

KEY PSYCHOLOGICAL THEMES THROUGH THE LENS OF THE CAMERA

Ruth Zeligman, Ph.D.

Spring Semester

Ruth.zeligman@gmail.com

Office Hours: Following Class

Short description:

Cinema offers a unique window to questions fundamental to the field of psychology. From its inception more than 120 years ago, cinema has been the privileged site for the poetic exploration of human's underlying motivations, conflicts, affects and the interplay between reality and fantasy. The course offers a critical analysis of key psychological concepts including memory and trauma, bereavement and loss, psychopathology, gender and identity through the lens of the camera. Throughout the course we will analyze and discuss the portrayal of these concepts in films and new media, in the wake of seminal readings from different areas in the field of psychology

Assessment*:

Midterm: Short Paper (1-2 pages) – 20%

Final Requirement: Final Paper (6-8 pages) – 70%

Participation and Attendance – 10%

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory. Students are permitted a maximum of three absences without penalty. Any additional absences will affect the final grade and may result in failure of the course.

Academic conduct:

Plagiarism is taken extremely seriously. Any instance of academic misconduct which includes: submitting someone else's work as your own; failure to accurately cite sources; taking words from another source without using quotation marks; submission of work for which you have previously received credit; working in a group for individual assignments; using unauthorized materials in an exam and sharing your work with other students, will result in failure of the assignment and will likely lead to further disciplinary measures.

* Please note that if distance learning is required, the assessment procedure, modes of assessment and weightings may be changed.