

Title and Code of Course: Chinese Cinema – “Electric Shadows” as seen by the West

Venue and Time of Course:

Instructor’s Name: Viktória Váradi, PhD

Instructor’s Email Address: varadi.viktoria@kre.hu

Credit Point Value:

6 Number of Lessons per Week: **2** Type of Course:

Lecture / Seminar Method of Evaluation:

Oral Examination / In-Class Presentation / Other: mid-term presentation, final research paper (essay)

Course Description:

The course is designed to offer an overview of the overall development of Chinese cinema starting from 1949 till the early 2000s, and in parallel with how western scholarship and audiences got acquainted with Chinese cinema during this period.

The module concentrates on the undisputed role of international film festivals as gatekeepers in this complex process, and it applies an interdisciplinary approach to explore the wider socio-political and also artistic aspects of the relationship between Chinese cinema and these festivals. These aspects individually and also the relationship between Chinese cinema and film festivals have heavily influenced how the image of Chinese cinema in Eurocentric film studies and in the mind of the general audiences has been shaped.

By the end of the course, students will have a basic understanding of the most internationally acknowledged Chinese directors and films, they will also develop a general idea about the processes that have enabled these authors and films to be brought to the limelight.

Bibliography:

Yingjin Zhang, *Chinese National Cinema*. New York: Routledge, 2004

Marijke de Valck, *Film Festivals: From European Geopolitics to Global Cinephilia*. Amsterdam University Press, 2007

Yingjin Zhang, ed., *A Companion to Chinese Cinema*. New Jersey: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012

Jerome Silbergeld, *China into Film: Frames of Reference in Contemporary Chinese Cinema*. Reaktion Books, 2000

Chris Berry, *Chinese Films in Focus II. 2nd edition*. British Film Institute, 2008

George Stephen Semsel; Xia Hong; Hou Jianping, *Chinese Film Theory - a Guide to the New Era*. Greenwood Publishing Group, 1990