

FILM ANALYSIS: THE IMAGE – László Strausz

Code: BBN-FLM-221.01a

Type: practice

Thursdays 12.30-14.00

Room: -137

First class: 13. September

The goal of the course is to make students familiar with the general principles of film analysis. Throughout the semester, we will discuss various aspects of the filmic image (shots, composition, frame etc.) and the ways in which these elements can be used to create meaning. Each week, after a short overview of the basic terms in relation to the discussed topic, we will collectively analyze scenes from various films in order to develop skills to recognize and interpret the function of these elements. From the third week onwards, students will be asked to bring clips to class and hold a presentation on one visual element of the scene in question. The emphasis of the course is the practicing of the skills of film analysis.

Weekly topics:

1. Introduction. Analysis and interpretation.
2. The frame.
3. Composition I.
4. Composition II.
5. Shots.
6. Continuity.
7. Midterm
8. Depth of field.
9. Gépállás és nézőpont.
10. The mobile frame.
11. Lights and colour.
12. Final

Course requirement:

Presentation: Each participant has to hold an in-class presentation about a chosen element of the filmic image during which s/he demonstrates the ability to recognize and interpret the device in question.

Film analyses: During the semester, students will write two in-class film analyses of a screened scene chosen by the instructor. In these written analyses, students have to demonstrate that they can understand, recognize and interpret the elements of the filmic image.

Class participation: Continuous attendance and in-class activity is required. Four or more absences result in an incomplete for the course.