
Code: FLMD-232E.01

Course title: Film Analysis: Narration

Course convenors: Tibor Hirsch

Class time and place: Monday 09:00-10:30, Room -137

Course type: Seminar

Course content: After a short theoretical introductory survey, the class will offer a good chance of practicing a specific film analysis, concentrating the narrative aspect within the whole complexity of the motion picture. This practice is based on the former analysing experiences and theoretical knowledge of the students concerning the vision- and montage-layers of cinema:
Among others sub-topics, we will touch the essence of narration, the typology of plot structure patterns, the layers within narratives, and we keep on searching the best motion picture samples to practice on.

Weekly topics:

1. Basic concepts of narration, fiction and narrative
- 2-3. The Levels Narration - Motivation, Turns, Episode - The concept of Gérard Genette
- 4-5 Codes of Roland Barthes
- 6-7. Fabula and syuzhet (Propp vs. Bordwell),
8. Genres and Narrative
- 9-10. Alternative theories of story-telling: Peter Brooks and the psychoanalysis

Requirements: The basic requirement of the class is the active presence (no more than 3 missed classes) and cooperation in our common analysing projects. Being motivated is almost enough. Some independent presentations and a final test will be the base of evaluation.

Learning outcomes: Getting skills in narrative analysis, and being aware of some theories of narration behind the skills obtained.

Indicative Reading: Bordwell, David: Narration in the Fiction Film. University of Wisconsin Press, 1985.
Barthes, Roland S/Z: An Essay. Hill and Wang, 1975.
Brooks, Peter: Reading for the Plot: Design and Intention in Narrative Harvard University Press, 1992.
