

Looking for Meaning or Trends in Film, Literature and Architecture (GP33231)

Department of Global Studies, Pusan National University

Spring Semester, 2024

Room 205

16:30 - 17:45 Monday, Wednesday

****NB: This is an indicative syllabus. Contents and schedule are subject to change before the semester begins. Please check the syllabus again at the beginning of the semester to ensure you are up to date with the latest information and materials.****

Instructor: Dr. Aimée Lê

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Office: 911-1

Office Hours: Please see the sign-up sheet on the top of the Plato page for open times.

1. Course Objectives and Description

This course is designed to spur creative thinking about connections between film, literature, and architecture. Far from being fully disparate art forms, all three have mutually influenced each other in exciting and surprising ways. Students will address the different formal structures entailed by each art form and gain precision in discussing and critically analyzing art. We will draw on a range of international examples.

The course will enable students to advance their writing skills and to gain sophistication in interdisciplinary thought, addressing both traditional and experimental artistic forms. By the end of the course, students will be able to explain and understand a range of significant ideas, addressing art's relationship with pressing social questions and the expansive power of creativity.

2. Required Textbooks

This course does not have any required textbooks. All readings will be in English and will be made available as PDFs at the start of the course.

3. Requirements and Grading:

Attendance: 10%

Presentation/Leading Class Discussion: 20%

Writing Assignment: 25%

Midterm: 15%

Final Essay: 30%

Attendance: You are allowed three absences for any reason throughout the semester before points will begin to be deducted from your grade. Any subsequent absences will be at the discretion of the instructor. Frequent late attendance or clearly poor participation will be considered an absence. In the (very rare) occasion that a student is disruptive or distracting during class, you will be asked to leave and your attendance will not be counted.

Presentation/Leading Class Discussion: During the semester, each student will be required to give a 5-minute presentation closely reading a scene from a film, and lead a small group discussion, where they guide other students through relevant questions related to their topic.

Writing Assignment: Students will be expected to complete a short essay (500-1000 words) analyzing and situating an artwork discussed during the class. The question will be released in advance. A detailed rubric and examples of exemplary past work will be supplied to students.

Midterm Exam: The midterm exam will consist of a mixture of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, and short essay questions (between 5-10 lines each) to check student comprehension. Sample questions will be released and discussed in advance.

Final Essay: The final essay will consist of:

- An initial draft of 300-500 words (not graded).
- A 20-minute tutorial to discuss your draft and accept feedback and revisions.
- A revised submission of ~1000 words.

4. Sample Course Schedule (subject to change)

Week 1	Introduction
Week 2	Victoria Gallagher and Margaret LaWare, "Sparring with Public Memory"; Peter Balakian, "Joe Louis's Fist"
Week 3	Selected writing from Sergei Eisenstein, Dziga Vertov
Week 4	<i>Battleship Potemkin</i> (1925); Langston Hughes, <i>Montage of a Dream Deferred</i>
Week 5	Exhibit: "Toward A Concrete Utopia" (MoMA, 2018-2019)
Week 6	Will Montgomery, "Sounding the Heygate Estate" and <i>Heygate</i> ; Randall G. Shelden, "Assessing 'Broken Windows': A Brief Critique"
Week 7	Sections from Iain Sinclair, <i>London Orbital</i> ; psychogeography exercise
Week 8	Midterm
Week 9	Douglas Crimp, "Serra's Public Culture: Redefining Site Specificity"
Week 10	<i>Oasis</i> (2002)
Week 11	<i>Russian Ark</i> (2002); <i>Weekend</i> (1967)
Week 12	<i>Parasite</i> (2019); <i>La Ceremonie</i> (1995)

Week 13 "Skinner's Room," William Gibson; *Children of Men* (2006)

Week 14 *Purple* (2017)

Week 15 Review

Week 16 Final