Course Outline for COM 353-61: Intercultural Films
J-term 2015 | Memorial Hall 106: Daily (1.14 – 1.30.2015, 6.00–9.45 p.m.)

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Office Hours: Daily 5 – 6 p.m.; or by appointment.

A. Course Policies and Details: bit.ly/ce-policy & my.elmhurst.edu
B. Social: @prorhetoric #eccom353 | craigengstrom.info – #intercultural film
C. Course Schedule (See Below)
D. Activities and Assignments

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities / Assignments</th>
<th>% of Final Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading and Discussion</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-viewing Worksheet</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Film Reactions (Tumblr)</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Film Review / Film Treatment (Final)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Film – Extra effort points</td>
<td>(+5%)</td>
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100%

Please bring the day’s required reading (or notes) to every class meeting.

Reading and Discussion. This is the type of class where discussion is important. We’ll discuss readings, pre-viewing details, and films. You need to participate in discussions and make commentary that is connected and relevant to the readings and films. You will receive a daily score for your efforts, which includes an evaluation of your completion of reading assignments.

Pre-viewing Info Worksheet. You’ll prepare one pre-viewing worksheet for a film that you’ve been assigned. This will be one to two pages (see sample on Blackboard [also discussed during our first class meeting]). You need to submit the worksheet by 4 p.m. (via email) on the day that your assigned film screens. You should also prepare questions and be ready to facilitate the post-screening discussion.

Film Reactions (Tumblr). Following two to three of the films that we screen (select ones that resonate with you), you should write a reaction to the film. A paragraph (or two) should suffice. Writing and analytic quality will be assessed. Submit via Tumblr (http://craigengstrom.info/submit).

Film Review/Film Treatment. For the final assignment (due February 1, 2015, midnight), you need to write a film review of one the movies screened in class. It should connect with readings and the overall focus on identity in this course. Note that this is not a report. For ideas about how to write a film review, see http://www.dailywritingtips.com/7-tips-for-writing-a-film-review. If a film review does not appeal to you, write a movie script treatment that described the story you’d like to tell about culture and identity. Here is how to write a treatment: http://www.movieoutline.com/articles/how-to-write-a-treatment.html. Either of these documents is likely to be about 2–4 pages (single-spaced lines).

Additional Film. You can watch an additional film and write a one-page argument that explains why the film would (not) be a good fit for the course. This is an “extra effort” assignment.
Intercultural Films

01/14 – 01/30/2015:
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday (6:00 p.m. to 9:45 p.m.).
13 days (225 mins. each class)

--Readings Subject to Change--

Day 1: Exploring Intercultural Identity through Film | Weds., Jan. 14

Film(s): Lost in Translation (2003; dir. Sofia Coppola, USA, 101 mins.)

– Day 1 Vocab Packet: Communication, Culture, Identity, Narrative, Hermeneutics
– Ott & Keeling, pp. 363–365

Day 2: Social/Political Context and Identity | Thurs., Jan. 15

Film(s): The Band’s Visit (2007; dir. Eran Kolirin, Israel, 87 mins.)
Waltz with Bashir (2008; dir. Ari Folman, Israel/Germany, 90 mins.)

– Day 2 Vocab Packet: Discourse, Agency, Anti-essentialism, Identity Politics

Day 3: Social/Political Context and Identity | Fri., Jan. 16

Film(s): Waltz with Bashir – Part 2
The Reluctant Fundamentalist (2013; dir. Mira Nair, USA/UK/Qatar, 130 mins.)

Readings: – Day 3 Vocab Packet: Authenticity, Simulacrum, Aesthetics, Consumption
– Baseer, pp. all (except section labeled ‘methodology.’)
– Iqbal, pp. 242–244

Day 4: Social/Political Context and Identity | Mon., Jan. 19

Film(s): City of God (2002; dirs. Fernando Meirelles & Kátia Lund, Brazil, 130 mins.)

Readings: – Day 4 Vocab: Genre, Space, Cultural Materialism, Globalization, Glocalization, Governmentality
– What is slum tourism? (Website)
– Beck, pp. 24–27
– Freire-Modeiros, pp. 21–23
Day 5: Subaltern Voices and Identity | Tues., Jan. 20

**Film(s):**  
*Smoke Signals* (1998; dir. Chris Eyre, USA/Canada, 89 mins.)  
*Omar* (2014; dir. Hany Abu-Assad, Palestine, 96 mins., part 1)

**Readings:**  
- Day 5 Vocab: *Subaltern, Subject position, Subjectivity, Reflexivity, Stereotype*  
- Alexie, Introduction (all)

Day 6: Subaltern Voices and Identity | Weds., Jan. 21

**Film(s):**  
*Omar – Part 2*  
*Prisoner of the Mountains* (1997; dir. Sergie Bodrov, Russia/Kazakhstan, 98 mins)

**Readings:**  
- Day 6 Vocab: Citizenship, Diaspora, Nation-state, Grand narrative, Cultural Imperialism, Imagined community

Day 7: Gender, Sexuality, and Identity | Thurs., Jan. 22

**Film(s):**  
*Quinceñera* (2006; dir. Richard Glatzer & Wash Westmoreland, US, 90 mins.)  

**Readings:**  
- Day 7 Vocab: Canon, Ideology, Performativity, Gender  
- Newman (pp. 1–2)

Day 8: (Dis)ability and Identity | Fri., Jan. 23

**Film(s):**  
*Whale Rider – Part 2*  
*The Intouchables* (2011; dir. Olivier Nakache & Éric Toledano, France, 113 mins.)

**Readings:**  
- Day 8 Vocab: *Body, Intertextuality, Différance, Identification*

Day 9: Religion and Identity | Mon., Jan. 26

**Film(s):**  
*A Separation* (dir. Asghar Farhadi, Iran, 123 mins.)

**Readings:**  
- Darmer, “A closer look at whalerider,” pp. 74–78  
Day 10: Aging and Identity | Tues, Jan. 27

Film(s): *Poetry* (2010; dir. Lee Chang-dong, South Korea, 139 mins)

Readings: – *Wikipedia Entry for Poetry (see URL)*
– Guardian Film Review
– Roger Ebert Review

Day 11: Aging and Identity | Wed., Jan. 28

Film(s): *Autumn Spring* (2001; dir. Vladimír Michálek, Czech Republic, 100 mins)

Readings: – Lisa Thatcher Review

Day 12: Sport/Media and Identity | Thurs., Jan. 29

Film(s): *Lagaan* (2001; dir. Ashutosh Gowariker, India, 224 mins)

Readings: – Day 12 Vocab: *National identity, Orientalism*
– Select readings on India history, colonization, and cricket (TBD)

Day 13: Vampires and Identity | Fri., Jan 30

Film(s): *Let the Right One In* (2008; dir. Tomas Alfredsen, Sweden, 114 mins.)

Readings: – Calhoun, pp. 27–31