

FILM 237 - 801, Film Philosophy  
Winter, 2023 - 2024, DePaul University  
Instructor: Bernard Roddy, PhD, MFA  
Composition date of this page: Nov. 17, 2023

This course undertakes a study of film and media theory. The cinema will be studied in terms of narration, the theater, and painting. The history of media will be discussed in terms of changes in human experience and the significance of art within a Marxist understanding of economics and social formations.

1. Book titles we draw from in this course:

Walter Benjamin, *Illuminations* (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1968)  
André Bazin, *What is Cinema? Vol. 1* (University of California Press, 1967)  
Roland Barthes, *Image, Music, Text* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1977)  
Stephen Heath, *Questions of Cinema* (Indiana University Press, 1981)  
Gregory Flaxman, ed., *The Brain is the Screen: Deleuze and the Philosophy of Cinema*  
(University of Minnesota Press, 2000)

2. Grading

There are three essays (25 points each) and written discussion credit (25 points). A student enrolled in the course must follow D2L. Criteria for essays include the appropriateness of sources, the comprehension of sources, the mechanics and style of writing, and the independence of the student. The last of these enters the picture once the others have been established. No outside research will be necessary. All readings will be provided and discussed. The prompts for each essay will be provided a week in advance.