

# COURSE SYLLABUS

**Title:** Representations of French Society through Film

**Professor:** Dr. Jane GRAY SADLAN

**Credits:** 8

**Language of instruction:** English

**Course objectives:** This is an introductory course which aims to provide students with a general overview of the key movements in French cinema. It also aims to look at how French films reflect the social and cultural trends of their time (on themes such as class, immigration, the family, the workplace, the representation of women, religion etc.).

**Course description:** After a brief overview of the different periods in French cinema (3 to 4 lectures), a selection of films will be watched and analysed by the students each week (the films are made available to the students – in original version with subtitles in English – who are required to watch them out of class time). Students will be given discussion questions to prepare for each film, as well as reading materials related to the film and/or to societal questions relevant to the film under study.

**Bibliography:** Students are provided with all the necessary reading materials. Reference will be made to the following:

- Tony CHAFER & Emmanuel GODIN, *The End of the French Exception? Decline and Revival of the 'French Model'*, UK: Palgrave MacMillan, 2010.
- Alistair COLE, *French Politics and Society*, UK: Pearson, 2005.
- Helen DRAKE, *Contemporary France*, UK: Palgrave MacMillan, 2011.
- David HOWARTH & Georgios VAROUXAKIS, *Contemporary France: An Introduction to French Politics and Society*, UK: Hodder Education, 2003.
- Rémi FOURNIER LANZONI, *French Cinema From Its Beginnings to the Present*, NY: Continuum, 2010.
- T. JEFFERSON KLINE, *Unravelling French Cinema: From L'Atalante to Caché*, UK: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010.
- Tim Palmer, *Brutal Intimacy: Analysing Contemporary French Cinema*, USA: Wesleyan University Press, 2011.
- Sylvie DURMELAT & Vinay SWAMY (eds.), *Screening Integration: Recasting Maghrebi Immigration in Contemporary France*, USA: University of Nebraska Press, 2011.
- James MONACO, *How to Read a Film: Movies, Media and Beyond*, London: Oxford University Press, 2009.

**Evaluation:** The course evaluation will be a combination of continuous assessment and a final examination:

*Continuous assessment* will be based on:

- commitment to the course: attendance, substantial reading done to prepare for each class (background reading and/ or extracts from literary works), and active participation in class
- short presentations given in class (e.g. on paintings, an author, a book, etc...),

*Final examination:* written exam (Questions and/or Essay)

**Available on moodle:** in part