COURSE DETAIL

STORYTELLING IN MEDIA AND PERFORMANCE
Country Netherlands
Host Institution Utrecht University
Program(s) Utrecht University
UCEAP Course Level Lower Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Film & Media Studies
UCEAP Course Number 50
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title STORYTELLING IN MEDIA AND PERFORMANCE
UCEAP Transcript Title STORYTELLING MEDIA
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description

In this course, learn about theatre, film, television, and games as storytelling media. The course pays particular attention to the very different ways in which stories may be structured and constructed, and what that means for how the audience watches, experiences, or takes part in the story. The course addresses a number of narrative forms and -structures, such as the Aristotelian tragedy, the classic Hollywood-movie narrative, the television series (serial storytelling) and the narrative game (environmental storytelling). This list seems to suggest that each medium – theatre, film, television, and games – has its own form of storytelling, but that suggestion is incorrect. While it is perhaps true that certain narrative forms have developed in a specific medium, and certain narrative forms are more obvious choices for one medium than for another, media forms are also constantly borrowing from one another. In recent years, for instance, there have been numerous theatre performances that were inspired by games and game-based structures. In such performances, the audience does not merely sit in a chair watching a story unfold; rather, they are led along a set trajectory through various spaces as they themselves take an active role in the story being told. At the same time, an increasing number of game designers are creating digital games that are intended not for play on the computer, but rather on the streets and other public spaces. For that reason, this course focuses on the specific characteristics of various media and on what these mean for the way in which they are able to convey stories; on the other hand, the course also pauses to reflect on the fact that media never exist in isolation. Various media constantly influence one another in their development, meaning they also influence one another in the way they tell stories and the result they hope to achieve through those stories in terms of their audience.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
ME1V18002

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STORYTELLING IN MEDIA AND PERFORMANCE

Host Institution Course Details
https://osiris-student.uu.nl/onderwijscatalogus/extern/cursus

Host Institution Campus
Utrecht University

Host Institution Faculty
Humanities

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Media and Culture Studies

Course Last Reviewed
2025-2026

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