

## Course Description

### Course Unit

Literature and cinema in France

### UC Code

LAC2.99877

### ECTS Credits

6 ECTS

### Work Hours

168H (6 ECTS)

### Level

BA

### Academic year and Semester

2024/2025, S2

### Faculty

Chiara Nifosi

### Class

TP 1

### Language of instruction

English

### Class Description

The course explores the cultural revolution that occurred in French society in the 1950s and 1960s through the lens of the relationship between literature and cinema, which will shed light on the disruptive potential of art in times of social and political unrest. To grasp the ideological stakes of the profound aesthetic renewal that characterizes this period, we will introduce the circle of the Cahiers du Cinéma and the Nouvelle Vague. During the first part of the semester, we will tackle the ethical and political shift attested in the movies of a precursor of the movement, Jean Renoir, and, subsequently, in the work of its protagonists, namely Jean-Luc Godard, Agnès Varda, and François Truffaut. In the second part of the course, we will focus on the parallel movement towards new

narrative forms in novel writing promoted by the Éditions de Minuit and the group of the Nouveau Roman, which displays the same intent of breaking with the recent past by reflecting also on the specificity of cinematic techniques. Finally, we will investigate the porous boundaries between literature and cinema by discussing the work of intellectuals that explore both forms of art, such as Jean Cocteau and Marguerite Duras, as well as the influence of literary practices on the cinematic aesthetics of directors like Alain Resnais and Céline Sciamma.

### ***Grading and Assessment***

Students will be assessed based on the following components: class attendance and participation in the discussion; midterm in-class exam with multiple choice and open questions; regular submission of comments on the Moodle platform; final in-depth review of one of the movies included in the syllabus. The exact breakdown of the grade will be available in the finalized syllabus.

### ***Bibliography***

Course taught in English. Reading skills in French are nonetheless recommended.

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

Course taught in English. Reading skills in French are nonetheless recommended.