

Introduction to the Nature and Theory of Cinema



Faculty	Course Type	Credits	Prerequisites	Semester
Ms Gayatri Chatterjee / Ms Ananya Parikh	Minor	4	Film Studies Minor	III

Brief Overview

This paper prepares a base for a proper entry into film theory—but at this point only some theoretical approaches are lightly touched upon. The course will take students through the medium of cinema, a glimpse into pre-cinema with special emphasis on India (phad and pat, chitrakathi and puppetry), a history of technology leading to cinema, a brief political and economical history of the nineteenth and the twentieth century and the film movements emerging out of them, etc. The paper will lay emphasis on Silent Cinema from Europe, America and India, and the two film theories emerging out of them.

Course Objectives

Students in this course will be able to –

- Think in terms of the sociology-anthropology of the arts.
- Develop a philosophical base of the arts as relevant to cinema.

Teaching Methodology

The course is conducted mostly through film screenings and analyses, class discussions, paper writings, etc.

Requirements

Students are expected to –

- Complete all required reading for each scheduled class as per the course outline,
- Actively participate in class activities and discussions, and
- Complete all evaluative processes for successful course completion!