

Course code: BMI-FLMD-102E.04

Course title: Introduction to Film Studies: Editing/Montage

Course convenor: László Strausz

Class time and place: Biweekly, Tuesday 9-12:15, Room: 251

Course type: Seminar

Course description: 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 editing / montage 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 analyse scenes from various films in order 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.

<i>Sessions</i>	<i>Topics</i>
March 7	Intro, course overview, basic terminology of editing
March 21	History of editing I.
April 4	History of editing II.
April 18	Continuity editing: space
May 9	Continuity editing: time
May 23	Editing action/comedy/dialogue

Course requirement:

- 1. 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.
- 2. 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.
- 3. Class participation:** Continuous attendance and in-class activity is required. Four or more absences result in an incomplete for the course. Students arriving more than 10 minutes after the class starts will be marked as not presents. No student will receive a final grade without an in-class the presentation and the two film analyses.
- 4. Grade calculation:** 40% (midterm) + 40% (final) + 20% (in-class activity)

Learning outcomes: Students will (1) acquire a knowledge of the basic techniques and components of narrative film editing, (2) recognize specific applications of film style and form within the medium, (3) independently interpret specific stylistic techniques in motion picture sequences, and (4) develop critical thinking and writing skills in relation to film editing.

Required films: Select scenes and clips from various films selected by the instructor and participants.

Recommended reading: Bordwell-Thompson: Film Art. An Introduction. McGraw-Hill. [Any edition will do]
Murch: In the Blink of an Eye. Silman-James Press, 2001.
Dmytryk: On Film Editing. Focal Press, 1984.
Sergei Eisenstein Selected Works v.1-3. I.B.Tauris, 2010.