이화여자대학교 EWHA WOMANS UNIVERSITY

# Syllabus (2026-Summer)

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|---|---|---|---|
| Course Title | Cinema, Culture, and History | Course No. | 11343 |
| Credit | 3 credits | Hours | 45 Hours |
| Class Time<br>Classroom | Mon to Thr<br>Classroom TBA | | |
| Instructor | Name: Jayoung Min | Department: GLEO | |
| | E-mail: jayoung.min@ewha.ac.kr | Phone | |
| Office Hours<br>Office Location | TBA | | |

## I. Course Overview

### 1. Course Description: World Cinema and Postcolonialism: The Undead in Asian Film

**This course explores the figure of the zombie and the undead in global cinema, with a special focus on Asian film and postcolonial theory. From fast-moving infected to slow, spectral zombies, these films reflect social anxieties about globalization, modernity, historical trauma, and systemic collapse. By analyzing films across Korea, Taiwan, Japan, and the West, students will consider how the undead represents more than horror—serving as metaphors for the unresolved past and the failures of the present.**

### 2. Prerequisites

N/A

### 3. Course Format

| Lecture | Discussion/Presentation | Experiment/Practicum | Field Study | Other |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 50% | 30% | % | % | 20% |

### 4. Course Objectives

- Understand the zombie genre as a vehicle for postcolonial and political allegory.
- Analyze visual and narrative strategies in global undead cinema.
- Compare regional cinematic approaches to trauma, contagion, and resistance.
- Engage critically with postcolonial theory through film analysis.

### 5. Evaluation Systems

☐ Relative evaluation ■ Absolute evaluation (for Ewha International Summer College students only) ☐ Others

| Midterm Exam | Final Exam | Quizzes | Presentation | Projects | Assignments | Participation | Others |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 30% | 30% | % | 20% | % | % | % | 20% |

## II. Course Materials and Additional Readings

### 1. Required Materials

**All the required readings will be available as pdf files through the Cybercampus**

### 2. Supplementary Materials

The Oxford History of World Cinema, ed. Geoffrey Nowell-Smith (London: Oxford University Press, 1997)

David Bordwell and Kristin Thompson, Film History: An Introduction, 3rd edition (London: McGraw-Hill, 2010)

### 3. Optional Additional Readings

## III. Course Schedule

| Day | Date | Topics & Class Materials, Assignments |
|---|---|---|
| **Day 1** | (6/29) | Introduction: Modernization and Cultural History of Zombies<br>Film Clips: *White Zombie* (1932, USA), *#Alive* (2020, Korea) |
| **Day 2** | (6/30) | **Theorizing the Undead—Postcolonialism Meets Horror**<br>Film Clips from *Get Out* (2017), *The Wailing* (South Korea, 2016)<br>Franz Fanon, "The Wretched of the Earth; Achille Mbembe, "Necropolitics"; Homi Bhabha “Of Mimicry and Man” |
| **Day 3** | (7/1) | **The Beginning of an End**<br>*Night of the Living Dead* (1968, USA)<br>Excerpts from Robin Coleman’s *Horror Noire: Blacks in American Horror Films from the 1890s to Present* (2011) |
| **Day 4** | (7/2) | **Fast Zombies and Viral Anxiety**<br>*28 Days Later* (2002, UK)<br>Kyle William Bishop, “Dead Man Still Walking: Explaining the Zombie Renaissance”; Deborah Christie, “A Dead New World: Richard Matheson and the |

| Day | Date | Topics & Class Materials, Assignments |
|---|---|---|
| | | Modern Zombie” |
| **Day 5** | (7/6) | **Colonial Memory and National Crisis**<br>*Train to Busan* (2016, South Korea)<br>Kyung Hyun Kim, “Post-Trauma South Korean Cinema”; Peter Dendle,*The Zombie Movie Encyclopedia* |
| **Day 6** | (7/7) | **Hauntings of Empire in the Joseon Era**<br>*Kingdom* Season 1, Episodes 1–3 (2019, South Korea)<br>Achille Mbembe, “Necropolitics”; Ari Larissa Heinrich, “Zombie Labor and Precarious Life in Asian Cinema” |
| **Day 7** | (7/8) | Student Presentations |
| **Day 8** | (7/9) | **Midterm Exam** |
| **Day 9** | (7/13) | **The Body Without Organs**<br>Zom 100: Bucket List of the Dead (Japan)<br>Gilles Deleuze & Félix Guattari, A Thousand Plateaus (1980), “Chapter 6: How Do You Make Yourself a Body Without Organs?”; Steven Shaviro, “Capitalist Monsters” |
| **Day 10** | (7/14) | **Survival, Digital Isolation & Youth Disillusionment**<br>#Alive(Korea)<br>Byung-Chul Han, *In the Swarm: Digital Prospects;* Steven Shaviro, “Post-Cinematic Affect” |
| **Day 11** | (7/15) | **Global Capitalism and the Mobile Horde**<br>*World War Z* (2013, USA/Global)<br>David Harvey, “Spaces of Global Capitalism” (excerpts); Sarah Juliet Lauro, “The Empire of the Undead: Zombies and Global Capitalism” |
| **Day 12** | (7/16) | **The Undead in Asian Film**<br>Ella Shohat & Robert Stam, "Unthinking Eurocentrism" |

| Day | Date | Topics & Class Materials, Assignments |
|---|---|---|
| **Day 13** | (7/20) | **Discussions**:<br>Global Capitalism, Isolation, Social Media, and Pandemic Anxiety, Homelessness & Marginality, History and Nostalgia |
| **Day 14** | (7/21) | **Final Exam** |
| **Day 15** | (7/22) | Student Presentations |
| Makeup Classes 1 | (mm/dd) | |
| Makeup Classes 2 | (mm/dd) | |

## IV. Special Accommodations

* According to the University regulation section #57-3, students with disabilities can request for special accommodations related to attendance, lectures, assignments, or tests by contacting the course professor at the beginning of semester. Based on the nature of the students' request, students can receive support for such accommodations from the course professor or from the Support Center for Students with Disabilities (SCSD). Please refer to the below examples of the types of support available in the lectures, assignments, and evaluations.

| Lecture | Assignments | Evaluation |
|---|---|---|
| . Visual impairment: braille, enlarged reading materials<br>. Hearing impairment: note-taking assistant<br>. Physical impairment : access to classroom, note-taking assistant | Extra days for submission, alternative assignments | . Visual impairment: braille examination paper, examination with voice support, longer examination hours, note-taking assistant<br>. Hearing impairment: written examination instead of oral examination<br>. Physical impairment: longer examination hours, note-taking assistant |

- Actual support may vary depending on the course.

* The contents of this syllabus are not final—they may be updated.