

Course GB-07 INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF SPANISH CINEMA

Lecturer: Dr. Lina Malo Lara (linamalo@us.es)

Back-up Lecturer: Magdalena Illán Martín (magdaillan@us.es)

45 CONTACT HOURS / 3 SEMESTER CREDITS

THIS CLASS MEETS: TUES/THURS 7-9PM

OBJECTIVES

This Course aims to provide an overview of what Cinema in Spain, since its origins until the present day, has meant and continues to signify. In a synthesized way, a series of sections will be developed based on the key landmarks which contribute to our understanding of the nature and characteristics of Spanish Cinema from the perspectives of authorship, genre, and factors involved in production.

METHODOLOGY

Class sessions will combine theoretical and practical approaches, the projection of slides acting as a key element of visual back-up. The theoretical development of each of the syllabus units will be complemented by the screening of representative movies taken from the history of Spanish Cinema with the aim of ensuring clarification of the subject-matter dealt with in class sessions and to stimulate debate and dialogue amongst the participants taking the Course.

ASSESSMENT

Student assessment will be based on the following criteria:

- Regular attendance and active participation in class sessions.
- The undertaking of voluntary assignments as the semester progresses.
- Two exams will be held: one mid-way through the semester and the other at its close. Both will consist of an essay-type exploration of one of the content items taken from the syllabus-units, two options being offered to write about, one of which is to be chosen.

SYLLABUS

- I. Origins: The Silent Era (1896-1930).
 - The Cinematograph reaches Spain.
 - The Earliest Directors.
 - Cinema Production.

- II. The Thirties: the Talkies and the Reaching of Maturity during the Era of the Republic and the Civil War (1930-1939).

- The Arrival of the Talkies.
 - Directors and Actors.
 - Main Genres.
- III. Consuming Avant-Garde Trends. An Universal Creative Figure: Luis Buñuel.
- IV. Cinema in an Autocratic Regime (1939-1950).
- Official Movies.
 - Studios Cifesa.
 - Key Directors.
- V. The Fifties.
- Continuationist Trends in Creativity and Production.
 - First Signs of Renewal. Luis García Berlanga and Juan Antonio Bardem.
- VI. The Sixties:
- Popular Genres.
 - The “New Spanish Cinema”.
- VII. The Seventies.
- Renewal in the Cinema and the Figure of the *Auteur*.
- VIII. The Eighties: Cinema within Democracy.
- Literary Adaptations. Mario Camus.
 - Pedro Almodóvar’s Cinematographic Universe.
 - Spanish Cinema’s International Projection.

XI An Overview of Recent Spanish Movies.

MOVIES TO BE SCREENED

As the Course develops, the following movies, either full-length, or in the form of extracts, will be screened: *Morena Clara (Fair Dark Girl)* by Florián Rey; *Un perro andaluz (An Andalusian Dog)* by Luis Buñuel; *Raza (Race)* by Sáenz de Heredia; *¡Bienvenido Mr. Marshall! (Welcome, Mr Marshall!)* by Luis García Berlanga; *Viridiana* by Luis Buñuel; *Ana y los lobos (Ana and the Wolves)* by Carlos Saura; *Atraco a las tres (The Three-O’Clock Hold-up)* by José M^a Forqué; *El espíritu de la colmena (The Spirit of the Bee Hive)* by Victor Erice; *Los santos inocentes (The Holy Innocents)* by Mario Camus; *Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios (Women on the Point of a Nervous Breakdown)* and *Todo sobre mi madre (Everything about My Mother)* by Pedro Almodóvar; *Tesis (Thesis)* by Alejandro Amenábar.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- CASTRO, A.: *El Cine Español en el Banquillo*. Ed. Fernando Torres, Valencia, 1974.
- GARCÍA FERNÁNDEZ, E.: *Historia Ilustrada del Cine Español*. Ed. Planeta, Barcelona, 1985.
- HOLGÍN, A. *Pedro Almodóvar*. Madrid: Cátedra, 2006.
- GÓMEZ BENÍTEZ DE CASTRO, R.: *Evolución e la Producción Cinematográfica Española, 1975-1988*. Ed. Mensajero, Bilbao, 1988.
- HOPEWEEL, J.: *El Cine Español después de Franco*. Ed. Arquero, Madrid, 1989.
- LÓPEZ GARCÍA, J. L. *De Almodóvar a Amenábar: El nuevo cine español*. Madrid, Notorious, 2005.
- MERINO, A.: *Diccionario de Directores de Cine Español*. Ed. J.C., Madrid, 1994.
- MONTERDE, J.E.: *Veinte Años de Cine Español*. Ed. J.C., Madrid, 1994.
- PÉREZ GÓMEZ, A., and MARTÍNEZ MONTALBÁN, J.L.: *Cine Español 1951-1978*. Ed. Mensajero, Bilbao, 1979.
- SÁNCHEZ VIDAL, A. *Luis Buñuel*, Madrid, Cátedra, 2004.
- SEVERAL AUTHORS: *El Cine y la Transición Política Española*. Ed. Generalitat Valenciana, Valencia, 1986.
- SEVERAL AUTHORS: *Un siglo de cine español*. Madrid, Academia de las Artes y Ciencias Cinematográficas de España, 1997.
- SEVERAL AUTHORS: *Historia del cine español*. Madrid, Cátedra, 2001.
- VILEGAS, M.: *Aquel Llamado Nuevo Cine Español*. Ed. J.C., Madrid, 1993.

Encyclopaedias on Spanish Cinema (CD ROM)

- SEVERAL AUTHORS: *Enciclopedia del Cine Español. Cien años de cine*. Madrid, Micronet, 1996.
- SEVERAL AUTHORS: *Cinemia*. Madrid, Canal Plus, SGAE, 1997.

Web Pages on Spanish Cinema

- <http://www.cervantesvirtual.com/portal/LGB/cine.shtml> Historia y crítica del cine español.
- <http://cultura.mecd.es/cine> Web sobre el cine español

del Ministerio de Educación, Cultura y Deportes.
<http://iris.cnice.mecd.es/media/cine/index.html> Recursos educativos
audiovisuales del Ministerio de Educación, Cultura y Deportes.