

COURSE DETAIL

FACES OF FRENCH CINEMA

Country

France

Host Institution

UC Center, Paris

Program(s)

French in Paris, Food, History, and Culture in Paris

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Women's & Gender Studies History Film & Media Studies

UCEAP Course Number

135

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

FACES OF FRENCH CINEMA

UCEAP Transcript Title

FACES/FRENCH CINEMA

UCEAP Quarter Units

5.00

UCEAP Semester Units

3.30

Course Description

This course examines French films from the birth of cinema in 1895 to the more recent creations celebrated at the Cannes Festival. The course studies selected avant-garde and popular films and explores how film narratives can reflect historical and social conditions in France during a given time. The following periods are discussed: Early cinema (the Lumière brothers, Alice Guy, Méliès); the Golden Age of French classical cinema (Renoir); the “New Wave” (Varda, Godard); the “Cinéma du Look” (Besson); “Heritage Cinema” (Claire Denis); and the challenges of Globalization (Sciamma). The course also covers several film genres, from the birth of the fantastique to the influence of the film noir on New Wave cinema. Students explore the cross-cultural interactions between French cinema and foreign films and how French cinema as an art form has had a deep impact on international cinema. Films and readings are supplemented by site visits. Most of the films chosen for this class were shot in Paris and reveal the city's different faces, going from the romanticized version in Agnès Varda's film or Claire Denis' grittier version.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

Host Institution Course Title

FACES OF FRENCH CINEMA

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

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