



Film as a New Minor Subject

Details for the Academic Year 2026/27

Why take this New Minor Subject?

The study of film can be an excellent companion subject to students taking Drama and Music, and from English to Psychology and beyond.

What will I learn? Indicative modules include:

American Cinema from the Silent Era to the 1930s - find out about the history of Hollywood and the critical thinking that informs analysis of Hollywood cinema. The period covered spans from early and silent cinema to the end of the studio era. Issues of industry, authorship, stardom, censorship, modes and models of filmmaking are explored.

Introduction to European Cinemas - discuss key concepts and developments in the history of European film, from the early years of cinema until the 21st century. Acknowledging the diverse range of cinema histories across the continent, the module will engage with these complexities through three key focuses: aesthetics, politics and borders.

European Cinemas – this module will build on Introduction to European Cinemas to consider a diverse range of European film texts and contexts.

Ireland and the Cinema – this module will take a critical and historical look at Irish cinema from the 1950s to the present. While its focus will be on recent films, we will also consider earlier films made by and about the Irish.

American Cinema from the 1930s-1960s - investigate American Cinema from the late 1930s until the early 1960s. Topics will include alternatives to the Hollywood studio system, shifts in film styles during this time, integration of emerging technologies and diverse accounts of American cinema.

Introduction to Non-Western Cinemas - explore key themes in non-Western cinemas: African, Japanese, Middle Eastern, etc. Animation and live action films are analysed, ranging from contemporary to historic.

Non-Western Cinemas – this module extends and develops your understanding of a wide range of film styles, movements, and practices that operate outside of Western frameworks of film production.

Introduction to Digital Media – this module examines the transition from analogue to digital media and explores the theoretical and intellectual foundations of digital imagery and texts.

What will I do? Students taking a New Minor Subject in Film will take 20 ECTS in Film over the course of the academic year.

In the first year of the minor, students will take modules such as those listed in the section above. In later years, they select from Sophister modules on offer. However, students studying Film as a minor subject should note that they will not be eligible to enrol in screenwriting or practice-based modules.

How will this be assessed?

Through continuous assessment: Assignments and Participation

Contact Hours and Indicative Workload per Module

11 hours seminars

11 hours lectures

44 hours of independent study (preparation for assessment, incl. completion of assessment)

Contact filmstds@tcd.ie

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