded and available on iLearn. Details on readings, assessments and links to relevant material will be available on iLearn. Students are expected to regularly check iLearn and their MQ email addresses for announcements.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.smq.edu.au\)](https://policies.smq.edu.au). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central](https://policies.mq.edu.au) (<https://policies.mq.edu.au>) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit connect.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Academic Success

[Academic Success](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Ask a Study Coach](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)
- [Student Advocacy](#) provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via the [Service Connect Portal](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/technology/service-desk>.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Unit information based on version 2026.04 of the [Handbook](#)