

DocNomads
Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree in Documentary Film Directing
ECTS FILE

DOC NOMADS EMJMD		
Course unit: Cinema, Culture & Identity (III)		Duration: 3 semesters
Semester's Name: Belgian Cinema & Identity		Semester: 3rd
Contact hours: 25	Individual working hours: 50	ECTS: 3
Type: Theoretical course		Graded by: Permanent Evaluation and Assignment
<p>Lecturer: Leen Engelen</p> <p>Teachers involved: guest speakers may be invited, but the entire course is supervised and graded by the lecturer.</p>		
<p>Syllabus of the semester: Course unit contents</p> <p>Taking specific films and film excerpts as its starting point, this course explores and questions the concept of 'Belgian cinema' and the image of Belgium (as an imagined community) as presented in film. The aim is not to offer an exhaustive overview of the history of Belgian cinema, but to look at how Belgian film makers have dealt with specific themes considered central to Belgian identity and history (e.g. colonialism, nation building, artistic traditions).</p> <p>The course is divided into in-class lessons and screenings and visits to leading cultural institutions as well as Q&A's. Active participation of the students is required.</p> <p>This approach will help students to gain insight in historical and recent developments in Belgian cinema and to become acquainted with Belgian (documentary) film makers. The course matters should therefore provide a set of starting clues for students to follow and investigate deeper, both to develop their assignment for this course and to ground possible topics for the graduation projects they will carry out locally in the final semester.</p>		
<p>Objective of the course unit: Objectives. Knowledge, abilities and skills to be acquired</p> <p>This course offers an introduction to Belgian cinema and explores it's relations to Belgian art, culture and identity.</p>		
<p>Teaching methodologies and assessment: Planned learning activities, teaching methods and assessment methods and criteria</p> <p>The course includes approx. 25 hours of teaching (including visits and group discussions) and screenings. Attendance of all activities organised in the framework of this course is mandatory.</p>		

In principle, the classes take place on campus. Individual consultations can be organised online via Toledo Collaborate. In case of a COVID surge, online classes will be organised. On campus teaching will be organised according to the applicable COVID-19 regulations. In case of on campus teaching, there will not be provided an online alternative. Excursions and visits will be organised according to the COVID-19 regulations at the time of the event.

Assessment will be based on:

- Attendance and participation
- A written or (audio)visual essay. The subject of this essay may be chosen by the student, but must be related to the overall theme of Belgian cinema and cultural identity (see assignment form). The topic is subject to approval by the lecturer.

Main bibliography and films:

Recommended or required reading/seeing

READING:

Mosley, P. (2001). Split Screen: Belgian cinema and cultural identity. New York: State University of New York Press.

<http://filmgeschiedenis.be/periodes/cinema-made-in-belgium>

+ texts made available on Toledo.

FILMOGRAPHY:

Selection of recent and older Belgian films (mainly limited to films that are available, with English subtitles, on DVD).