

THE ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES UNIVERSITY, HYDERABAD

TEMPLATE FOR COURSE DESCRIPTIONS (for all the Programmes)

Course title	Film as Narrative
Category (Mention the appropriate category (a/b/c) in the course description.)	c.New course
Course code	FS410
Semester	IV
Number of credits	3
Maximum intake	30 (on first-come-first-served-basis)
Day/Time	Wednesday – 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. Thursday – 3.00 – 4.00 p.m
Name of the teacher/s	Prof. Nikhila H.
Course description	<p>i) This course on filmic narration focuses on such advanced aspects in film narratology as narrative levels, focalization or narrative regulation of knowledge, narration and time, narration and space, etc. It calls attention to <i>how</i> films tell stories (when they do), shifting focus away from <i>what</i> stories films tell. This will be done through a set of films, including puzzle films, films with unreliable narrators, films with multiple diegetic levels, and films exhibiting ‘Rashomon effect’.</p> <p>The aim of the course is to help students gain a vocabulary to describe and analyze complex film narratives, and to appreciate the need for a distinctive approach to film narratives, given that filmic narratives differ from literary and other kinds of narratives. While it assumes that students will draw from their existing knowledge of the workings of (literary) narratives, by the end of the Course, it hopes to equip them with the theoretical and conceptual tools required to come up with persuasive arguments for specifically how films mean and how the story is gleaned from the unfolding film. It will do this through film viewing, classroom lectures, student presentations and tasks facilitating self-learning by students.</p> <p>Key Modules:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is a narrative; fictional and factual narration 2. Basic elements of film narrative – time, space and causality 3. Narrative structure – theme, plot, character, fabula and syuzhet; diegetic levels. 4. Who narrates in film – narration and focalization 5. Non-linearity in film <p>ii) The course is in tune with the PSO of the different</p>

	<p>postgraduate programmes</p> <p>iii) Learning outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will learn the narratological approach to cinema 2. Students will learn how to use evidence from the film text to build and support a coherent argument 3. They will learn how to use stills and clips from films to build a visual essay – one that combines images and writing. (1-a domain specific outcome; 2-c skill enhancement; 3-d employability, content writing)
Course delivery	<p>Lecture – on film narratological terminology</p> <p>Discussions after film viewing where the learnt concepts and terms are used to talk about the film</p> <p>Seminar/Experiential learning, where students create visual essays</p>
Evaluation scheme	<p>Internal (modes of evaluation): Assignments will be on researching into the tools available for creating visual essays, and on writing these essays.</p> <p>End-semester (mode of evaluation): End semester exam to demonstrate the learning in the Course.</p>
Reading list	<p>Essential reading: (tentative) –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chatman, Seymour. <i>Story and Discourse: Narrative Structure in Fiction and Film</i>. Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press. 1978 2. <i>Living Handbook of Narratology</i> - https://www-archiv.fdm.uni-hamburg.de/lhn/ 3. Peter Huhn, et al., ed. <i>Point of View, Perspective and Focalization</i>, Ed. By Berlin · New York: Walter de Gruyter, 2009 4. Bordwell, David. <i>Narration in the Fictional Film</i>. University of Wisconsin Press. 1985 <p>Additional reading</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Patron, Sylvie. <i>On the Epistemology of Narrative Theory: Narratology and Other Theories of Fictional Narrative</i> 2. Currie, Gregory. <i>Narratives and Narrators: A Philosophy of Stories</i>. Oxford: OUP, 2010 <p>Readings will be added as per requirements.</p>