

# FI911-30 Cinematic Cities and Landscapes

**26/27**

**Department**

SCAPVC – Film and Television Studies

**Level**

Taught Postgraduate Level

**Module leader**

Alastair Phillips

**Credit value**

30

**Module duration**

10 weeks

**Assessment**

100% coursework

**Study location**

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

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## Description

### Introductory description

As a recorded audiovisual medium, cinema is especially suited to the representation of place and movement through the simultaneous registration of space and time. This module will examine the implications of this proposition in a series of film texts that mainly privilege the representation of a particular city or geographical landscape, often in relation to the underlying narrative trope of the journey.

### Module aims

The module aims to introduce students to a range of current disciplinary and inter-disciplinary debates about film's engagement with urban space, landscape, place, ecology and mobility. In particular, the module will also give students a chance to engage with a deliberately broad range of global and local cinemas. In so doing, it will think both about the representation of cities and landscapes, and look at the way in which travel, location and terrain may be understood more broadly as fundamentally significant cinematic concepts.

### Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

#### Week One

Urban Modernities and 'The City Symphony' Film

#### SCREENING

Regen/Rain (Joris Ivens, 1929); A Propos de Nice (Jean Vigo, 1929); Berlin - Sinfonie einer Großstadt/Berlin, Symphony of a Big City (Walter Ruttmann, 1927)

#### Week Two

Walking Paris I: Beyond the Flaneur?

#### SCREENING

Cléo de 5 à 7 (Agnès Varda, 1961)

#### Week Three

Walking Paris II: Eric Rohmer's Paris as Cinematographic Cartography

#### SCREENING

Rohmer in Paris (Richard Misek, 2014) <http://www.vimeo.com/richardmisek/rohmerinparis> (password: Losange)

L'Amour, l'après-midi/Love in the Afternoon (Eric Rohmer, 1972)

#### Week Four

Cities and Landscapes in Motion I: Agnès Varda and the Essay Film

#### SCREENING

Les Glaneurs et la glaneuse/The Gleaners and I (Agnès Varda, 2000) + Les Glaneurs et la glaneuse ... 2 ans après/The Gleaners and I, 2 Years Later (Agnès Varda, 2002)

Cities and Landscapes in Motion II: Migration and Exile in Contemporary Europe

#### SCREENING

In This World (Michael Winterbottom, 2002)

#### Week Seven

Theorising Landscape: New Iranian Cinema

#### SCREENINGS

Where is the Friend's Home? (Abbas Kiarostami, 1987)

Roads of Kiarostami (Abbas Kiarostami, 2006)

#### Week Eight

Landscape and Memory I: The Past in the Present

#### Week One

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#### SCREENING

Regen/Rain (Joris Ivens, 1929); A Propos de Nice (Jean Vigo, 1929); Berlin - Sinfonie einer Großstadt/Berlin, Symphony of a Big City (Walter Ruttmann, 1927)

#### Week Two

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Week Three

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Week Seven

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SCREENINGS

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Week Eight

Landscape and Memory I: The Past in the Present

SCREENING

Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives (Apichatpong Weerasethakul, 2010)

Week Nine

Landscape and Memory II: Documentation and National Identity

SCREENING

Still Life (Jia Zhang-ke, 2006)

Week Ten

Landscape and Memory III: Memories of the Local and the Universal

SCREENING

Nostalgia for the Light (Patricio Guzmán, 2010)

## Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- By the end of the module, students will be able to Demonstrate familiarity with a range of relevant literature related to the representation of landscape and place in contemporary film studies, demonstrate critical awareness of the methodologies necessary to construct an independent research project on a selected topic germane to the overall aims of the module, integrate conceptual awareness of these debates with precise and sustained local textual analysis of a range of a sample case studies

## Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

## Subject specific skills

This module develops skills of audio-visual literacy, through close textual and/or contextual analysis in relation to the moving image and sound. It may also develops understandings of historical, theoretical and conceptual frameworks relevant to screen arts and cultures.

## Transferable skills

- critical and analytical thinking in relation
- independent research skills
- team work
- clarity and effectiveness of communication, oral and written
- accurate, concise and persuasive writing
- audio-visual literacy

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## Study

### Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	9 sessions of 1 hour 30 minutes (4%)
Seminars	9 sessions of 4 hours (12%)
Tutorials	1 session of 30 minutes (0%)
Demonstrations	9 sessions of 2 hours (6%)
Other activity	18 hours (6%)
Private study	77 hours (26%)
Assessment	137 hours (46%)
Total	300 hours

## Private study description

wider viewing and reading, and research in preparation for assessment

## Other activity description

screenings

## Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

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## Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

### Assessment group A2

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
<b>Assessment component</b>			
Critical Project	100%	137 hours	Yes (extension)
Essays will normally discuss more than one film in detail, and demonstrate a wide range of viewing as well as a thorough knowledge of both the scholarship on the themes of the module and specific material related to an individual research topic. Students are encouraged to consider the many different ways in which they could arrive at a coherent choice of corpus in relation to the themes of cinematic cities and landscapes.			

Reassessment component is the same

## Feedback on assessment

Written feedback on assessed work and oral feedback by appointment

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## Availability

## Courses

This module is Option list B for:

- Year 1 of TFIA-W5P1 Postgraduate Taught Film and Television Studies
- Year 1 of TFIA-W5P3 Postgraduate Taught Film and Television Studies (For Research)

This module is Option list D for:

- Year 1 of TPHA-V7PN Postgraduate Taught Philosophy and the Arts