

Advanced Topics in Cinema: Freedom in Cinema ONLINE SECTION

In-Class: CDM 00708, Loop Th 1:30PM-4:45PM (not required)

Office Hours: CDM 522 Th 4:45PM-6:15PM (please make appointments)

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Freedom in Cinema is a course that focuses on the subject of freedom, by focusing on two categories where this idea is active in film: as a contested philosophical idea and as an artistic/aesthetic strategy. Screenings and lectures will be organized around connecting a particular conception of freedom as an idea and particular films as well as filmmakers and how this might be connected to understanding how the films were made and make meaning. In most basic terms, we'll be analyzing films in form and content through the lens of theories of freedom.

For example, we'll read about Liberation Theology and put that in context with Pier Paolo Pasolini's *The Gospel According to St. Mathew* and the Sun Ra film *Space is the Place*. We'll read about Buddhist ideas of transcendence and discuss Apichatpong Weerasethakul's *Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives* and Katsuhito Ishii's *The Taste of Tea*. Essentially, each week will combine the introduction of new a thematic idea that defines freedom with 1 or more films with related lecture and discussion.

The work in the course will involve discussion, critical analysis, and critical, creative work. While there will be some writing in the course, assignments will largely take the form of 'creative' assignments like presenting film analyses in the form of videos rather than papers. The final assignment will be based on a project proposal from the student, but will take the form of a paper and a video work of some kind.

All readings will be provided as links or PDFs on D2L.

For graduate students in the course, assignments will take the same form but with higher expectations for depth, breadth and quality of work.

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GRADING DISTRIBUTION:

Participation	10%
Midterm Project	30%
Week 10 Student presentations	20%
Final Project	40%
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	100%

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Week 1 | 1.5.17

Lecture & Discussion: Freedom as Form and Content

Lecture & Discussion: Ideology on Screen

Week 3 | 1.19.17

Lecture & Discussion: The Cinematic Derivé | Searching, Wandering, Getting Lost

Lecture & Discussion: Jouissance | Pleasure, Laughter, Excess

Student Presentations: Midterm Projects

Lecture & Discussion: Abstraction I Formlessness, Contextlessness, *Art Pour L'Art*

Introduction of Final Project

Lecture & Discussion: Transcendence | Escaping narrative, Escaping the diegesis

Lecture & Discussion: Liberation | Liberation Theology, Politics, and Fantasy

Lecture & Discussion: Death of the Author | Improvisation & Post-Modernism

Lecture & Discussion: The Trans-Human | No Bodies, Non-materiality, The New Aesthetic

Student Presentations: Topic analysis

Lecture & Discussion: Final Thoughts

FINAL PROJECT DUE | 3.16.17 11:30AM

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COURSE POLICIES:

Online students are expected to watch lecture recordings within one week of their posting on D2L. A few times during the term the instructor will contact online students with general discussion points with the expectation of an individual response within a stated timeframe. Students may contact the instructor at any time at rocheandy@gmail.com with questions, concerns or points of interest. Online students may meet with the instructor during office hours, but are asked to do so by appointment via email.

Assignments and exercises must be completed by the due date provided. Late work will not be accepted without prior consent of the instructor.

Student participation in class discussions will be measured in two ways. First, students are highly encouraged to ask questions and offer comments relevant to the day's topic. Participation allows the instructor to "hear" the student's voice when grading papers. Secondly, students will be called upon by the instructor to offer comments via discussion prompts periodically throughout the term. Students must keep up with the reading to participate in class discussion.

A professional and academic attitude is expected throughout this course. Measurable examples of non-academic or unprofessional attitude include but are not limited to: talking to others when the instructor is speaking, mocking another's opinion, cell phones ringing, emailing, texting or using the internet whether on a phone or computer. If any issues arise a student may be asked to leave the course. The professor will work with the Dean of Students Office to navigate such student issues.

DePaul University is a community that thrives on open discourse that challenges students, both intellectually and personally, to be [Socially Responsible Leaders](#). It is the expectation that all dialogue in this course is civil and respectful of the dignity of each student. Any instances of disrespect or hostility can jeopardize a student's ability to be successful in the course. The professor will partner with the Dean of Students Office to assist in managing such issues.

This syllabus is subject to change as necessary during the quarter. If a change occurs, it will be thoroughly addressed during class, posted on D2L and sent via email.

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## **COLLEGE POLICIES:**

**Online Course Evaluations** Evaluations are a way for students to provide valuable feedback regarding their instructor and the course. Detailed feedback will enable the instructor to continuously tailor teaching methods and course content to meet the learning goals of the course and the academic needs of the students. They are a requirement of the course and are key to continue to provide you with the highest quality of teaching. The evaluations are anonymous; the instructor and administration do not track who entered what responses. A program is used to check if the student completed the evaluations, but the evaluation is completely separate from the student's identity. Since 100% participation is our goal, students are sent periodic reminders over three weeks. Students do not receive reminders once they complete the evaluation. Students complete the evaluation online in [CampusConnect](#).

**Academic Integrity and Plagiarism** This course will be subject to the university's academic integrity policy. More information can be found at <http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/>. If you have any questions be sure to consult with your professor.

**Academic Policies** All students are required to manage their class schedules each term in accordance with the deadlines for enrolling and withdrawing as indicated in the [University Academic Calendar](#). Information on enrollment, withdrawal, grading and incompletes can be found at: [cdm.depaul.edu/enrollment](http://cdm.depaul.edu/enrollment).

**Students with Disabilities** Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential.

To ensure that you receive the most appropriate accommodation based on your needs, contact the instructor as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of class), and make sure that you have contacted the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) at: [csd@depaul.edu](mailto:csd@depaul.edu).

Lewis Center 1420, 25 East Jackson Blvd.  
Phone number: (312)362-8002  
Fax: (312)362-6544  
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