

GE217-15 Film in the Weimar Republic and under National Socialism

26/27

Department

School of Modern Languages and Cultures

Level

Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader

Ian Roberts

Credit value

15

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

A module which examines Germany's filmic legacy between 1918-1945. It considers the relationship between film and society at a time of massive social change and, ultimately, war. The section focussing on Weimar film considers aesthetics, gender relations, images of modernity, and messages of hope and despair. The section focussing on Nazi film covers some of these elements but also considers how film can serve ideological goals as propaganda.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

The module introduces students to some key aesthetic developments and themes in both periods and encourages them to see both contrasts and continuities in film in two disparate political systems

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.

Indicative programme:

1. Expressionist cinema and anxiety: Das Cabinet des Dr Caligari
2. Myth, dream and legend: Nosferat
3. Cityscapes and modernity: Metropolis
4. Gender and power: Die Büchse der Pandora
5. Ideology and propaganda I: Kuhle Wampe
6. Reading week
7. Ideology and propaganda II: Hitlerjunge Quex
8. Ideology and propaganda III: Triumph des Willens
9. The 'Durchhaltefilm': Kolberg
10. Popular cinema and melodrama: Die Große Liebe

Learning outcomes

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

- Critically assess the development of the formal aspects of cinema in the Weimar Republic and under National Socialism
- Situate the films studied in their historical and socio-political contexts
- Understand film as a tool of social and cultural policy in differing political systems

Indicative reading list

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

[Specific reading list for the module](#)

International

All modules delivered in SMLC are necessarily international. Students engage with themes and ideas from a culture other than that of the UK and employ their linguistic skills in the analysis of primary materials from a non-Anglophone context. Students will also be encouraged to draw on the experiences of visiting exchange students in the classroom and will frequently engage with theoretical and critical frameworks from across the world.

Subject specific skills

This module will develop students' linguistic skills through engaging with primary materials in the target language. It will build students' capacity to engage with aspects of German culture through analysis of this primary material and through seminar discussion aimed at deeper critical thinking. In particular, students' awareness of film and national socialism in the Weimar Republic will be enhanced through lectures and seminars which engage in scholarship in the field.

Transferable skills

All SMLC culture modules demand critical and analytical engagement with artefacts from target-language cultures. In the course of independent study, class work and assessment students will develop the following skills: written and oral communication, creative and critical thinking, problem solving and analysis, time management and organisation, independent research in both English and their target language(s), intercultural understanding and the ability to mediate between languages and cultures, ICT literacy in both English and the target language(s), personal responsibility and the exercise of initiative.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	8 sessions of 1 hour (5%)
Seminars	8 sessions of 1 hour (5%)
Private study	134 hours (89%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

Private Study.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A2

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Written assignment	80%	120 hours	Yes (extension)
Students are provided with a range of titles, encouraging either a close analysis of a single film, or a comparative exercise, plus an opportunity to devise a topic of their own choosing if they prefer.			

Weighting

Study time

Eligible for self-certification

Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component

Scene analysis	20%	30 hours	Yes (extension)
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Students will prepare a poster analysing a key scene, the subject of which is agreed ahead of time, in conversation with the module tutor.

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Feedback will be provided in the course of the module in a number of ways. Feedback should be understood to be both formal and informal and is not restricted to feedback on formal written work. Oral feedback will be provided by the module tutor in the course of seminar discussion. This may include feedback on points raised in small group work or in the course of individual presentations or larger group discussion.

Written feedback will be provided on formal assessment using the standard SMLC Assessed Work feedback form appropriate to the assessment. Feedback is intended to enable continuous improvement throughout the module and written feedback is generally the final stage of this feedback process. Feedback will always demonstrate areas of success and areas for future development, which can be applied to future assessment. Feedback will be both discipline-specific and focussed on key transferrable skills, enabling students to apply this feedback to their future professional lives. Feedback will be fair and reasonable and will be linked to the SMLC marking scheme appropriate to the module.

Availability

Courses

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 2 of ULAA-MR01 Undergraduate Law with German

This module is Core option list B for:

- Year 2 of UGEA-R2V1 Undergraduate German and History
- Year 2 of UGEA-RW24 Undergraduate German and Theatre Studies

This module is Core option list C for:

- Year 3 of ULNA-R4RG Undergraduate Hispanic Studies and German
- Year 3 of UFRA-R900 Undergraduate Modern Languages

This module is Core option list G for:

- Year 2 of UGEA-R200 Undergraduate German Studies

This module is Option list B for:

- Year 3 of ULNA-R9Q2 Undergraduate Modern Languages with Linguistics
- UPOA-M164 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and German
 - Year 2 of M164 Politics, International Studies and German
 - Year 3 of M164 Politics, International Studies and German