



French culture and French cinema

French UA 9781 / DR litt UA 9502

In-person in French

Summer 2022

If you are enrolled in this course 100% remotely and are not a Go Local/Study Away student for NYU [SITE], please make sure that you've completed the online academic orientation via Brightspace so you are aware of site specific support structure, policies and procedures. Please contact nyu.paris.academics@nyu.edu if you have trouble accessing the Brightspace site.

Berty Valérie

Course Details

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 2:00pm to 16:00 and Friday 2:00p0 to 3:30pm
French time.
Office hour: Tuesday 4pm
- COVID-related details: In the interest of protecting the NYU Paris community, we are closely following CDC guidance around COVID-19 and adjusting our recommendations and policies accordingly. Your health and well-being is our top priority.
 - If you are attending in person, you will be assigned a seat on the first day and are expected to use that seat for the entire semester due to NYU COVID-19 safety protocol. Please note that you are expected to attend every class meeting in-person; however, this may change during the drop/add period if in-person student registration increases significantly or at any point during the semester if local COVID-19 regulations require additional physical distancing.
 - Additionally, in-person students will be split into cohorts who will attend sessions [AS INDICATED HERE].

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Course Description

The aim of the course is to question the notion of French culture through the prism of cinema. In studying the French cinematographic production from its origins until today through the corpus of proposed films, students will have an overview of the major filmmakers and aesthetics movements within which they evolved. This chronological exploration will highlight the specific delineated dynamics thanks to which cinema becomes the privileged witness of the profound transformation of mentalities and the upheavals that profoundly transformed the French society. Students will therefore be made to think on cinema's role as a cultural agent by studying how it reflects an era while at the same time it produces a critical point of view of this period. Also examined are the formal structure of French cinema, its stylistic choices and ways of expression shared with other artistic practices, in order to understand the major place it occupies from then on within the French culture as well as the way it actually contributes to its world-wide radiance (don't we always refer to the French cultural exception while referring mostly to cinema?).

Course Objective

Students will be asked to watch two films per week. They will be evaluated on their written work, oral participation in class and at two or three oral presentations.

The course is organized as a seminar. Before each seminar students are expected to have seen the film assigned and written a two pages paper on it. Each class is a discussion by students, thus building a specific comparative and collective knowledge for the class. Participation in this critical discussion will be graded. Assigned reading texts will be available on reserve or photocopies. Films will be put on reserve or available on Kanopy.

Assessment Components

You are expected to attend class in person Failure to submit or fulfill any required component may result in failure of the class, regardless of grades achieved in other assignments.

Required Text(s)

Youssef Ishaghpour, *Le Cinéma*, photocopies will be given.

Films will be available on Kanopy or DVD in NYU Library.

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French culture and French cinema, été 2022

- Week 1

Session 1- Tuesday May 24th: **Naissance du cinéma**

Présentation: "Qu'est-ce que le cinéma"

Lire: Y. Ishaghpour, "Le Cinéma", Avant-propos et ch.1 (photocopies)

Session 2- Wednesday May 25th: **Le temps du muet 1896-1929**

Les premiers films: Méliès et Les Frères Lumière

Voir: "**Le voyage dans la lune**" de Méliès

Y. Ishaghpour, "Le Cinéma", ch.2(photocopies)

Session 3- Friday 27th

Analyse: "Le voyage dans la lune"

Le temps du muet et ses évolutions

Voir: "**Le cuirassée de Potemkine**" de S. Eisenstein

- Week 2

Session 4- Monday May 30th: **Les techniques du montage**

"**Le cuirassée de Potemkine**" de S. Eisenstein

Y. Ishaghpour, "Le Cinéma", ch.3

Session 5- Tuesday May 31st: **Les avant-gardes**

surréalisme, impressionnisme et expressionnisme français

Voir: **Le jour se lève** de Carné (1939)

Lire: article sur *Le jour se lève*

Session 6- Thursday June 2nd: **Le choc du parlant**

Analyse: *Le jour se lève*

Le réalisme poétique

Session 7- Friday June 3rd: Sortie cinéma

Ecrire: Critique du film vu (2 pages)

- Week 3

Session 8- Monday June 6th: **Le cinéma pendant la guerre**

Le Corbeau, H. Clouzot (1943)

Voir: **L'année des ombres**, Melville (1942)

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Session 9- Tuesday June 7th: Le Cinéma d'après guerre, reconstruire

Analyse et présentation: Le Corbeau et L'année des ombres

Voir: *Les Diaboliques*, Clouzot (1955)

Ecrire: devoir sur *Les Diaboliques*, (2 pages)

Session 10- Thursday June 9th:

Analyse: *Les Diaboliques*

Premier film de la nouvelle vague: Agnès Varda, *La Pointe Courte* (1956)

Session 11- Friday June 10th: *Les 400 coups* de Truffaut, (auditorium)

Lire article sur *Les 400 coups*

Ecrire: devoir sur *Les 400 coups* (2 à 3 pages)

- Week 4

Session 12- Monday June 13th : La nouvelle vague: années 60

Analyse et présentation: *Les 400 coups*

Lire article sur la nouvelle vague

Session 13- Tuesday June 14h: La nouvelle vague suite

Voir: *A bout de souffle* de Godard, (1959)

Lire article sur *A bout de souffle*

Ecrire devoir sur *A bout de souffle* (2 à 3 pages)

Session 14- Thursday June 16th:

Analyse: *A bout de souffle*

Après la Nouvelle vague

Session 15- Friday June 17th: Sortie cinéma

Ecrire: Critique sur le film vu

- Week 5

Session 16- Monday June 20th: Les femmes et la Nouvelle Vague

Présentations des critiques

Voir: Agnès Varda, *Cléo de 5 à 7* (1962)

Lire article sur *Cléo de 5 à 7*

Session 17- Tuesday June 21st:

Analyse et présentation: *Cléo de 5 à 7*

L'économie du cinéma en France

***Session 18- Wednesday June 22nd: visite de la cinémathèque (si possible)**

Remplace le Vendredi 24 juin

Session 19- Thursday June 23rd: Le Cinéma francophone

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Voir: *La Noire de*, Sembène Ousmane (1966)
Ecrire devoir sur *La Noire de...* (2 à 3 pages)

***Sessions - Friday June 24th:** cours remplacé le mercredi 22 juin.

- Week 6

Session 20- Monday June 27th:

Analyse et présentation: *La Noire de...*

Session 21- Tuesday June 28th:

Le cinéma du Maghreb : Invitée Catherine Ruelle (si possible)

Voir: *A peine j'ouvre les yeux* de Leila Bouzid (2015)

Lire article sur *A peine j'ouvre les yeux* de Leila Bouzid

Session 22- Thursday June 30:

Analyse et présentation: *A peine j'ouvre les yeux*

Session 23- Friday July 1st: Examen final

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Classroom Etiquette

Please make sure you read and acknowledge the information regarding this section on the NYU Paris Resources site on Brightspace.

Grade Conversion

Your lecturer may use one of the following scales of numerical equivalents to letter grades:

US Letter Grade	US numerical	French numerical	
A	94-100 or 4.0	15-20	Excellent
A-	90-93 or 3.7	14	Very Good
B+	87-89 or 3.3	13	Good
B	84-86 or 2.7	12	Good
B-	80-83 or 2.7	11	Satisfactory
C+	77-79 or 2.3	10	Sufficient
C	74-76 or 2.0	9	Sufficient
C-	70-73 or 1.7	8	Sufficient
D	65-66 or 1.0	5-7	Poor
F	below 65 or 0	1-4	Fail

Attendance Policy

Studying at Global Academic Centers is an academically intensive and immersive experience, in which students from a wide range of backgrounds exchange ideas in discussion-based seminars. Learning in such an environment depends on the active participation of all students. And since classes typically meet once or twice a week, even a single absence can

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cause a student to miss a significant portion of a course. To ensure the integrity of this academic experience, class attendance at the centers, or online through NYU Brightspaces if the course is remote synchronous/blended, is expected promptly when class begins. Attendance will be checked at each class meeting. If you have scheduled a remote course immediately preceding/following an in-person class, you may want to write to nyu.paris.academics@nyu.edu to see if you can take your remote class at the Academic Center.

As soon as it becomes clear that you cannot attend a class, you must inform your professor and/or the Academics team by e-mail immediately (i.e. before the start of your class). Absences are only excused if they are due to illness, Moses Center accommodations, religious observance or emergencies. Your professor or site staff may ask you to present a doctor's note or an exceptional permission from an NYU Staff member as proof. Emergencies or other exceptional circumstances that you wish to be treated confidentially must be presented to staff. Doctor's notes must be submitted in person or by e-mail to the Academics team, who will inform your professors.

Unexcused absences may be penalized with a two percent deduction from the student's final course grade for every week's worth of classes missed, and may negatively affect your class participation grade. Four unexcused absences in one course may lead to a Fail in that course. Being more than 15 minutes late counts as an unexcused absence. Your professor is entitled to deduct points if you frequently join the class late.

Exams, tests and quizzes, deadlines, and oral presentations that are missed due to illness always require a doctor's note as documentation. It is the student's responsibility to produce this doctor's note and submit it to site staff; until this doctor's note is produced the missed assessment is graded with an F and no make-up assessment is scheduled. In content classes, an F in one assignment may lead to failure of the entire class.

Regardless of whether an absence is excused or not, it is the student's responsibility to catch up with the work that was missed.

Final exams

Final exams must be taken at their designated times. Should there be a conflict between your final exams, please bring this to the attention of the Academics team. Final exams may not be taken early, and students should not plan to leave the site before the end of the finals period.

Late Submission of Work

- (1) Work submitted late receives a penalty of 2 points on the 100 point scale for each day it is late (including weekends and public holidays), unless an extension has been approved (with a doctor's note or by approval of NYU SITE Staff), in which case the 2 points per day deductions start counting from the day the extended deadline has passed.

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- (2) Without an approved extension, written work submitted more than 5 days (including weekends and public holidays) following the submission date receives an F.
- (3) Assignments due during finals week that are submitted more than 3 days late (including weekends and public holidays) without previously arranged extensions will not be accepted and will receive a zero. Any exceptions or extensions for work during finals week must be approved by Academic Affairs (nyu.paris.academics@nyu.edu).
- (4) Students who are late for a written exam have no automatic right to take extra time or to write the exam on another day.
- (5) Please remember that university computers do not keep your essays - you must save them elsewhere. Having lost parts of your essay on the university computer is no excuse for a late submission.

Academic Honesty/Plagiarism

As the University's policy on "[Academic Integrity for Students at NYU](#)" states: "At NYU, a commitment to excellence, fairness, honesty, and respect within and outside the classroom is essential to maintaining the integrity of our community. By accepting membership in this community, students take responsibility for demonstrating these values in their own conduct and for recognizing and supporting these values in others." Students at Global Academic Centers must follow the University and school policies.

NYU takes plagiarism very seriously; penalties follow and may exceed those set out by your home school. Your lecturer may ask you to sign a declaration of authorship form, and may check your assignments by using TurnItIn or another software designed to detect offences against academic integrity.

The presentation of another person's words, ideas, judgment, images, or data as though they were your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism. It is also an offense to submit work for assignments from two different courses that is substantially the same (be it oral presentations or written work). If there is an overlap of the subject of your assignment with one that you produced for another course (either in the current or any previous semester), you **MUST** inform your professor.

For guidelines on academic honesty, clarification of the definition of plagiarism, examples of procedures and sanctions, and resources to support proper citation, please see:

[NYU Academic Integrity Policies and Guidelines](#)

[NYU Library Guides](#)

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Inclusivity Policies and Priorities

NYU's Office of Global Programs and NYU's global sites are committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion. In order to nurture a more inclusive global university, NYU affirms the value of sharing differing perspectives and encourages open dialogue through a variety of pedagogical approaches. Our goal is to make all students feel included and welcome in all aspects of academic life, including our syllabi, classrooms, and educational activities/spaces.

Attendance Rules on Religious Holidays

Members of any religious group may, without penalty, excuse themselves from classes when required in compliance with their religious obligations. Students who anticipate being absent due to religious observance should notify their lecturer AND NYU SITE's Academics Office in writing via e-mail one week in advance. If examinations or assignment deadlines are scheduled on the day the student will be absent, the Academics Office will schedule a make-up examination or extend the deadline for assignments. Please note that an absence is only excused for the holiday but not for any days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday. See also [University Calendar Policy on Religious Holidays](#)

Pronouns and Name Pronunciation (Albert and Zoom)

Students, staff, and faculty have the opportunity to add their pronouns, as well as the pronunciation of their names, into Albert. Students can have this information displayed to faculty, advisors, and administrators in Albert, Brightspace, the NYU Home internal directory, as well as other NYU systems. Students can also opt out of having their pronouns viewed by their instructors, in case they feel more comfortable sharing their pronouns outside of the classroom. For more information on how to change this information for your Albert account, please see the [Pronouns and Name Pronunciation website](#).

Students, staff, and faculty are also encouraged, though not required, to list their pronouns, and update their names in the name display for Zoom. For more information on how to make this change, please see the [Personalizing Zoom Display Names website](#).

Moses Accommodations Statement

Academic accommodations are available for students with documented and registered disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Student Accessibility (+1 212-998-4980 or mosescsd@nyu.edu) for further information. Students who are requesting academic accommodations are advised to reach out to the Moses Center as early as possible in the semester for assistance. Accommodations for this course are managed through NYU Paris.

Bias Response

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The New York University Bias Response Line provides a mechanism through which members of our community can share or report experiences and concerns of bias, discrimination, or harassing behavior that may occur within our community.

Experienced administrators in the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) receive and assess reports, and then help facilitate responses, which may include referral to another University school or unit, or investigation if warranted according to the University's existing Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy.

The Bias Response Line is designed to enable the University to provide an open forum that helps to ensure that our community is equitable and inclusive.

To report an incident, please contact one of the following:

- Online using the [Web Form \(link\)](#)
- Email: bias.response@nyu.edu
- Phone (NY): +1 (212) 998-2277
- Office of the Director, NYU Paris: +33 1 53 92 50 80