Course title: Multicultural and Multilingual Bollywood

Course convenors: Györgyi Vajdovich

Class time and place: Monday 16:00-17:30 -137

An international one-day colloquium will be part of the course held on 9th March. Certain classes will be omitted in April (exact dates will be communicated later).

Course type: Seminar

Course content: The course will give an introduction to the multicultural and multilingual aspect of contemporary Bollywood cinema through case analyses. With the active participation of students the course will investigate the creation of Indian and NRI (non-resident Indian) identity, the representation of Europe and certain non-Hindi speaking Indian groups through visual and audio regimes. Participants will familiarize with the concepts of Orientalism, cultural self-construction and construction of the other and cultural appropriation. The analyses will not only concentrate on the thematic and visual elements of representation, but will also investigate the use of Indian and European languages as a constituent and marker of one’s identity.

A one-day colloquium with the participation of the members of the international "Multilingual Euro-Bollywood" research group will make part of the course on 9th March.

Requirements: Class participation: Continuous attendance and in-class activity is required. Four or more absences result in an incomplete for the course. Attendance of the one-day colloquium (9th March) is mandatory. Students should watch an obligatory film for each class (films will be provided by the course convenor).

Grades will be assigned on the basis of class participation, and in-class presentation or an essay written at the end of the term.

Obligatory films to watch:
04. 03. Vipul Amrutlal Shah: Namastey London (2007)
09. 03. (screening at the colloquium): Zoya Akhtar: Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara (2011)
11. 03. Anurag Singh: Dil Bole Hadippa (2009)
18. 03. Abhishek Varman: 2 States (2014)
23. 05. Ashutosh Gowariker: Jodhaa Akbar (2008)
06. 05. Aditya Chopra: Befikre (2016)
13. 05. Vikas Bahl: Queen (2013)

Learning outcomes: Students will practice to recognize specific applications of film style and form within the medium, to independently interpret specific stylistic techniques in motion picture sequences, and to develop critical thinking in relation to filmic representation. They will also learn how to implement theoretical concepts acquired during the classes in the practice of film analysis.

doi:10.1017/S0266078411000332