

*Abrahams-Curiel Department of Foreign Literatures & Linguistics*

Academic year 2022-23 (תשפ"ג)

**Course title (English): Film and Literature**

**Course title (Hebrew): קולנוע וספרות**

**Course number:**

**Course slot (semester/s, weekday/s, hours): Semester B Tuesday 10:00-12:00**

**Lecturer: Dr. Leonard Stein**

**Lecturer's conference hour and contact details: Wednesday 12-13, or by appointment**

**Course description & objectives:**

This course will offer an introduction to film studies, with a focus on the intersection of film and literature. By treating movies as texts, we will explore how various American and British genres—such as the Western, Film Noir, Musical, Thriller, Documentary, and Romantic Comedy—conform or redefine narrative conventions and reflect shifts in popular culture. Students will read poetry and short stories about Hollywood, learn about central elements involved in film production, study cinematic portrayals of writers and the writing process, and read screenplays. Special attention will be given to adaptations of literature into film. Discussions of poetry, short stories, and plays will be accompanied by short movie screenings, which students will respond to in their online journal.

**Course requirements:**

Attendance is mandatory.

Grade Breakdown

Journal Responses and Participation – 35%

Final Paper (4-6 pages) – 65%

**Topics & bibliography**

Selected readings from:

William Shakespeare – *Romeo and Juliet* (ca. 1595)

James Joyce – “The Dead” (1914)

William Carlos Williams – *Paterson* (1946-1958)

Graham Greene – *The Third Man* (1950)

James Baldwin – *If Beale Street Could Talk* (1974)

Ron Padgett – “Love Poem” (1979)

Charles Johnson – “Moving Pictures” (1985)

Philip French and Ken Wlaschin, eds. – *The Faber Book of Movie Verse* (1994)  
Marc Norman and Tom Stoppard – *Shakespeare in Love* (1998)  
Charlie Kaufman – *Adaptation* (2002)

Selected filmography:

*Citizen Kane*, Orson Welles (1941)  
*Double Indemnity*, Billy Wilder (1944)  
*The Third Man*, Carol Reed (1949)  
*The Searchers*, John Ford (1956)  
*Oliver!*, Carol Reed (1968)  
*Romeo and Juliet*, Franco Zeffirelli (1968)  
*F is for Fake*, Orson Welles (1974)  
*The Dead*, John Huston (1987)  
*The Thin Blue Line*, Errol Morris (1988)  
*Four Weddings and a Funeral*, Mike Newell (1994)  
*Shakespeare in Love*, John Madden (1998)  
*Adaptation*, Spike Jonze (2002)  
*Paterson*, Jim Jarmusch (2016)  
*If Beale Street Could Talk*, Barry Jenkins (2018)

This list is tentative and subject to change.