

FILM THEORY- FILM 448

Sean O'Brien

Office Hours: M W 11:30-1:00 and by appointment in LA 110

Course meeting times: M,W from 9:00-11:20

Readings: *Birth of Tragedy*

Moodle Readings

Handout

8 review essays

Class presentation

8-10 pg. film analysis

In-class final comprehensive exam

I. Aesthetics

1/23 Intro

1/25 Conventions, Terminology, Realism/Formalism

Readings: Realism/Formalism handout

1/30 Realism/Formalism and neo-realism

Readings: Arnheim, 2 Bazin readings

The Bicycle Thief

2/1 *Once*

2/6 Discussion of *Once*/Nietzsche's aesthetics

Readings: BOT, sections 1-9

Essay on *Once* due

2/8 Nietzsche's aesthetics

Readings: BOT, sections 10-18

Nietzsche show and tell

2/13 *Thin Red Line*

2/15 Presentation #1 on *Thin Red Line*/discussion

Essay on *Thin Red Line* due

2/20 Holiday – President's Day

II. FILM AND THE PSYCHOANALYTIC TRADITION

2/22 Freud

Readings: Freud readings

- 2/27 *Fight Club*
3/1 Discussion of *Fight Club*
Lacan and Zizek
Readings: Lacan and Zizek
Essay on *Fight Club* due
- 3/6 *Solaris*
3/8 Presentation #2 on *Solaris*/discussion
Essay on *Solaris* due
- 3/13 Mulvey
Readings: Mulvey
3/15 *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*
- 3/20-3/24-SPRING BREAK
- 3/27 Presentation #3 on *Eternal Sunshine*/discussion
Essay on *Eternal Sunshine* due
3/29 Viewer's Choice

III. POLITICS OF FILM

- 4/3 Materialist versus post-structuralist approaches to film
Readings: Materialist analysis readings
4/5 *Michael Clayton*
- 4/10 Presentation #4 on *Michael Clayton*
Essay due on *Michael Clayton*
4/12 Materialist versus post-structuralist approaches to film
Readings: Jamieson reading
- 4/17 *No Country for Old Men*
4/19 Presentation #5 on *No Country*/discussion
Essay due on *No Country*
- 4/24 A Buddhist Approach
Readings: 3 Buddhist readings
4/26 *Her*
- 5/1 Presentation #6 on *Her*/discussion
Essay on *Her* due

5/3 Summary and Review

There will be an in-class comprehensive final exam from 8:00-10:00 a.m., Mon 5/8.