

Department of English & Writing Studies
Film Studies Program

Film 3335G (001)
Contemporary German Cinema
Winter Term 2024

Course Day/Time: Asynchronous Online Screenings (weekly links provided)
Seminar Tues. 10:30 am -12:30 pm



Course Description

This course introduces students to the history of Contemporary German Cinema after unification. Topics include *Ostalgie*, the “Berlin School”, European identity and transnational film production, migration, and historical memory. The relationship to the *auteurism* of post-war New German Cinema will also be examined. By the end of this course, you will be able to identify major trends and tendencies in contemporary German Cinema and situate them in their historical, cultural and aesthetic contexts.

Learning Outcomes:

Students in this course will gain a new awareness and appreciation of German film history, film aesthetics and cultural studies approaches. Understanding, capacity for argument, judgment and analysis will be fostered by essays, presentations and other assignments, and by in-class small-group and whole-class discussion. Communication skills will be imparted through in-class discussion and credit will be given for frequency and quality of contributions. Awareness of the limits of knowledge will be enhanced by exploring the legitimate differences of opinion and methodology within the field, and by requiring students to negotiate the formulation of their own opinions in-class with the terms and knowledge brought to discussions by other students and the instructor. The ability to argue and decide on complex issues will be fostered by essays and in-class discussion. Academic responsibility and time management skills will be fostered by the need to prepare properly for class and to deliver assignments in a timely manner.

Methods of Evaluation

Classroom Participation (active seminar participation and a minimum of six OWL FORUM online discussion board contributions*): 30%

Sequence Analysis Assignment: 20% (5 pages), due Feb. 15th

Group Presentations on Film Shorts or Trailer 20%, due March 19th

Final Project (Open Topic Research Paper or Creative Assignment) – (10 pages) 30%, due April 9th