COURSE DETAIL

INTRODUCTION TO SCREEN GENRES
Country South Africa
Host Institution University of Cape Town
Program(s) University of Cape Town
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Film & Media Studies
UCEAP Course Number 120
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title INTRODUCTION TO SCREEN GENRES
UCEAP Transcript Title INTRO SCREEN GENRES
UCEAP Quarter Units 7.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.70

Course Description
This course provides an introduction to genre studies for screen texts. This investigation of genre is supported by a sampling of film and television genre texts. The concept of genre provides a lens for considering the industrial, historical and sociopolitical factors which shape screen media. While drawing from a range of global examples, this course will also pay particular attention to the ways genre has been adapted for African audiences and South African audiences, in particular. The course explores a number of key questions related to genre: (1) What is genre and how are genres defined? (2) How do industries influence and shape genre texts? (3) What role do audiences play in making meaning and how do genres determine the practices and expectations of audiences? (4) How do we account for generic change and hybridity over time and in response to new technologies; and (5)What are politics of genres which travel across different national and economic contexts? The core course will be accompanied by a seminar series in which students may select a more focussed path of study examining a genre of interest to them. DP requirements: All written work must be submitted by the stipulated dates. Students who miss more than two seminars will lose their DPs. Assessment: Assessment for the lecture series will be based on classwork (30%) plus one two-hour examination (20%). The lecture series counts 50% and the seminar 50% of the final mark for the course.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
FAM2013F/S,FAM2013F,FAM2013S

Host Institution Course Title
INTRODUCTION TO SCREEN GENRES

Host Institution Course Details
https://www.uct.ac.za/sites/default/files/media/documents/2026-hum-handbook-9a-...

Host Institution Campus

University of Cape Town

Host Institution Faculty
Humanities

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Film and Media Studies

Course Last Reviewed
2025-2026

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