

**North-Eastern Federal University Institute of Foreign Philology and  
Regional Studies Department of English Philology**

**INTRODUCTION TO CINEMATIC LANGUAGE ANALYSIS**

*Fall 2016: September – December Spring 2017: January – May*

*Offered online through Moodle NEFU*

*ECTS: 2*

*by Liubov Bolshakova, Master in Arctic Studies, Senior Teacher*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** the course offers the study of a film as a text, consisting of cinematic languages; we train the basic skills of analysis and interpretation of the text (cinematic); the development of language, speech and linguistic-cultural competence of students on the basis of the review, discussion and analysis of films.

***Overarching questions for introduction to film language analysis***

- 1) How does camera work create a language of a film?*
- 2) What is the relation of camera work and filmtext?*
- 3) What meaning is created for an audience by using different shot sizes, movement and camera angles?*
- 4) How does the camerawork inform the audience about a character's motivations, create identification with characters and communicate their relationship to the story?*
- 5) How is an audience's engagement with the narrative created by the choice of camerawork?*
- 6) How does camera work highlight the symbolism, meaning of objects/phenomenon?*

**COURSE GOALS AND STUDENT OUTCOMES:**

- Learn the history and development of Cinema Studies in Russia and the world;
- Study a film as a text with its specific language;
- Study the semiotics of cinema, methods of analysis and interpretation of cinematic language;
- Analyze and evaluate the cinematic language and its components;
- Use the knowledge obtained in the philological analysis of other texts;
- Train practical skills to collect and analyze the linguistic and literary facts, philological analysis and interpretation of the text; interpretation and analysis of the text.

## **COURSE STRUCTURE:**

The course is offered entirely online through the North-Eastern Federal University's Moodle Virtual Learning Tool available at <http://yagu.s-vfu.ru>. The student needs to register with the help of the teacher Liubov Bolshakova at the NEFU.

1. Introduction to Phenomenon of Cinema
2. Film as a Text. Language of Film
3. Methods of Film Analysis and Film Interpretation
4. Film Narrative Analysis
5. Composition, Staging Analysis
6. Camera Work Analysis
7. Additional Elements Analysis

### **The materials of the study:**

1. Z. Kunuk. Atanarjuat: The Fast Runner (2001)
2. G.O. Welles. Citizen Kane (1941)
3. I. Bergman. Wild Strawberries (1958)
4. R. Rossellini. Rome, Open city (1945)
5. R. Flaherty «Nanook of the North» (1922)
6. J. Grison, P. Rota. Industrial Britain (1932)
7. L. Visconti. La Terra Trema (1948)
8. A. Resnais. L'Année dernière à Marienbad (1961)
9. A. Kurosawa. Dersu Uzala (1975)
10. C. Chaplin. The Gold Rush (1925)
11. D. Vertov «Man with a moving Camera» (1929)
12. A. Wajda. Ashes and Diamonds (1958)
13. F. Truffaut. Fahrenheit 451 (1966)
14. N. Gaup. Ofelas (1987)
15. A. Crosland. The Jazz Singer (1927)
16. C. Chaplin. City Lights (1931)
17. A. Resnais. Hiroshima mon amour (1958)
18. J.L. Godard. Une femme mariée (1964)
19. A. Kurosawa. Ran (1985)

### **STUDENTS EVALUATION ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:**

- weekly participation (readings, lectures, tasks performance, watching and analysis of films under study) – 70 points
- weekly discussion – 30 points

### **COURSE MATERIALS:**

All required reading is available hyperlinked in the syllabus and online