Course Description and Objectives

Over the past century, East Asian cinemas have not only cultivated their auteur directors and art-house films, but also their vibrant film cultures and popular genres, such as martial arts action, horror, ghost film, family melodrama, etc. This course explores the historical and aesthetic dimensions of East Asian genre cinemas in national, regional, and international frameworks. We will sample representative works of various genres and genre mixtures, analyze genre conventions and innovations, and examine the social and cultural factors in genre production and consumption. The course introduces critical terms in relevant cultural and genre theories and trains the students to develop skills in culturally informed reading of cinematic forms.

Course Materials

All readings will be available in weekly folders on MyCourses (“Content”).

Course Requirements

1. Attendance 10%
2. Participation 10%
3. Discussion Board Posts 20%
4. Midterm Take-Home Exam 30%
5. Final Take-Home Exam 30%

**NOTE**: (1) McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see [www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/](http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/) for more information). (2) In accord with McGill University’s Charter of Students’ Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded. (3) In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University’s control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change. (4) If you have a disability please contact the instructor to arrange a time to discuss your situation. It would be helpful if you contact the [Office for Students with Disabilities](http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/) at 514-398-6009 before you do this.