

ACM Syllabus

All class timing is 11am-12.30pm

Film viewing for this week *Harishchanrachi Factory* (2009)

Thursday 30/08/2011

The 'pre-history of cinema' in India: pictorial & performative traditions of telling stories with the accompaniment of moving images.

The relation between cinema and artisanal mode of production—in the days of early Capitalism

Clips from two documentaries *Chitrakathi* (1972), *Nomad Puppeteers* (1974) and a popular feature *Street Singer* (1935)

Film viewing for this week: *Kunku* (1939) & *Awara* (1951)

Tuesday 6/09/2011

Cinema comes to India; the business of cinema begins with exhibition, distribution and production—in that order.

Cinema's deep ties with Nation formation and Social reform efforts

Thursday 8/09/2011

The Indian Studio System (with some comparison between the American system); and the question of genre formation

Film viewing for this week: *Girni* (short feature, 2005) & *Lage Raho Munnabhai* (long feature, 2006)

Tuesday 13/09/2011

How to read a film: *mise en scene*

Using clips from *Awara* & *Dil Chahta Hai* (2001)

Thursday 15/09/2011

Student presentation: each analyses a short sequence of her/his choice

Group discussion; film viewing as an individual and collective activity

Film viewing for this week: *Sant Tukaram* (1936) & *Pather Panchali* (1955)

Tuesday 20/09/2011

Narration and fragmentation; Shots and Sequence

Is there an Indian way of telling stories?

Thursday 22/09/2011

Binary structure: Tradition & Modernity; the Village & the City

- Students write their first paper on any one sequence from *Pathar Panchali*

Film viewing for this week *Charulata* (1964) *Mother India* (1955)

Tuesday 27/09/2011

Gender in India

Film Allegory: Narration & History

Thursday 29/09/2011

The acts of Looking, Seeing & the Gaze

“Organization of the Look”

Film viewing for this week: *Lajja* (2001)

Tuesday 04/10/2011

Religion in India;

Indian gods and goddesses

Film viewing for this week: *36 Chowringhee Lane* (1981) & *Gulabi Talkies* (2008)

Tuesday 11/10/2011

The question of marginality: class and caste

Thursday 13/10/2011

A visit to the National Film Archive of India

Film viewing for the week: *Mashal* (1984) & *Khosla Ka Ghosla* (2009)

Tuesday 18/10/2011

The middle class and rising ‘lumpenism’

Thursday 20/10/2011

A visit to the Film & Television Institute of India

- Students write their second paper on a topic of their choice

Film viewing for the week: *Maine Pyar Kiya* (1987)

Tuesday 01/11/2011

The Nation and the various forms of oppression

Watching *A night of Prophecy* in class

Thursday 03/11/2011

The representation of society and community recedes;

The family and the market take over

Clips from and other Suraj Barjatiya films

Film viewing for the week: *Bombay* (1995) & *Mumbai Meri Jaan* (2009)

Tuesday 08/11/2011

Disenchantment with the Nation

Thursday 10/11/2011

Violence within and without

Film viewing for the week: *Firaq* (2010) & *Yeh Zindagi Na Milegi
Dobara* (2011)

Tuesday 15/11/2011

Analysis of social decay & Escape

Thursday

Discussion of final paper with the group

[NB: The final paper topic will be discussed individually at appointed
times on different dates]