

COURSE OUTLINE

FILM-210

Russian Film

3 Semester Hours

Fine Arts and Humanities Core Course

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

This course is an interdisciplinary study of Russian society and culture through the medium of film. The aim of the course is to show the interconnection between artistic expression and the historical, social, and cultural realities within Russia from the 1920s to the present. (3 hours weekly). NOTE: Also listed as RUSS-210.

Statement on General Education and Liberal Learning

A liberal education prepares students to lead ethical, productive, and creative lives and to understand how the pursuit of lifelong learning and critical thinking fosters good citizenship. General education courses form the core of a liberal education within the higher education curriculum and provide a coherent intellectual experience for all students by introducing the fundamental concepts and methods of inquiry in the areas of mathematics, the physical and natural sciences, the social sciences, the arts and the humanities, and composition. This course is part of the general education core experience at Howard Community College.

Overall Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will:

1. Develop a general knowledge of Russian history and culture from the 1920's to the present.
2. Identify running themes in Russian movies.
3. Discuss the "auteur theory" of the cinema, especially as it relates to Russian directors.
4. Analyze the close connection between history, culture, and cinema.
5. Distinguish different cinematic styles and genres based on the cultural models created throughout Russian history from the 1920s to the present.
6. Discuss the styles of the most important and influential Russian directors.
7. Compare and contrast films and literary works from this area and place them in their cultural setting.
8. Discuss cultural mores, family life, religion, art, literature as depicted in Russian film.

Major Topics

- I. Directors of the 1920s (Eisenstein, Pudovkin, Dovzhenko, Vertov)
- II. Postwar directors (Kalatozov, Paradjanov, Tarkovsky, Mikhalkov, Sokurov)
- III. Russian animated films
- IV. Russian crime films
- V. Soviet films from censorship to perestroika

Course Requirements

Grading/Exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member, but may include a researched essay, oral presentation, and regular exams.

Other Course Information

This course is a Fine Arts and Humanities Core Course, and an Arts and Sciences, Fine Arts and Humanities Elective.