Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

Course Profile

Course Number : STS 312	Course Title : Science and Technology in Movies
Required / Elective : Elective	Pre / Co-requisites : -
Catalog Description: This course focuses on the development of science and technology in the modern age through the cinematic works between 1930s and the 2000s. The major concepts and themes that will be discussed in class include the economic and social interpretations of the rise of science and technology in the modern age, how scientific improvements shape our understanding of the future, the politics of reflecting cinematic and literary conceptions of future, science and metamorphoses and remaking technology.	Textbook / Required Material: - Susan Hayward. "Auteur", "Narrative/Narration", "connotation", "denotation", "iconography', "metonymy / metaphor", "mise-enscene", "editing" in <i>Cinema Studies: The Key Concepts</i> . • Kuhn, Annette. "Cultural Theory and Science Fiction Cinema" in <i>Alien Zone: Cultural Theory and Contemporary Science Fiction Cinema</i> .

Course Structure / Schedule: (3+0+0) 3 / 6 ECTS

Extended Description: More than any other medium film, arguably, shapes peoples' perceptions and interpretations of "reality" and "fantasy". In recent decades representations of science and technology in movies have become increasingly pervasive. Marshall McLuhan famously said: "the medium is the message". Confirming his observation, much popular cinema today seems to be plagued by a kind of technological "fundamentalism" whereby special effects, adroit editing, and brilliant simulation are the essential "content" of many movies—their message, their "narrative". This course examines these trends, how they shape viewers' perceptions and interpretations, and how the business of film-making and promotion are being driven by technical imperatives. Emphasis is placed on viewing and analyzing some recent movies that represent this new genre, including science fiction and "action" fims.

Course Outline:

Week	Topics	
1	Introduction	
2	Preliminary Theoretical Background	
3	In-class Screening	
4	The Modern	
5	In-class Screening	
6	The Extra-Terrestrial	
7	In-class Screening	
8	Space Travel - Artificial Intelligence	
9	Midterm Examination	

10	In-class Screening	
11	Cyborg - Human Identity	
12	In-class Screening	
13	Time Travel	
14	Future and Now	
15	Final Examination	

Design content : none Computer usage: No particular computer usage required

Course Outcomes:

			*Level of Contribution			
		1	2	3	4	5
1	Apply analytical and critical thinking skills to contemporary global issues.			X		
2	Describe the interrelationships between science, technology, and society.					X
3	Describe the interrelationships between art, culture, and society.				X	
4	Explain the historical, political and economic conditions in which science and technology emerge.				X	
5	Explain the historical, political and material conditions in which art and cultural expression emerge.					X
6	Analyze how modes of thought are shaped by socio-cultural, historical, political and economic variables.				X	
7	Apply discipline-relevant methods to HSS research assignments.					
8	Summarize and assess current developments in their subject area.				X	
9	Recognize ethical issues and social responsibilities in the contemporary world.					
10	Synthesize complex ideas in clear and concise ways.			X		
11	Generate creative solutions to local and/or global problems.					
12	Recognize relevance of coursework to personal experiences, lifelong learning, and job security.					
13	Demonstrate an ability to function on teams.					
14	Demonstrate an ability to communicate effectively with written, oral and visual means.				X	

Recommended reading: -

Teaching methods: Class participation: Pre-class readings, lecture and class discussions, inclass screenings.

Assessment methods: Attendance and Class Participation (%25), Midterm Examination (%25), Assignments (%20), Final Exam (%30)

Student workload:

Lectures + Inclass Screening60 hrs

Assignments40 hrs

TOTAL145 hrs . . . to match 25 X 6 ECTS

Course Category:

ISCED General Area Codes	General Areas	ISCED Basic Area Codes	Basic Educational Areas	Percentage
1	Education	14	Teacher Training and Educational Sciences	
2	Humanities and Art	21	Art	50
2	Humanities and Art	22	Humanities	30
3	Social Sciences, Management and Law	31	Social and Behavioral Sciences	
3	Social Sciences, Management and Law	32	Journalism and Informatics	
3	Social Sciences, Management and Law	38	Law	
4	Science	42	Life Sciences	10
4	Science	44	Natural Sciences	10
4	Science	46	Mathematics and Statistics	
4	Science	48	Computer	
5	Engineering, Manufacturing and Civil	52	Engineering	
5	Engineering, Manufacturing and	54	Manufacturing and Processing	

	Civil			
5	Engineering, Manufacturing and Civil	58	Architecture and Structure	
6	Agriculture	62	Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock, Fishery	
6	Agriculture	64	Veterinary	
7	Medicine and Welfare	72	Medical	
7	Medicine and Welfare	76	Social Services	
8	Service	81	Personal Services	
8	Service	84	Transport Services	
8	Service	85	Environment Protection	
8	Service	86	Security Services	
Prepared by	Prepared by: Prof. Dr. Hacer Ansal Revision Date: 20.07.2013			