University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	US Films: From Silent to Blockbuster , PG_00157561		
Field of study	American Studies		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2022	Academic year of realisation of subject	2024/2025
Education level	Bachelor's studies	Subject group	Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group
Mode of study	full-time studies	Mode of delivery	at the university
Year of study	3	Language of instruction	English
Semester of study	5	ECTS credits	2.0
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form	credit
Conducting unit	Division of American Studies -> Institute of English and American Studies -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	mgr Sarah Flamminio	
	Teachers		

Lesson types

Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
Number of study hours	0.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30

E-learning hours included: 0.0

Learning activity and number of study hours

Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan	Participation in consultation hours	Self-study	SUM
Number of study hours	30	2.0	18.0	50

Subject objectives

The goal of this class is to familiarize students with US film history from the era of silent films up through the 1970s. Students will be introduced to the basic technical components of early film, as well as basic vocabulary to describe film scenes. The Hayes Code will be used to provide a framework for discussion of the early effects of censorship on US films. Film is not only a medium of entertainment, it can also be a powerful instrument of social norms or of social change.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[AMERL3_U01] is able to properly select sources and search, analyze, evaluate, select and integrate information from them, interpret and draw conclusions, especially in relation to issues concerning cultural phenomena and processes in North America and American literature.	Is able to properly select sources and search, analyze, evaluate, select and integrate information from them, interpret and draw conclusions, especially with regard to issues concerning the phenomena and processes of American cinema from the silent film era to the 1970s.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU5] implementation of a problem task
[AMERL3_W01] Knows and understands to an advanced degree selected issues that constitute basic general knowledge of cultural phenomena and processes in North America.	Knows and understands to an advanced degree selected issues that constitute basic general knowledge of the development of American cinema from the silent film era to the 1970s.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW5] implementation of a problem task
[AMERL3_K01] is ready to critically evaluate his knowledge and skills, especially in American cultural and literary studies, as well as the basic contextual knowledge of American studies concerning history, social sciences, geography, linguistics and art and English.	Is ready to critically evaluate his knowledge and skills, especially in the field of North American cinema.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK4] test/exam - oral or written

<table>
<tr><td>Subject contents</td><td colspan="3">Films studied in this course MAY include but are NOT limited to: City Lights, The Great Train Robbery, Rebecca, The Maltese Falcon, Casablanca, The Wizard of Oz, This Movie Is Not Yet Rated, Life With Father, Thin Man series, Star Wars: A New Hope, Jaws</td></tr>
<tr><td>Prerequisites and co-requisites</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Assessment methods and criteria</td><td colspan="3"><table>
<tr><th>Subject passing criteria</th><th>Passing threshold</th><th>Percentage of the final grade</th></tr>
<tr><td>in-class assignments/ presentations</td><td>51.0%</td><td>30.0%</td></tr>
<tr><td>active participation in classes</td><td>51.0%</td><td>20.0%</td></tr>
<tr><td>test</td><td>51.0%</td><td>50.0%</td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="3">Recommended reading</td><td>Basic literature</td><td colspan="2">Joel W. Finler, The Hollywood Story, London: Wallflower 2003.

Douglas Gomery, The Hollywood Studio System: A History, London: British Film Institute 2005.

Other materials on the history of American cinema (studies, articles from academic periodicals), films</td></tr>
<tr><td>Supplementary literature</td><td colspan="2">.</td></tr>
<tr><td>eResources addresses</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Work placement</td><td colspan="3">Not applicable</td></tr>
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