
SCORSESE & KUBRICK in Fall 2019 (FM2083)

Course Code	FM2083	Professor(s)	Alice Craven
Prerequisites	None	Office Number	G-110
Class Schedule	TF: 12:10-13:30 in G-L21	Office Hours	
Credits	4	Email	acraven@aup.edu
Semester	Fall 2019	Office Tel. Ext.	680

Course Description

Who could have imagined the innovative and prolonged career of Martin Scorsese, especially when weighed against the parsimonious production of one of Scorsese's major influences, Stanley Kubrick? This course focuses on these two maverick New York directors, Stanley Kubrick and Martin Scorsese; one starting out in the last years of the American studio system, the other part of the American New Wave. Rather than a straightforward focus on one of these directors and then the other, this course is shaped according to central themes which resonate with both directors: war, religion and the role of urban settings in filmmaking practice, along with other themes. Students do, however, begin with early Kubrick films such as *Killer's Kiss* and *The Killing*, in order to analyze how the early films can be shown to contain the seeds of his later works and to understand his mastery of a wide range of genres from black comedy with *Dr. Strangelove* to science fiction with *2001*. Students also explore the impact of New York on Scorsese's films such as *Mean Streets* and *Taxi Driver*. They analyze his indebtedness to cinema tradition and the influence of this tradition on his *cinéphile* tendencies with films such as *Goodfellas* and *The Departed*. We analyze the status of both directors as *auteur* directors and explore the specificities of their directing techniques. We learn from directors the difficulties of producing *auteur* films from within the American studio system.

Course Learning Outcomes

General Education

Course Outline

September

Week I – 3 Introduction to Course. Influences and Perceptions of the Directors. American New Wave. The Big Shave vs. Coppola's Apocalypse Now.

6 It's Not Just You Murray

September 8th – last day to drop/add courses online

Week II – 10 – 13 Classes Cancelled. Make Ups: 1) October 4 18:00 Top Floor Quai Building-All Things James Baldwin with Yule Caise, Film and Television Director; October 9 12:10-13:30 PL 3 will be discussion of Paths of Glory and clips from Gangs of New York.

Week III –17 Martin Scorsese as cinéphile. Read chapter 1 of Scorsese. The Day of the Fight discussion.

20 Owning the Documentary. Discussion of Day of the Fight and clips from Fear and Desire and the Flying Padre.

Week IV –24 Killer's Kiss screening. Class will begin on time and viewing fits within the time period of the class. Read Kubrick 85-108

27 MID-TERM AND PRESENTATION TOPICS DISTRIBUTED. Discussion of Killer's Kiss. The Intellectual Center of Kubrick's Film and clips from the Killing. Read Kubrick 149-166. If time, clips from the French Wave influence Bob le Flambeur.

October

Week V –1 Urban Alienation. Clips from Main Street and read Scorsese 53-73

4 Taxi Driver clips and analysis. Read Scorsese 23-30. Make Up-See Instructions above. SHORT PAPER ANALYSIS ASSIGNED.

Week VI –8 Institutional Violence. Paths of Glory Viewing. Class will begin on time and will go over by 4-7 minutes. Read Kubrick 49-58.

9 Make up. Discussion of Paths of Glory. Clips from Gangs of New York.

11 Short Papers due. Clips from Full Metal Jacket and read Kubrick 33-48.

Week VII 15 After Hours partial viewing. For today and next class read, Scorsese 109-129; 189-210 and 242-260.

18 After Hours viewing continued. Reference to Fassbinder's Whity.

October 16th, Mid-semester

October 18th, Mid-semester grades due

Week VIII – 22 Presentations.

25 Psychic Violence. Clips from Shutter Island and The Shining. Kubrick 201-220

Week IX - 29 read Scorsese 31-53. Clips from Goodfellas.

November 1 NO CLASS

October 30th – November 3rd, fall break (no classes)

November

Week X – 5 Clips from The Departed and Presentations.

8 Presentations. MID-TERM PAPERS DUE.

November 4th, last day to withdraw from a course /no credit option

Week XI – 12 NO CLASS

15 Clips from Dr. Strangelove and Leni Riefenstahl. Final Paper Topics distributed.

Reread second half of Kubrick chapter 1.

November 11th – 12th, Armistice Break (no classes)

Week XIII – 19 Clips from 2001. Kubrick and Music. Read Kubrick 235-266

22 Religion and Ritual in Scorsese and Kubrick. The Last Temptation of Christ and Eyes Wide Shut

Week XIV – 26 Screening of New York Stories

27 IF POSSIBLE, Special Screening of The Irishman

29 Clips from Clockwork Orange. The Intimacy of Violence

December

Week XV – 3 FINAL PAPERS DUE. Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore and Scorsese's Intimacy of Violence

6 Review for Final

December 6th, last day of classes,

December 7th - 11th, reading days

December 12th – 18th, Final Exam_____

January 2nd, all grades due

Textbooks

Title	Author	Publisher	ISBN	Required
The Philosophy of Martin Scorsese	Conard, Mark T.	University of Kentucky	9780813192185	Yes
The Philosophy of Stanley Kubrick	Abrams, Jerold J.	University of Kentucky Press	9780813192208	Yes

Attendance Policy

Students studying at The American University of Paris are expected to attend ALL scheduled classes, and in case of absence, should contact their professors to explain the situation. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that a faculty member might have set in the course syllabus. The French Department, for example, has its own attendance policy, and students are responsible for compliance. Academic Affairs will excuse an absence for students' participation in study trips related to their courses.

Attendance at all exams is mandatory.

IN ALL CASES OF MISSED COURSE MEETINGS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR, AND FOR ARRANGING TO MAKE UP MISSED WORK, RESTS SOLELY WITH THE STUDENT.

Whether an absence is excused or not is ALWAYS up to the discretion of the professor or the department. Unexcused absences can result in a low or failing participation grade. In the case of excessive absences, it is up to the professor or the department to decide if the student will receive an "F" for the course. An instructor may recommend that a student withdraw, if absences have made it impossible to continue in the course at a satisfactory level.

Students must be mindful of this policy when making their travel arrangements, and especially during the Drop/Add and Exam Periods.

Grading Policy

Aside from general attendance and participation which counts for 10% of the student's grade, students will be evaluated on the following individual assignments:

- 1) Participation and group or individual presentations from a scene or theme related to the films of Kubrick or Scorsese or a comparison of the two counts for 15%.
- 2) 1 short analysis paper to be submitted in the early semester. 10%
- 3) A mid-term exam (format to be determined) counts for 25 %
- 4) A final paper of 6-8 pages, research format due on 15 July counts for 25%

A final exam essay format counts for 25%

Other
