

0501A231

Chinese Cinema

Instructor: TBA

Time: December 29, 2025 - January 16, 2026

Office Hours: 2 hours (according to the teaching schedule)

Contact Hours: 60 (50 minutes each)

Study Level: Undergraduate

Credits: 4

E-mail: TBA

Course Description

This course introduces the evolution of Chinese cinema in its historical and cultural contexts. We will study some of the main theoretical and historical approaches to Chinese cinema, examines its relations to other national cinemas and its unique development. Through a combined practice of viewing, reading, discussing, and writing, we will learn to unpack the attitudes and values expressed in Chinese films produced in different eras and dealing with diverse human experiences. We will become familiar with important events, people, places, and issues in Chinese culture and society through the film medium.

Prerequisites

None. It is recommended that students take introductory Chinese culture and history courses before taking this course.

Required Textbook(s)

Reading materials will be provided by the instructor.

Course Schedule

Please note that the schedule is meant to give an overview of the major concepts of this course. Changes may occur in this calendar as needed to aid in the student's

development.

Week I

- Introduction to Chinese Cinema
- Early Realism- Viewing: *Street Angel*
- Revolution-Viewing: *Crows and Sparrows*
- Another path?- Viewing: *Stage Sisters*
- Industry and censorship- Viewing: *No Man's Land*

Discussions

Quiz 1

Week II

- Woman in films- Viewing: *Yellow Earth*
- Idealism and Identity- Viewing: *To live*
- Generational conflict and traditional society- Viewing: *Ju Dou*
- A new paternalism and comedy- Viewing: *Lost in Thailand*

Discussions

Quiz 2

Week III

- Remake of Classic films- Viewing: *Taking Tiger Mountain*
- Hong Kong cinema
- Taiwan cinema
- Review

Discussions

Analysis Paper

Presentation

Grading Policy

Participation 10%

Quizzes 20%

Analysis Paper 40%

Presentation 30%

Total 100%

Quizzes:

There will be 2 quizzes. Each Quiz is worth 10%. Students are expected to demonstrate good understanding of films, lectures, and related readings.

Analysis Paper:

Students will be required to choose a theme and write an analysis paper (minimum 5 full pages, double-spaced, 12-point New Times Roman font). The paper shall be submitted on Friday of the last week.

Presentation

Students will be required to prepare a presentation individually with PowerPoint slides on one of the course-related topics provided by the instructor in the first week of class. Each student is given 5-10 minutes to present and answer clarification and other substantive questions from the audience.

Grading Scale

The instructor will use the grading system as applied by JNU:

Definition	Letter Grade	Score
Excellent	A	90~100
Good	B	80~89
Satisfactory	C	70~79
Poor	D	60~69
Failed	E	Below 60

Academic Integrity

As members of the Jinan University academic community, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic coursework and activities. Academic dishonesty, includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing, i.e., misrepresenting as one's own work any work done by another; submitting the same paper, or a substantially similar paper, to meet the requirements of more than one course without the approval and consent of the instructors concerned; or sabotaging other students' work within these general definitions. Instructors, however, determine what constitutes academic misconduct in the courses they teach. Students found guilty of academic misconduct in any portion of the academic work face penalties that range from the lowering of their course grade to awarding a grade of E for the entire course.