

FILMSTUDIES

MA Film Studies

Info Session 2022

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Justine Knijn, MA program graduate



FILMSTUDIES

The MA Film Studies trains students to critically and creatively engage with film and cinema culture by offering in-depth knowledge in various research fields, ranging from film-philosophy, aesthetics and politics, media archeology and cultural memory to issues of intermedial, transnational and global audiovisual practices.



Contacts

- Program coordinator: Abe Geil a.m.geil@uva.nl
- For admission (documents to submit, etc.), practical and financial matters: Graduate School Admissions Office -> admissionsMA-fgw@uva.nl
- In addition to the UVA program web page, check out also our Film studies website: <https://filmstudies.nl>



Program Overview

Semester 1			Semester 2		
Block 1	Block 2	Block 3	Block 1	Block 2	Block 3
Film Theories (6 EC)	Cinema Histories & Cultures (6 EC)	Research Project (6 EC)	Thesis (18 EC)		
Research Seminar I (6 EC)	Research Seminar II (6 EC)		Free Elective to be chosen from the Graduate School for Humanities. Such as: -This is Film! Film Heritage in Practice -Media and Sexuality -Documentary Imagination -Going Global: Globalisation and Cultural Imaginary -The Futures of Culture: Art and Media in/outside Changing Institutions -Visual Subcultures Online (12 EC)		



Structure of the program:

1. First Semester MA Film Studies

<i>Film Theories</i> (6 EC)	<i>Cinema Histories & Cultures</i> (6 EC)	<i>Research</i> Project (6 EC)
<i>Film Studies Research Seminar 1</i> (6 EC)	<i>Film Studies Research Seminar 2</i> (6 EC)	



Recent Film Research Seminar Topics

- **How To Save the World: Ecology, Eco-cinema, Ecocriticism** (Catherine Lord)
- **Small National Cinemas In Transnational Constellations** (Pei-Sze Chow)
- **Against Objectivity: Theory and Practice of the Essay Film** (Diego Semerene)
- **Listening to Cinema** (Christian Olesen)
- **Film, Psychedelics and Other Mediations of the Weird** (Patricia Pisters)
- **A Cognitive Approach to Visual and Multimodal Metaphor** (Charles Forceville)
- **(Un)dressing Cinema** (Marie Baronian)
- **Cinema, Modernity and the Global South** (Rakesh Sengupta)

Week One

What Is Cinema? I: Image

- André Bazin, “The Ontology of the Photographic Image” (1945)
- Gilles Deleuze, “Theses on movement” from *Cinema 1* (1983)
- Bernard Stiegler, “The Discrete Image” (1995)



Screening: *Still Life* (Jia Zhangke, 2006)

Week Two What Is Cinema? II: Language

- Sergei Eisenstein, “The Dramaturgy of Film Form” (1929)
- André Bazin, “The Evolution of the Language of Cinema” (1955)
- Peter Wollen, “The Semiology of Cinema” (1969)



Screening: *Strike* (Sergei Eisenstein, 1925)

Week Three

Where Is Cinema? Apparatus, Ideology, Presence

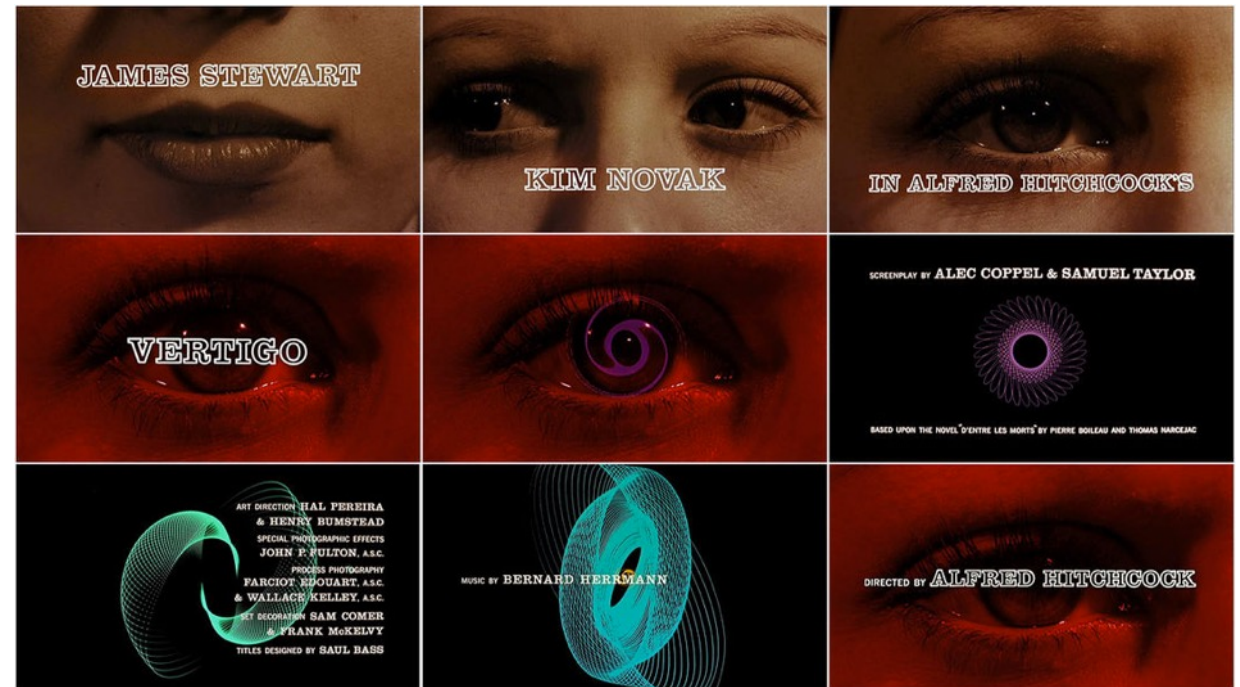
- Jean-Louis Baudry, “Ideological Effects of the Basic Cinematographic Apparatus” (1970)
- Vivian Sobchack, “The Scene of the Screen: Envisioning Photographic, Cinematic, and Electronic ‘Presence’” (2004)
- Francesco Casetti, “Back to the Motherland: the film theatre in the postmedia age” (2011)



Screening: *Cabin In The Woods* (Drew Goddard, 2012)

Week Four Close-reading, Analysis, Interpretation: 4 Views of *Vertigo*

- Laura Mulvey, “Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema” (1975)
- Chris Marker, “A free replay (notes on *Vertigo*)” (1994)
- Slavoj Žižek, “Hitchcock as Anti-Plato” (2004)
- Sianne Ngai, “The Detective” (2005)



Screening: *Vertigo* (Alfred Hitchcock, 1958)

Week Five Race, Cultural Identity, and Cinematic Representation

- Stuart Hall, “Cultural Identity and Cinematic Representation” (1990)
- bell hooks, “The Oppositional Gaze: Black Female Spectators” (1992)
- Michael Boyce Gillespie, “We Insist: The Idea of Black Film” (2016)



Screening: *Get Out* (Jordan Peele, 2017)

Week Six

Genre, Bodies, Affect

- Linda Williams, “Film Bodies: Gender, Genre, Excess” (1991)
- Gilles Deleuze, from *Cinema I*
- Laura Marks, “Haptic Cinema” (2000)



Screening: *The Headless Woman* (Lucrecia Martel, 2008)

Structure of the program:

Second Semester MA Film Studies

MA-Thesis (18 EC)

Elective (12 EC)

Such as:

- This is Film!
- Media and Sexuality
- Documentary Imagination
- Elemental Media
- Going Global: Globalisation and Cultural Imaginary
- The Futures of Culture



Recent Film MA Thesis Titles (a selection)

- *Escaping to Outer Space: Space Escapism in Contemporary American Space Films*
- *The Extreme Cinema of Gaspar Noé*
- *Able-Bodiedness as Ideology in Rear Window and Vertigo*
- *The Body is the Story: Jean Epstein, Queer World-Making and the Fashion Film*
- *The Posthuman Ape: Following the Animal in Planet of the Apes*
- *Fashioning Rebellion: Cinematic Spaces, Fabrics, and Bodies in the French New Wave*
- *Imprisonment and Liberation: The ideological function of prison metaphor in films*
- *“The incredible we don’t see”: The Agency of Postcolonial Youth in Contemporary Europe*
- *The Representation of Psychedelics in Cinema*
- *Unconscious Cinema: Revealing the Presence of Collective Guilt in Post-WWII Films of Germany, Japan and Italy*
- *“May Our Cries Be Not Forgotten” Remembering Doubly-Colonised Women’s Resistance in New Korean Cinema*
- *At The Intersection of Cultural Development and Algorithmic Design*
- *“To Revisit Time Like Space”: Nostalgia Without Memory in Earth Bound and Mother3*
- *The Feel of Philosophy*
- *Representation and Reception of Complex Female Characters in Television Serials*

Career perspectives outside the university

Festival Curator (e.g.: IDFA)

Film Criticism, Journalism

Funding Advisor

Producer/Director

Project Coordinator (e.g. : Sound and Vision)

Research and Production

Documentary Editor

PR and Communication (e.g. : EYE Institute)

**Film Distribution, Publishing, Cultural Institutions,
Museums, New Media, Television, Archives, Education
etc.**



MA Film Application Deadlines

Admissions are on a rolling basis. You don't have to wait for the deadline. The sooner you apply, the sooner you will be notified about admission.

1 March 2023

- Applicants with a non-EU/EEA nationality

15 May 2023

- Applicants with a Dutch or other EU/EEA nationality *

* If you are an applicant with an EU/EEA nationality and wish to apply for housing, you must submit your application by 1 March 2022.

If you are interested in a scholarship, you need to apply for both the Master's programme and the scholarship before 15 January.



Entry Requirements

The Master's in Film Studies is open for application to all students with a Bachelor's degree from the UvA, or another accredited university in:

-Film Studies

-A discipline in the Humanities related to Media Studies, or the Social Sciences with a focus on Media Studies as developed from a Humanities perspective, including media analyses, media practices, text and audience analysis (to be decided upon by the selection committee).

The level of the Bachelor's degree from a foreign higher education institution must be equal to three years of Dutch university education (to be judged by the Examinations Board).



Entry Requirements

Pre-Master's

If you do not meet the entry requirements--for example if you have a degree from a Dutch University of Applied Sciences (*HBO*) or an equivalent thereof or have a degree not related to film and media studies--you may be eligible for admission after completing the pre-Master's programme Media Studies.

Please note: this pre-Master's programme is taught in English and is only accessible to students with a Dutch or other EU nationality.



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QUESTIONS?