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**FIRST SEMESTER 2020-2021**

# Course Handout Part II

17-08-2020

In addition to part I (General Handout for all courses appended to the time table) this portion gives further specific details regarding the course.

*Course No*.: HSS F325

*Course Title*: Cinematic Adaptation

*Instructor-in-charge*: Shilpaa Anand

**Scope and Objectives of the course:**

Cinematic adaptation will be studied as a *process* and not as a *product* alone. The course introduces students to analysis of literary (drama, poetry, novel, short story, life-writing) and popular texts (folk tales, comics, fairy tales) and their adaptations into cinema. The course will enable students to think about different aspects of cinematic adaptation such as: What motivates a cinematic adaptation of a literary or popular text? What are the different ways in which a text and its adaptation are related? What can we learn about the production and circulation of texts and their adaptations? Students will be introduced to theory and concepts related to cinematic adaptation such as ‘fidelity’, ‘intertextuality’, ‘interpretation’, ‘translation’, ‘mutation’ and ‘temporality’ and acquire a suitable vocabulary with which to describe and discuss adaptations. Students will be encouraged to observe and analyze the differences and similarities involved in cinematic adaptation of different literary and popular genres, e.g., novels, short stories, comics, biographies. Another feature the course focuses on how cinematic adaptations of the same text may vary across time, social circumstances and cultural contexts.

Objectives:

* Observe and analyze adaptation of literary and popular texts into cinema.
* Write about cinematic adaptations using theoretical vocabulary
* Examine adaptation of different literary and popular genres into cinema

**Textbook:**

*A Companion to Literature, Film and Adaptation*Edited by Deborah Cartmell (2012, Wiley Blackwell)

**Reference Books:**

1. *The Literature Film Reader: Issues of Adaptation* Edited by James M.Welsh and Peter Lev (2007, Scarecrow Press)

2. *Adaptation and Appropriation* Julie Sanders (2006, Routledge)

3. *Theory of Adaptation* Linda Hutcheon (2006, Routledge)

**Course Plan:**

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| **Lecture No.** | **Learning objectives** | **Topics to be covered** | **Chapter in the Text Book** |
| 1 | Comprehend course objectives and material and logistics of online classroom | Course objectives, textbook and reference book | Course Handout |
| 2-3 | Acquaint oneself with the pros and cons of comparing literary texts and films; Acquire a vocabulary to discuss adaptations | Concept: Fidelity and the problem of ‘it’s not like that in the book’  Genre of focus: short stories  E.g. Edgar Allan Poe’s ‘The Tell Tale Heart’ | TB: Pages 1-14  RB1:Intro. and Chapter 1 |
| 4-6 | Distinguish between the concepts of adaptation and appropriation | Concept: Adaptation and appropriation  Genre of focus: short stories  E.g. multiple adaptations of Edgar Allan Poe’s ‘The Tell Tale Heart’ | TB: Chapter 3 |
| 10-14 | Explain and analyze cinematic adaptation of novels; Distinguish narrative aspects of text and film | Concept: Narrative; Narrator and point-of-view  Genre of focus: novels  E.g. adaptations of *Heart of Darkness* and *Ice-Candy Man* | TB: Chapter 21  RB1: Chapter 3 |
| 15-17 | Comprehend and discuss cinema as a kind of language with a visual grammar; Discern features of cinematic adaptation of drama | Theme: Visual Culture/Visual Literacy  Genre of focus: Shakespeare’s plays  E.g. adaptations of *Hamlet* | TB: Chapter 12  RB1: Chapters 7,8  RB 2: Chapter 3 |
| 18-20 | Comprehend and explain the theory of adaptation as intertextuality | Concepts: Intertextuality and intermediality  Genre of Focus: Shakespeare’s plays  E.g. adaptations of *Macbeth* | TB: Chapter 5 |
| 21-23 | Discuss the theory of authorship in literature and cinema | Concept: Authorship/ auteur cinema  Genre of focus: short stories  E.g. Hitchcock’s *Rear Window*; Satyajit Ray’s adaptations of Rabindranath Tagore’s short stories | TB: Chapter 6 |
| 24-26 | Comprehend and distinguish processes of adapting prose and poetry into screenplays | Theme: Adapting different genres to screenplay  Genre of focus: literary classics; poetry  E.g. adaptations of *The Yellow Wallpaper* | TB: Chapter 23 |
| 27-29 | Discern features of adaptation of biographies/autobiographies; Describe theories of audience in relation to literature and cinema | Concept: Audience theory/ Reception theory  Genre of focus: Biopic  E.g. *Gandhi*/*Manto* | RB1: Chapters 18,19,20 |
| 30-33 | Describe and analyze cinematic adaptations of multimedia texts such as comics | Theme: Adaptation as translation;  Genre of focus: comics and graphic texts; painting into film  E.g. *X-Men* series and *Persepolis* | TB: Chapter 8  and Supplementary readings |
| 34-36 | Explain aspects of cinematic adaption of oral narratives; discuss dynamics of the adaptation industry | Theme: Production and the film adaptation market  Genre of focus: fantasy; fairy tales and folk tales  E.g. *Harry Potter* | TB1: Chapters 7, 22  RB2: Chapter 5 |
| 37-39 | Discuss cinematic adaptation of music into cinema | Genre of focus: Music as well as Broadway musicals | TB: Chapter 17 |
| 40 | Overview of contemporary debates in adaptations | Theme: Adaptations in the time of streaming platforms  Genre of focus: short stories and novels  E.g.: *Handmaid’s Tale* and *Leila* | RB1: Chapters 23, 24 |
| 41- 42 | Review and sum-up the course | Revision and overview of course material and central concepts |  |

**Evaluation Scheme:**

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| **E.C. No.** | **Component** | **Duration** | **Weighting (in %)** | **Date and Time** | **Nature of component** |
| 1. | Test 1 | 30 mins | 15% | September 10 –September 20  (During scheduled class hour) | Open Book |
| 2. | Test 2 | 30 mins | 15% | October 09 –October 20  (During scheduled class hour) | Open Book |
| 3. | Test 3 | 30 mins | 15% | November 10 – November 20  (During scheduled class hour) | Open Book |
| 4. | Take Home Assignments |  | 30% | TBA | Open Book |
| 5. | Comprehensive Exam | 120 mins | 25% | As announced in timetable | Open Book |

**Chamber Consultation Hours:**

To be announced in class and on CMS

**Notices:**

Notices concerning the course will be displayed on CMS or other online teaching platform as notified.

**Make-up Policy**

Make-up exams and make-up assignments will be granted due to medical reasons if students have prior clearance from institute authorities and if students have informed the instructor beforehand. If a student has an extraordinary situation that does not allow him/her to appear/ for the examination/submit an assignment, the student is responsible for intimating the matter to the instructor at the earliest.

**Academic Honesty and Integrity Policy**:

Academic honesty and integrity are to be maintained by all the students throughout the semester and no type of academic dishonesty is acceptable.

Shilpaa Anand

**INSTRUCTOR-IN-CHARGE**