

POLS 314 Politics and Cinema

Social | Science | Fiction



Boğaziçi University
Department of Political Science and
International Relations

Spring 2018
WWW 678 Mithat Alam Film Center
Koray Çalışkan
koray.caliskan@boun.edu.tr
Office: 212 359 6526

Office Hours: T 15:00-17:00 @IB504

Teaching Assistant:
Umut Mişe
mise.umut@gmail.com

Student Teaching Assistant:
Sevde Ünal
sevdeunal@hotmail.com

This course is a lab. We will pursue social scientific questions and address them in fiction. We will experiment various forms of social science fiction in short film. Carrying out research on how short fiction filmmakers of Turkey and abroad address questions of social and political nature, we will ask: How to address social and political concerns by writing a script? There is no reading pack. However, students are required to chose a matter of concern among the following themes: Class, Gender, Ethnicity, Solitude, Nature, Life, Death, Inequality, Generations, City, Immigration, Childhood, Discipline, Power, Nature, Science, Geography, Family. Please feel free to propose your own matter of concern if not in the list. Then each student will consult the instructor to put together a reading list for his or her theme and write max 5 pages long, single spaced review paper on it. Each week we will see films made around these concerns. We'll also have ten-minute-long presentations on the films and the theme of the short film. The presentation should map the main social scientific discussion on the topic and present an interpretation on the film. The presentation will frame the theme within social scientific discussion. For example, if the theme is "Class", the presenter need to give us a brief account on how class is understood in social theory, then an analysis of class in Turkey, and finally an interpretation of the short film on class.

Requirements:

Presentation:	15% (to be delivered in class)
Script Research Proposal:	15% (due on March 7)
Review Paper on the Theme	15% (due on April 25)
Short Film Script	40% (due on final date, in my box in the dept.)
Participation and Attendance	15%

Research: You are required to carry out research for preparing to write your script.

Research Proposal: You need to hand in a research proposal that specifies your research question, a literature review, sources that you will consult, the people you want to interview, the geography you want to observe. No page limits.

Review Paper: You will write a max 5 pages long review paper (excluding the bibliography) on the literature you cover for the class and in your proposal.

Class Participation: It is essential that students come and contribute to class discussions. This contribution and attendance will carry 15% of the course grade.

Presentation: Each student will make one presentation that does not exceed 10 minutes. Please make sure to rehearse.

Script: You will hand in a short film script (min 20 max 25 pages). It has to meet industry standard written with Celtx in Turkish.

Guidelines for Students with Disabilities

I will do my best to help students with documented disabilities. If you have a disability, please see me in my first office hour. You can also consult http://www.boun.edu.tr/government/disabled_students_tur.html for further information on how you can receive support at Boğaziçi University. For further information, you can call the chair of the Commission for Disabled Students.

Course Outline

February 7:

Planning, Organization, Discussion, Script writing on Celtx:

February 14: Working Class

Sardunya. Mustafa Emin Büyükcoşkun. 18'00''. 2007. (Hisar 8)

Ayak Altında. Cem Öztüfekçi. 18'00''. 2007

Esma. Koray Çalışkan. 18'04''. 2009. (Hisar 10)

February 21: Everyday Politics

Rıfat. 16'38'', (Hisar 6), 2005.

Cennette'de Ölüm Var. Savaş Baykal. 15'00''. 2009.

Apartman. Seyfi Teoman. 23'00'' (Hisar 5) 2004

February 28: Gender and Generation

Edifice, Irmak Karasu, 13', 2014, (Hisar 15)

The Tonto Woman. Daniel Barber. 35'00''. 2008.

March 7: Childhood and Politics

Bisqilet. Serhat Karaaslan. 17'30''. 2010

Berfeşir- Dondurma, Serhat Karaaslan, 20', 2014 (Hisar 15).

Ali Ata Bak. Orhan İnce. 12' 00''. 2011

Proposal due in class

March 14: State, Power, Ideology

Qapsul. Yakup Tekintangaç. 2013 (Hisar 2014)

Tabu. Mehmet İrfanoğlu. 8'17'' (Hisar 15)

Büst. Hakan Hücüm. 16' 00''. 2016

March 21: Authoritarianism

Sudan Korkan Adamlar. Selim Akgül. 12' 00''. 2011.

Erkek Adam, Elif Refiğ, 20'00'', 2009, (Hisar 1)

Harlig ar Jordan, World of Glory. Roy Anderson. 16'00''. 1991.

No class on March 28

April 4: Racism

Dönüşü Olmayan Yolculuk, Güçlü Yaman, 17'00'', 2010.

Valgaften- Election Night, Anders Thomas Jensen. 11'00''. 1998

The Mozart of Pickpockets. Philippe Pollet- Villard. (France)* 31'00'' .2006.

April 11: Identity and Ethnicity

Berf, Erol Mintaş, 20'00'', 2009, (Hisar 10).

Deng, Filiz Işık Bulut, 20'00'', 2009, (Hisar 10)

Azad, Yakup Tekintangaç, 16'00'', 2014, (Hisar 16)

April 18: Spring Break

April 25: Othering

Review Paper due in Class

Orman, Onur Saylak ve Ömer Çapoğlu, 13'39'', 2015, (Hisar 16).

Bir Damla Su, Gamze Deniz Ergüven, 18'57'', 2006, (Hisar 7)

Ata, Çağla Zencirci, 26'00'', 2008, (Hisar 9).

May 2: Solitude

Eva. Ziya Demirel. 13'43''. 2012

Bara Prata Lite-Talk. Lukas Moodyson. 13'56'' (Sweden). 1997

Derin Nefes Al. Başak Büyükçelen. 9'00''. 2012

May 9: Countryside

Süt ve Çukolata. Senem Tüzen. 26'00''. 2008. (Hisar 9)