

**Instructor: Terri Meyer Boake**

Lectures: Wednesdays **10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** Main Lecture Hall, Cambridge

Office hours: Monday and Wednesdays  
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*If you need to get in touch with me, use any of the above. Please do not tell me that you have been trying to get in touch with me and can't... I won't believe you.*



**Course description:**

This course explores the relationship between Architecture and the development of early and modern films. Students will look at the source and portrayal of architectural expression in film: precedents for imagery, its relationship to the development of early modern architecture, and its vision of the urban future. Contemporary and futuristic architecture will also be examined in recent films to study its expression of the vision of the future of urban built form. Dystopic tendencies in film's portrayal of the urban future will also be addressed, as well as the predicted state of the deteriorated environmental condition.

Assignments will require that the students become familiar with different methods of media: video filming, sound and visual editing, web page production.

**Schedule of Seminars/Films**

*Note that we will also view films produced by the previous year's class on a time permits basis, week by week.*

- Sept 15      **Course Introduction**  
The Cabinet of Doctor Caligari (1919-1920) (72 minutes)  
Golem (1921) (86 minutes)
- Sept 22      Fritz Lang's Metropolis (1926) (115 minutes) recently restored version
- Sept 29      Just Imagine (1930) (2 hours approx)
- Oct 6        Osamu Tezuka's Metropolis (Japanese Anime 2001) (109 minutes)  
Studio Ghibli "On Your Mark" Music Video (1995) (6 minutes)
- Oct 13      The Belly of an Architect (119 minutes) Peter Greenaway

Oct 20	Playtime by Jacques Tati (1973) (118 minutes)
Oct 27	Diva (1982) (119 minutes)
Nov 3	Alphaville (1965) Jean-Luc Bedard
Nov 10	Blade Runner (1982) (119 minutes) (original letterboxed version with narrated voiceover) (117 minutes)
Nov 17	Terry Gilliam's Brazil (1985) (2 hours 30 minutes)
Nov 24	The Fifth Element (1997) (126 minutes)
Dec 1	<b><i>Film Presentations due!</i></b>

### **Pedagogic Objectives:**

The course is intended to develop a critical perspective of the use of architecture in film. Students will learn to examine both the medium of film and the form and style of architecture as they relates to the development of both film media and culture. Students will engage in research to understand the choices and expression of architecture used in film, as well as the relationship between the idea of the future and its relationship to both built and natural environments.

### **Completion Requirements:**

The course will be run in a seminar format. Each week we will view a film, discuss its relevance to architecture, culture, environments, and the perception of all three. Some of the discussions will take place in a "for credit" mode. **Attendance is mandatory. Two missed classes will constitute failure of the course.** *It does not matter if you have seen the film before. You are being asked to see it with critical eyes, afresh.*

There will be 3 assignments.

#### *Assignment #1: The Review 30%*

Students are to select a film from the term's subject films and prepare a web based "review" of the film. The review should provide an overview of the film (but not necessarily a comprehensive source of all [trivia] information), and most importantly comment upon the use of architecture in the film. There should be no less than 1,000 words of text/discussion on the use of architecture in the film. The reviews will be posted on the tboake UWSA website. Please have a look at the reviews posted by last year's class. [http://www.fes.uwaterloo.ca/architecture/faculty\\_projects/terri/484\\_film\\_allmovies.html](http://www.fes.uwaterloo.ca/architecture/faculty_projects/terri/484_film_allmovies.html) It is recommended that you use Macromedia Dreamweaver, html code, or equal to prepare the review. *Do not use the "save for web" command in Microsoft Word.* I will be offering a Dreamweaver crash course tutorial at some point in the term – TBA depending on the timing of the computer lab completion.

#### *Assignment #2: Discussion 20%*

For each film viewing a set of "questions" will be distributed to the class members. You are to think about your question during the viewing and subsequently prepare a 200 to 400-word answer for presentation to the class during the discussion the following week. Each class will begin with discussion of the previous week's film, based upon these questions. The answers are to be submitted electronically to me at [tboake@sympatico.ca](mailto:tboake@sympatico.ca). *A word document attachment please.*

#### *Assignment #3: The Video 50%*

You must create a Music/Architecture 'video' taking a piece of music of choice and create a visual/animated/video piece that relates selected architecture to the music. The project is intended to expose students to a scaled down version of the process of selecting/designing the architectural set for film. The requirements and media will be left quite open. You may work in teams of up to 2 students or alone. You may select your own piece of music (minimum 3 minutes in length, maximum 10 minutes). You are to create a "video" that uses architecture and architectural images in such a way as to support

the music, and vice versa. One of the labs will be equipped with FinalCutPro. We will arrange for a tutorial on the software. The students used this program with a high degree of success in the Fall 2002/3 terms. **The films are due in their final form for presentation during the last class of the term. Don't start too late....**

## References:

### *Required:*

Deitrich Neumann, editor. Film Architecture from Metropolis to Blade Runner. Prestel, 1999.

Mark Lamster, editor. Architecture and Film. Princeton Architectural Press, 2000.

For additional non-required reference texts, please check the Arch and Film website as these change as new texts are found and added to the list.

## Avoidance of Academic Offenses

Students are expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for their actions. Students who are unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who need help in learning how to avoid offenses (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about rules for group work / collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, TA, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy #71, Student Academic Discipline,

<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm>

Students who believe that they have been wrongfully or unjustly penalized have the right to grieve; refer to Policy #70, Student Grievance,

<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm>