

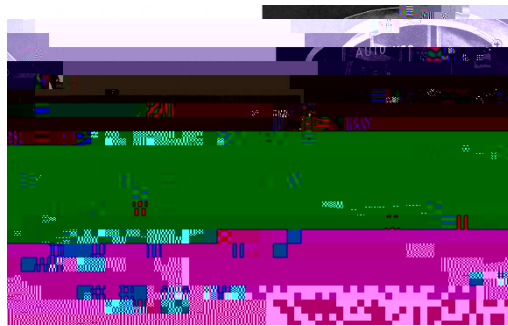
Department of English & Writing Studies
Film Studies Program

Film and Popular Culture
Film 3309G (001)
Winter 2023

Instructor : Prof. Adrian Mioc
University College 3314
amioc2@uwo.ca | 519 661-2111 x87882
Virtual Essay Drop Box: OWL Drop Box

Course Day/Time: Mon. 12:30 -2:30 (Online
Screening)

Office hours: Monday 2:30-4:30 pm or by
appointment



[Left Image: Fritz Kahn, 1939: Right Image, Thomas Ott, Cinema Panopticum, 2005]

Course Description

In this course, we will contemplate the dream of cinema as it intersects with powerful forms of popular culture, like the graphic novel, comic book, video games, and television. We will engage with a wide cinematic corpus (from silent cinema and the avant-garde to Hollywood cult classics, Canadian cyberpunk and contemporary techno-horror) and investigate how filmic texts engage with popular culture, using both film theory concepts and discussion of historical and technological contexts as our main research methods. Topics include media anxiety, horrors of mechanical reproducibility, cinema as virtual reality and imaginary travel, cinema's shifting role in a larger digital age and nostalgic views of nitrate and early pioneers. Films include Scorsese's *Hugo*, *The Truman Show*, *Johnny Mnemonic*, the J-Horror film *Ring*, and *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse*.

Film Still: Cineplex Short *A Balloon for Ben* (2019)

Course Materials

Textbooks (available at University Bookstore) :

-Bram Stoker, *Dracula* (Signet Edition)

-Luigi Pirandello, *Shoot: The Notebooks of Serafino Gubbio* (University of Chicago Press – Optional)

-Brian Selznick, *Invention of Hugo Cabret* (Scholastic Press – “not exactly a novel, not quite a picture book, not really a graphic novel, or a flip book or a movie, but a combination of all these things”)

Reading: Michael Pigott on fanvidding and cinephilic practice, *Joseph Cornell vs. Cinema* (pg. 70-77); Tisha Turk, "Your Own Imagination": Vidding and Vidwatching as Collaborative Interpretation"

*Optional Reading: Pirandello, *Shoot: The Notebooks of Serafino Gubbio* (pg. 120-214)

-Méliès' *A Trip to the Moon* (1903) [in its original 1902 colors – restored color version], streaming on KANOPY – Weldon Databases <https://guides.lib.uwo.ca/az.php?a=k>

-James Williamson *The Big Swallow* (1901), available online

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dlzkQwOOPhY>

or

<https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x75q8q7>

-Joseph Cornell's Avant-Garde FanVid *Rose Hobart* (1936), available online:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xCTve7oML5w> [soundtrack by John Zorn –

or

<https://www.filmpreservation.org/preserved-films/screening-room/rose-hobart-1936>

[restored print, available on the National Fi

Week Five (Feb. 6) "The Amazing Cinematograph": Bram Stoker's Dracula
Screening: *Bram Stoker's Dracula* (Coppola, 1992) - Please screen online on Audio Cine -
Films (ACF) streaming platform, Weldon Library Databases <https://guides.lib.uwo.ca/az.php>
[look for New/Trial Databases on right or use alphabetical I

