



This is an abridged sample syllabus. Information is subject to change. Full syllabus will be distributed to registered students when term begins.

ASIA_V 325 - Hong Kong Cinema

Renren Yang

In a collaborative and peer-based environment, we will explore a selection of history-themed Hong Kong cinema and discuss how Hong Kong cinema taps into the evolving tensions between the individual and the national, the local and the global, the personal will and the colonial power, the everyday and the upheaval, the native and the diaspora, the acquiescent and the defiant, the practical and the absurd, and the genuine and the deceptive as people from all over the world keep arriving at and departing from this peninsula to seek their fortunes, loves, and dreams throughout twentieth century. The Hong Kong histories covered in this class range from the late imperial to the colonial era, from the Japanese occupation to the British rule, and from the pre-handover to post-handover period. In addition to historical epics, martial arts, action, romance, comedy, gangster, detective, and ghost are also included as they approach Hong Kong/Chinese histories from multiple angles.

Mode of Delivery: In Person

Sample Readings

During the summer term, each session will focus on a single film, complemented by an interpretive research article. All required and recommended reading materials will be provided by the instructor.

Assignments

Class participation | 15%

In-class quizzes | 25%

A group wiki project (writing a scholarly film review collectively) | 25%

Three open-book take-home tests | 35%