MAS 304

Screens, Images, Ideas

S2 Day 2019

Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies

Contents

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Convenor/ Lecturer
Intan Paramaditha
intan.paramaditha@mq.edu.au
10HA 193B
By appointment

Tutor
Saba Vasefi
saba.vasefi@mq.edu.au
By appointment

Credit points
3

Prerequisites
39cp at 100 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit analyses issues in film culture by screenings and discussion of fictional and non-fictional media including films, television and online content from a range of countries. The unit examines contemporary and historical examples and their relation of philosophical concepts, critical and genre theory and cultural contexts.

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:

Understand the main debates relevant to a specific sub-region of film studies

Develop an expanded historical knowledge of genre film and theory

Develop skills in film-critical research and film-textual analysis

Evaluate and appreciate different stylistic modes of writing about films

Produce and communicate work in a manner consistent with accepted academic

standards

General Assessment Information

SUBMISSION

All written work must be submitted to Turnitin, via the link on iLearn. Please make sure your full name and student number appears on the first page of your document. All written work should be double spaced and justified to the left of the page.

ASSESSMENT STANDARDS

Assessment standards in this unit align with the University's grade descriptors, available at:

https://staff.mq.edu.au/work4/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/assessment

LATE SUBMISSION POLICY

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.

RE-MARKS

The Re-mark Application form is available at http://www.mq.edu.au/pubstatic/public/download/?id=167914

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Online Quizzes	30%	No	Weeks 3-12
Active Participation	20%	No	Weeks 1-12
In-class presentation	20%	No	To be determined.
Final Essay	30%	No	Nov 6, 2019 (11:59 PM)

Online Quizzes

Due: **Weeks 3-12**
Weighting: **30%**

In MAS304 it is important to understand key concepts and theoretical positions pertaining to the major topics in Screen, Images, Ideas.

To assess your understanding of the readings and the lecture content, you will undertake weekly online multiple choice quizzes from week 3 to week 12 accessed via iLearn. These are worth 3% of your total mark each, 30% in total.

For each quiz, there will be 5 questions that you need to answer in 30 minutes. These questions are based on the readings and lecture content. Correct answers will be provided after the quiz is completed.

Examples will be given on week 2.

Students will be notified by a unit announcement on iLearn when the quizzes are available for completion.

Assessment criteria:

- Ability to recognise the correct answer(s) to quiz questions.

- Demonstrated understanding and comprehension of unit readings and lecture content.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Understand the main debates relevant to a specific sub-region of film studies
- Develop an expanded historical knowledge of genre film and theory
- Develop skills in film-critical research and film-textual analysis

Active Participation

Due: **Weeks 1-12**
Weighting: **20%**

Students are expected to attend tutorials and contribute to class discussions. You should demonstrate an ability to articulate and share ideas on concepts raised in the readings, films, and lectures. Participation also involves asking pertinent questions that stimulate further discussions. It is essential that you do the readings and take the quiz before attending the tutorial.

Details regarding this assessment will be discussed on week 1. General feedback for participation will be provided after the semester break.

Assessment criteria (for a full assessment rubric, please refer to iLearn):

Reading and reflection: Evidence of engagement with the unit readings, demonstration of in-class reflection through participation in assignments and discussions.

Communication: Demonstration of clear communication skills, evidence of engagement with arguments of others.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand the main debates relevant to a specific sub-region of film studies

- Develop an expanded historical knowledge of genre film and theory

- Develop skills in film-critical research and film-textual analysis

In-class presentation

Due: **To be determined.**
Weighting: **20%**

Due: **Weeks 2-12** Weighting: **20%**

Students will prepare an 8-minute individual presentation where they link an assigned reading to the week's screening. Each student is assigned a specific week, film and a reading for the presentation. The presentation is not a summary of the arguments made in the readings, but a reflection on how those ideas apply to the film of the week.

The aim of the presentation is to:

1. Analyse the screened film from a theoretical point of view.

2. Explicate the connections between the assigned film and reading.

3. Identify and use appropriate academic arguments in relation to screen media.

The presentation consists of:

1. 8 minutes of time. Pay extra attention to the timing of your presentation. You will be cut off after 8 minutes.

2. A visual aid - such as powerpoint - with which you present your findings to the class.

3. A structure. Do not try and say everything there is to say about your chosen case. Choose key ideas and structure your presentation around them. Remember to introduce the media example properly and provide concluding remarks.

Further details of this assessment will be discussed on week 1. Feedback will be provided on iLearn.

Assessment criteria:

Reading and argument. Students will be assessed based on their ability to evaluate, synthesize and explicate the key ideas of the assigned reading.

Film analysis. Students will be assessed based on their ability to analyse the details and scope of the assigned film. Assessment will also focus on the application of the key ideas of the assigned reading to the film.

Clarity of the presentation. The presentation will be assessed based on the clarity of its delivery. This includes the structure of the presentation, legibility of powerpoint slides and other (audio-)visual support as well as keeping to the timeframe. Students must submit their powerpoint slides to their tutor in class or via email on the day of presentation.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Understand the main debates relevant to a specific sub-region of film studies
- Develop an expanded historical knowledge of genre film and theory
- Develop skills in film-critical research and film-textual analysis

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Understand the main debates relevant to a specific sub-region of film studies
- Develop an expanded historical knowledge of genre film and theory
- Develop skills in film-critical research and film-textual analysis

Final Essay

Due: **Nov 6, 2019 (11:59 PM)**
Weighting: **30%**

Students will write an academic essay of 1,500 words (not including footnotes or bibliography) that covers unit materials from week 1-12. Students will compare a film that has been discussed in class with a film of their choice. They will analyse the films with regards to a specific theme or concept introduced in the unit. In the essay, social, political, and/ or historical contexts must be discussed in relation to the formal elements of the film. Bibliography must include at least four academic references, and two of them must be from the unit readings.

The short essay is to be submitted electronically via Turnitin on ilearn.

Further details and examples will be discussed after the semester break. Feedback for this assessment will be provided on Turnitin.

Assessment criteria:

Reading and research: Evidence of critical engagement with key concepts, themes, and social, political, and historical contexts introduced in the unit. Ability to identify key concepts in the readings and apply those concepts to the chosen film. Evidence of independent research outside the unit readings.

Argument and analysis: Ability to formulate a clear and specific thesis. Ability to interpret ideas and support them with examples from specific scenes in the films. Ability to relate formal elements of the film and the larger contexts.

Writing and structure: Logical and coherent structure; clarity of expression; appropriate referencing; length.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand the main debates relevant to a specific sub-region of film studies

- Develop an expanded historical knowledge of genre film and theory

- Develop skills in film-critical research and film-textual analysis

- Evaluate and appreciate different stylistic modes of writing about films

- Produce and communicate work in a manner consistent with accepted academic standards

Delivery and Resources

CLASSES

Unit lectures will be delivered as videos accessible via iLearn. Tutorials start on week 1.

All students are expected to attend tutorials. Before coming to the weekly tutorial, students need to make sure that they do the following:

1) Watch the lecture video on iLearn. 2) Watch the film of the week, available at Macquarie University library (on reserves or via Kanopy/ EduTV). 3) Read the required articles. 4) Take the online quiz (starting on week 3).

Please check with MQ Timetables for the time and location of your tutorial.

REQUIRED READINGS

Required readings will be available through the library's multisearch function.

TECHNOLOGIES USED AND REQUIRED

Films are available via kanopy Streaming Service and on library reserves. Details on readings, assessments, and screenings will be available via iLearn. Students are expected to regularly check iLearn and their MQ email addresses for an announcement.

Unit Schedule

Weekly topics

Week 1: Introduction to Travel and Cinema: From exploration to travel to tourism

Week 2: Figures of the travelers: the tourist and/ as the flaneur in cinema

Week 3: The Road Movie: Women on the road

Week 4: The Road Movie: Queer mobility

Week 5: Travel and Empire

Week 6: Documentary and Narratives of Discovery

Week 7: Ethnographic Film and Counterdiscourses

Week 8: Migrant Cinema

Week 9: Displacement and Narratives of Return

Week 10: Neoliberalism and Global Citizen

Week 11: Travel and Traveling Genre in Global Cinema

Week 12: To Infinity and Beyond

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://staff.m
q.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-centr
al). 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
- Grade Appeal Policy
- Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public
- Special Consideration Policy *(**Note:** The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4
  December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)*

Undergraduate students seeking more policy resources can visit the Student Policy Gateway (htt
ps://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the
key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit Policy Central (http
s://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/p
olicy-central).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of
Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/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 ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA

student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Additional information

MMCCS website https://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/faculties_and_departments/faculty_of_arts/department_of_media_music_communication_and_cultural_studies/

MMCCS Session Re-mark Application http://www.mq.edu.au/pubstatic/public/download/?id=167914

Information is correct at the time of publication

Student Support

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

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

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.

Graduate Capabilities

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Develop skills in film-critical research and film-textual analysis
- Evaluate and appreciate different stylistic modes of writing about films
- Produce and communicate work in a manner consistent with accepted academic standards

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Understand the main debates relevant to a specific sub-region of film studies
- Evaluate and appreciate different stylistic modes of writing about films

Assessment tasks

- Active Participation
- In-class presentation
- Final Essay

Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Understand the main debates relevant to a specific sub-region of film studies
- Develop an expanded historical knowledge of genre film and theory
- Develop skills in film-critical research and film-textual analysis
- Evaluate and appreciate different stylistic modes of writing about films
- Produce and communicate work in a manner consistent with accepted academic standards

Assessment tasks

- Active Participation
- In-class presentation
- Final Essay

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Understand the main debates relevant to a specific sub-region of film studies
- Develop an expanded historical knowledge of genre film and theory
- Develop skills in film-critical research and film-textual analysis
- Evaluate and appreciate different stylistic modes of writing about films

Assessment tasks

- Online Quizzes
- Active Participation
- In-class presentation
- Final Essay

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Understand the main debates relevant to a specific sub-region of film studies
- Develop an expanded historical knowledge of genre film and theory
- Develop skills in film-critical research and film-textual analysis

- Evaluate and appreciate different stylistic modes of writing about films
- Produce and communicate work in a manner consistent with accepted academic standards

Assessment tasks

- Online Quizzes
- Active Participation
- In-class presentation
- Final Essay

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Understand the main debates relevant to a specific sub-region of film studies
- Develop an expanded historical knowledge of genre film and theory
- Develop skills in film-critical research and film-textual analysis
- Evaluate and appreciate different stylistic modes of writing about films
- Produce and communicate work in a manner consistent with accepted academic standards

Assessment tasks

- Online Quizzes
- Active Participation
- In-class presentation
- Final Essay

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Understand the main debates relevant to a specific sub-region of film studies
- Develop an expanded historical knowledge of genre film and theory
- Develop skills in film-critical research and film-textual analysis
- Evaluate and appreciate different stylistic modes of writing about films
- Produce and communicate work in a manner consistent with accepted academic standards

Assessment tasks

- Active Participation
- In-class presentation
- Final Essay

Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Understand the main debates relevant to a specific sub-region of film studies
- Develop skills in film-critical research and film-textual analysis
- Evaluate and appreciate different stylistic modes of writing about films

Assessment tasks

- Active Participation
- In-class presentation
- Final Essay

Changes from Previous Offering

Unit readings have been updated and assessment tasks have been modified.