



Sedmikrásky (Daisies)

ENG 282: Introduction to Film
Summer 2009
Mondays/Wednesdays 4:30-8:30pm

Dr. Marsha Orgeron

Email: marsha_orgeron@ncsu.edu

Film Studies at NCSU:

NCSU offers a Film Studies Minor (15 credit hours) and a Film Major (30 credit hours). For more information and advising contact Dr. Devin Orgeron or visit our website: www.ncsu.edu/chass/film.

Required Texts:

Film, Form, and Culture. Robert Kolker. THIRD EDITION W/DVD.

Course Description:

This course will introduce you to the study of motion pictures. We will examine film form, style, and industry practices through readings, an instructional DVD, screenings, and discussion. You will learn how to watch films with the goals of critical thinking, thoughtful discussion, and interpretive writing in mind. Because we are undertaking this introductory course in Prague, we will focus much of the course on some extraordinary films made in Czechoslovakia/the Czech Republic and other Central European countries.

Course Requirements:

Screenings/Attendance:

Regular course attendance is required. Please bring your textbook to each class session for which there is reading assigned. If you miss a class, ask another student for notes and find out if you missed any new assignments. Excessive absences will have an adverse effect upon your grade. Any absences beyond two will reduce your final grade by a full letter grade (if you earn an "A" in the course but miss 4 days, you will receive a "C" as your final grade). Documented emergencies will receive special consideration.

General:

I encourage you to be an active spectator: write down your ideas during and after the screenings, make connections between class discussions and what you are watching/reading, and note questions you might want to ask in class. Make an effort to always take part in class discussions. See movies whenever you can!

Academic Integrity:

Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. This includes all forms of plagiarism, cheating on assignments or exams, turning in work that has been written (partially or entirely) by someone else (this includes *websites*), fabricating information or citations, or helping another student commit an act of academic dishonesty. In addition to failing the assignment and being referred to the Office of Student Conduct should you commit any trespass of academic integrity, I reserve the right to give you a failing grade in the course. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at: http://www.ncsu.edu/student_conduct/code_conduct/

Grades:

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

*Participation/Oral Quizzes: 20%

An “American Film in Prague” Essay (3-4 pages): 20%

Sequence Analysis (3-4 pages): 20%

Analytical Paper (4-5 pages): 20%

Final Exam: 20%

*Participation/Oral Quizzes: Students will be given ample opportunity to participate in both lectures and discussions. In addition to oral quizzes (during which students will discuss a specific question or issue with each other—*they’re not as scary as they sound!*), quantity and quality of participation will be evaluated using the following categories:

A: Student is well prepared, attentive, always responds when called upon, and volunteers often with pertinent answers or questions

B: Student is usually prepared, responds when called on, and volunteers on occasion

C: Student shows evidence of being unprepared on occasion, has trouble when called on, and does not volunteer often

D: Student is unprepared, inattentive, never volunteers, or comes to class late

F: Student exhibits a lack of concern for the class, sleeps in class, disturbs the class



Limonádový Joe aneb Kinská opera

Introduction to Film Syllabus for Summer 2009 in Prague!

Please complete all reading and DVD work for the class session on which the assignment appears.

Course Introduction: Why Study Film?

M May 18 Three Modes of Discourse: Description, Evaluation, & Analysis
 Screening: *Operation Filmmaker* (USA, 2007, 92 min.), Dir. Nina Davenport
 Reading: *FFC* Introduction (pgs. 1-9) & Chapter 1 (pgs. 10-29)

Film History, Narrative, & Form

W May 20 Screening: *The Wizard of Oz* (USA, 1939, 101 min.), Dir. Victor Fleming
 Reading: *FFC* Chapter 2 (30-50) & Chapter 5 (108-132)
 DVD Rom: Ch. 1, Continuity Editing; Ch. 5, Mise-en-Scène

M May 25 Screening: *M* (Germany, 1931, 110 min.), Dir. Fritz Lang
 Reading: *FFC* Chapter 3 (51-80)
 DVD Rom: Ch. 3, Montage; Ch. 8, Sound and Music

W May 27 Screening: *Jaws* (USA, 1975, 124 min.), Dir. Steven Spielberg
 Reading: *FFC* Chapter 4 (81-107)
 DVD Rom: Ch. 4, Point of View; Ch. 7, Camera

Authorship & Storytelling

M June 1 Screening: Jan Švankmajer shorts *Punch and Judy* (1966, 10 min.); *Historia Naturae* (1967, 9 min.); *The Garden* (1968, 19 min.); *Meat Love* (1968, 1 min.); *The Ossuary* (1970, 10 min.); *Dimensions of Dialogue* (1982, 12 min.); *Down to the Cellar* (1983, 15 min.); *The Death of Stalinism in Bohemia* (1990, 10 min.)
 Reading: *FFC*, Chapter 6 (133-170)
Sequence Analysis Due

W June 3 Screening: *Otesánek* [*Little Otik*] (CR, 2001, 132 min.) Dir. Jan Švankmajer
No reading or DVD work!

Film as Cultural Practice

M June 8 Screening: *Obchod na korze* [*Shop on Main Street*] (Czech, 1965, 125 min.)
Dir. Ján Kádar & Elmar Klos
Reading: *FFC*, Chapter 7 (171-210)
DVD Rom: Ch. 6, Lighting

W June 10 Screening: *Sedmikrásky* (*Daisies*) (Czech, 1966, 74 min.) Dir. Vera Chytilova
An American Film in Prague Assignment Due

Genre Conventions: The Western

M June 15 Screening: *Fistful of Dollars* (Italy, 1964, 100 min.), Dir. Sergio Leone
Reading: *FFC*, Chapter 8 (211-254)

W June 17 Scr: *Limonádový Joe aneb Kinská opera* [*Lemonade Joe*] (Czech, 1964, 90 min.),
Dir. Oldrich Lipský
Reading: *FFC*, Chapter 9 (255-293)
Analytical Paper Workshop

Wants, Needs, Dreams

M June 22 Scr: *Cesky Sen* [*Czech Dream*] Dir. Filip Reminda & Vit Klusák (CR, 2004, 90 min.)

W June 24 Screening & Final Exam
Analytical Paper Due

