

**Course Code** FLMD-342:7, BMI-FLMD-342E.03

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**Course Title:** Videographic Criticism

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**Instructor:** László Strausz

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**Course meets:** Wednesday 12.00 – 13.30 @ Computer Lab (Room 37)

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**Course type:** Seminar

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**Course description:** Since its inception, film studies has been producing analyses on moving images in a text-based format. However, with the wide availability of digital screen media production tools, it has become possible to manipulate images on personal computers. Videographic criticism, an emerging mode of scholarship, takes this dramatic change into consideration, as it opens up a new field for students and scholars to present critical and academic ideas in an audiovisual format. In this course students will (1) become familiar with some historical examples of the video essay, engage with theoretical debates around using audiovisual texts as academic arguments; (2) produce an annotated video with still images; and (3) create short video essays in teams.

**Weekly schedule:**

1. Introduction
2. The videographic essay as a tool to present academic ideas
3. Some historical examples I.
4. Some historical examples II.
5. Presentation and discussion of proposals for project #1
6. Production of project #1
7. In-class Adobe Premier tutorial
8. Presentation and discussion of proposals for project #2
9. Production of project #2
10. Production of project #2
11. Production of project #2
12. Production of project #2

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**Course requirement:** **1. Annotated video with stills:** this project will consist of annotated stills from taken from an audiovisual text. It will present a critical or an academic argument  
**2. Video essay:** during this project, teams will create a 3-4 mins long video using excerpts from the audiovisual texts analyzed, record voice-over commentary for the video, and create necessary graphic components (titles, graphs, vectors etc.).

**Grade calculation:** participation (10%) + annotated video essay with stills 30% (final) + video essay (60%)

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**Required films:** Chris Marker: *La jetée* (1962)  
Harun Farocki: *Videograms of a Revolution* (1992)

Additionally, a wide selection of video essays will be screened during class.

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**Required reading:** Keathley, Christian: "La caméra-stylo. Notes on video criticism and cinephilia". In: *The Language and Style of Film Criticism*, ed. Alex Clayton and Andrew Klevan (New York: Routledge, 2011)  
Grant, Catherine & Christian Keathley, "The Use of an Illusion," *Photogenie* 0, 2014  
Grant, Catherine. "The Shudder of a Cinephiliac Idea? Videographic Film Studies Practice as Material Thinking," *Aniki* Vol. 1, No. 1 (2014): 49-62. Online at: <http://aim.org.pt/ojs/index.php/revista/article/view/59/html>  
Lavik, Erlend. "The Video Essay: The Future of Academic Film and Television Criticism?" *Frames Cinema Journal* #1.(2012). Online at: <http://framescinemajournal.com/article/the-video-essay-the-future/>

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