



This is an abridged sample syllabus. Information is subject to change. Full syllabus will be distributed to registered students when term begins.

## ASIA\_V 355 - History of Chinese Cinema

Christopher Rea

This intensive online course offers a historical introduction to Chinese cinema from the advent of cinema to the present. It explores multiple “Chinese cinemas” distinguished by intersections of geography (e.g., mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, overseas), language (e.g., Mandarin, Cantonese, Taiwanese, and non-Chinese languages), artist (e.g., actors, directors, cinematographers), audience, industry, and government. Its survey covers genres and aesthetics, filmmakers, industry trends, censorship, and transnational influences. Two key questions to be examined throughout the term are: What has cinema meant to “China,” and how has “Chinese cinema” influenced the world of film? In addition to learning about Chinese history and culture through film, students will learn how to apply basic concepts of film criticism. Approximately 4 hours of class time per week are synchronous and require live participation; the other 4 hours are asynchronous. Assignment breakdown subject to change.

**Mode of Delivery:** Online

### Sample Readings

Sikov, Ed (2020). *Film Studies: An Introduction*, 2nd ed. Columbia University Press.

Rea, Christopher (2021). *Chinese Film Classics, 1922-1949*. Columbia University Press.

Selected films from the Chinese Film Classics website: [www.chinesefilmclassics.org](http://www.chinesefilmclassics.org)

### Assignments

Quizzes on readings | 20%

Quizzes on film and video lectures | 20%

Sequence analysis essay | 20%

Video essay | 20%

Group Wikipedia article editing assignment | 10%

Attendance and participation | 10%