

TERM: Spring 2021
COURSE TITLE: SS: Contemporary Chinese Cinema
COURSE NUMBER: CHIN 3998 01 (CRN 74924) / ASPA 3890.01 (CRN 72486)
SECTION TIMES/DAYS: MW 2:00-3:30 PM
INSTRUCTOR: Prof. Yanjie Wang

CORE ATTRIBUTE: INTEGRATIONS: Interdisciplinary Connections



FLAG: Information Literacy



COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPAL TOPICS

This course examines both the aesthetics and the politics of contemporary Chinese cinema. We explore how various socio-political factors affect filmmaking in China and how Chinese filmmakers use cinematic language to comment on pressing social issues. We perceive Chinese cinema as an inherently heterogeneous entity that encompasses diverse filmmaking practices from Mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and the Chinese diaspora. Situating these practices in their socio-historical contexts, we discuss issues relating to tradition and modernity, gender and sexuality, history and memory, migration and urbanization, environmentalism, (post)colonialism, and globalization. Through lectures, readings, and class discussions, this course will enable students to study Chinese cinema both as a unique genre of arts and as a powerful social and political discourse. It will also help students gain a deeper understanding of Chinese culture and society.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

Identify and describe the stylistic characteristics and sociocultural concerns of major filmmakers in contemporary China

Interpret the cinematic language by which Chinese filmmakers articulate their ideas and engage with social issues

Produce in-depth written and oral analysis of various aspects of contemporary Chinese cinema.

Demonstrate a deeper insight into Chinese culture and society.

Value the perspectives gained from the class to become better informed and critically engaged citizens of today's world.

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND

For CHIN 3998 – prerequisite CHIN 3606 or LMU Placement Exam

For ASPA 3890 – No prerequisites

REQUIRED TEXTS

Michael Berry, *Speaking in Images*. Columbia University Press, 2004. Additional readings available on MYLMU Connect

COURSE WORK/EXPECTATIONS

Active participation, response papers; in-class presentations; midterm exam, and final paper.

COMMENTS

Only CHIN 3998.01 SS: Contemporary Chinese Cinema fulfils an upper division elective for the Chinese minor, and for the Modern Languages major/Chinese concentration

TERM: Spring 2021

COURSE TITLE: Contemporary Italian Culture

COURSE NUMBER: FNLT 3998.02 CRN 75789 (cross-list with ITAL 3250.01)
ITAL 3250.01 CRN 75571

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: 4.30 pm - 7.30 pm W

INSTRUCTOR: Prof. Aine O’Healy

CORE: Flag: Oral skills 

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPAL TOPICS

This course will provide an examination of the diverse forms of contemporary cultural expression in Italy, including film & media, literature, popular music, and political critique. Focusing on cultural production disseminated since the end of the 20th century, the course will explore how echoes of the major transformations that have occurred in Italy resonate at all levels of these cultural phenomena. The course is taught in English.

Students taking the course for the Italian Minor or Modern Languages Major (Italian concentration) must write a number of assignments in Italian. All other students are encouraged to take the course as FNLT 3998.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students who successfully complete the required work achieve a basic understanding of contemporary Italian culture and society through the close study of selected cultural artifacts. They sharpen their critical skills by engaging productively in interpretive processes. They achieve the ability to make formal oral presentations in a clear and organized manner, demonstrating a command of language at the appropriate level.

PREREQUISITES

For ITAL 3250 – prerequisite of ITAL 2104 or LMU placement exam (for the Italian minor and MDLG/Italian concentration)

For FNLT 3998 - No prerequisites

REQUIRED TEXTS

TBA.

Texts are provided by the instructor and made available on Brightspace.

COURSE WORK/EXPECTATIONS

Extensive class participation, compositions, quizzes, formal oral presentation, final exam.

TERM: SPRING 2021
COURSE TITLE: SS: Manga, Anime & Japanese

COURSE NUMBER: JAPN 3998.02 CRN 74965
SECTION TIMES/DAYS: 12:30 PM– 1:30 PM MWF
INSTRUCTOR: Prof. Hiromi Kinjo

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPAL TOPICS:

This course will help students acquire knowledge and perspectives regarding Japan's most popular culture—Manga & Anime. It will explore why Manga and Anime are so popular not only among young Japanese but also among young people worldwide. Furthermore, students will examine Japanese Manga & Anime with a critical eye. The class will give students a chance to read Manga in Japanese and then watch the Anime based on the same stories, also in Japanese. This class provides a window into understanding the culture and lifestyle of the people of Japan.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Show intermediate proficiency in the four skills of listening speaking, reading and writing.
- Demonstrate the ability to recognize and analyze similarities and differences between at least two disciplinary perspectives.
- Be able to integrate different disciplinary approaches to explain or solve a phenomenon, issue, or problem.
- Value different ways of knowing and thinking about issues and the use of multiple perspectives and viewpoints to address given issues.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the core concepts of one of the five interdisciplinary thematic connections, namely **culture, art, and society**.
- Understand the socio-economic background at specific time periods in Japan depicted in the selected Manga and Anime.
- Understand the reasons that Manga and Anime have become a phenomenon. domestically and internationally from the perspectives of social culture and economics.
- Show what students gained from Japanese culture, art, and history and how this course relates to their own lives as whole persons as they prepare to leave LMU.

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND:

Japanese 2103 or LMU Placement Exam or consent of instructor

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Carefully selected Manga such as *Kimi no Na wa* and *Tetsuwan Atomu*

COURSE WORK/EXPECTATIONS:

Course work includes vocabulary and grammar quizzes and a final examination, active class discussion, short essays/final essay, oral presentations/final presentation, as determined by the teacher.