

## Course Description

### Course Unit

**Topics on North-American Studies III: North-American Cinema in Context**

### UC Code

MOD8.922092

### ECTS Credits

12 ECTS

### Work Hours

336H (12 ECTS)

### Level

PHD

### Academic year and Semester

2024/2025, S2

### Faculty

José Duarte

### Class

TP 1

### Language of instruction

English

### Class Description

This seminar provides students with advanced training in North American cinema, with a special focus on the topic of the journey. The material presented, as well as the films studied, will be viewed and discussed along with their historical and cultural context, allowing students to deepen their knowledge with regard to how filmmakers translate the tensions, anxieties and desires of their time in North American culture. The syllabus is divided as follows: the importance of travel in American culture; countercultural journeys; growing up on the road; collective journeys and journeys with no end.

### **Grading and Assessment**

At the end of the seminar, students are expected to have developed a broad understanding of the idea of journey in North American cinema and the way each film responds to the moment in which it was produced. In addition, students should be able to mobilize resources to conceive and develop autonomous and meaningful research, in addition to generating innovative ideas from the discussion carried out.

The assessment is based on the students' ability to discuss, organize ideas and their use of a conceptual approach to the themes worked in class. It is divided as follows:

- Presentation and discussion of the work proposal, along with an abstract submission of no more than 700 words (30%);
- Participation in seminars based on prior reading of the texts and discussion of the films in class (10%+10%);
- Final essay based on a film that reflects the seminar's theme (50%). Length: ca. 5000 words.

### **Bibliography**

Archer, Neil (2016). *The Road Movie: In Search of Meaning*. London: Wallflower.

Cohan, Steven and Hark, Ina Rae (eds.) (1991). *The Road Movie Book*. London and New York: Routledge.

Duarte, José and Corrigan Timothy (2018). *The Global Road Movie: Alternative Journeys Around the World*. Bristol: Intellect.

Ford, Stacilee and Slethaug, Gordon (eds.) (2012). *Hit the Road Jack: Essays on the Culture of American Road*. Montreal & Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press.

Orgeron, Devin (2007). *Road Movies: From Muybridge and Melies to Lynch and Kiarostami*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

### **Prerequisites (if applicable)**

N/A