



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**

**Xiaoqiao Xu**

This course will use films to introduce China's rich culture, values, and history. We will place each film in a historical context, considering both the aesthetic form and the socio-political content of the film, and focusing on the fundamental question of how cultural traditions and past socio-economic structures persist into the present, alongside the elements of change and modernity. This theme will be developed in the context of the different historical periods. There are three main concerns: 1) the role of gender in Chinese society; 2) the cinematic critiques of Maoism and post-Maoist Chinese culture; 3) how Chinese film has represented the nation, national identity, national trauma, the national past, and the modernization and industrialization process. We will meet online on Wednesdays for lectures and discussions. Mondays are designated for you to watch the assigned films and complete the readings on your own. The sample assignments listed below are subject to change.

**Mode of Delivery:** Online

### **Sample Readings**

You will read a research article for each film. Articles are accessible through either Course Reserve or UBC Library.

### **Assignments**

Weekly Discussion and Contribution|13%

Groupwork Peer Evaluation|7%

Four 400-word Responses|30%

Sequence Analysis Essay (max. 800 words)|20%

Film Proposal (max. 800 words)|20%

Creative/Interdisciplinary Approaches to Chinese Cinema|10%