

NIRMA UNIVERSITY
COMMUNICATION DESIGN PROGRAMME
Bachelor of Design, Department of Design
Year III, Semester V

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Course Code	CDTH 311E
Course Title	Film Appreciation

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO):

At the end of the course the students will:

1. Perceive the power of cinema as a creative medium of communication and its relationship with society
2. Analyze the narrative styles of cinema and the various genres of story telling
3. Appreciate cinema through the lens of historical, social, aesthetic and technological perspectives

Syllabus:

Total Teaching hours: 30

The course would make the student understand various elements of a film, the concepts behind storytelling and explore the aesthetics of cinema. The language of images and sounds, the meanings created by their design, their juxtaposition and sequencing will be discussed. The course methodology would consist of screening of films (by masters who are authors of film genres/styles), lectures and presentations, interactive discussions and assignments.

Unit 1: Introduction to film history and film analysis

Teaching hours: 10

- 1.1 Historic and contemporary film landscape
- 1.2 History of Indian cinema
- 1.3 Movie genres- documentary, fiction and hybrid cinema
- 1.4 Concepts behind storytelling, editing styles, mise-en-scène and cinematography

Unit 2: Understanding cinematic language

Teaching hours: 10

- 2.1 Narrative elements in film
- 2.2 Theme, metaphor and allegory
- 2.3 Cinema and literature
- 2.4 Role of sound in cinema

Unit 3: Cinema and society

Teaching hours: 10

- 3.1 Approaches to analysis and interpretation
- 3.2 Explicit and implicit content
- 3.3 Impact of cinema on society and vice versa
- 3.4 Analysis of film across social, cultural and political perspectives
- 3.5 Emotion and film theory

Suggested Readings:

1. *Experimental Cinema: A Fifty-Year Evolution* by David Curtis, Delacorte Press, 1972
2. *The Cinema of Satyajit Ray: Between Tradition and Modernity* by Darius Cooper, Cambridge University Press, 2008
3. *Bollywood and Globalization: Indian Popular Cinema, Nation, and Diaspora* by Rini Bhattacharya Mehta, Anthem Press, 2011
4. *Poetics of Cinema* by David Bordwell, Routledge, 2007
5. *Film Theory and Criticism* by Leo Braudy, Oxford University Press, 2009
6. *The Genius of the System: Hollywood Filmmaking in the Studio Era*, by Thomas Schatz, Published by University of Minnesota Press, 2010