

INTERSESSION SYLLABUS: FILM NOIR

In this course we will study that important and far-reaching genre of Hollywood films, Film Noir. Our first week we will watch and discuss films featuring “dangerous women” or “femme fatales” of classic Hollywood Film Noir. For the second week, we will focus on Noir’s use of place by viewing classic Films Noir set in the city of Los Angeles. We will be watching films by Alfred Hitchcock, Fritz Lang, Billy Wilder, and Jacques Tourneur among others. Some of the films include Niagara with Marilyn Monroe, Hitchcock’s Vertigo, Orson Welles’ The Lady from Shanghai starring his soon-to-be ex-wife Rita Hayworth, and the bizarre and popular retelling of the Medea legend, Leave Her to Heaven, starring Gene Tierney. Requirements will include short commentaries on each film upon which we will base our class discussions as well as a final 5-7 page paper. All English Department courses at the 200-level and above (except ENG 208) are designated as “Writing” or “W” courses. This course satisfies the English literature major requirement for a course in literature since 1900. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email me at c.judd@miami.edu.

Our viewing list may include Otto Preminger’s Laura (1944); Fritz Lang’s Scarlet Street (1945); Raoul Walsh’s They Drive By Night (1940); John M. Stahl’s Leave Her to Heaven (1945); Otto Preminger’s Fallen Angel (1945); Jacques Tourneur’s Out of the Past (1947); Joseph Lewis’ Gun Crazy (1949); Rudolph Maté’s D.O.A. (1950); Fritz Lang’s Rancho Notorious (1953); Henry Hathaway’s Niagara (1953); Sam Fuller’s Pickup on South Street (1953); Fritz Lang’s The Big Heat (1953); Joseph Lewis’ The Big Combo (1955); Alfred Hitchcock’s Vertigo (1958); Raoul Walsh’s The Revolt of Mamie Stover (1956).

CLASSIC NOIR FEMME FATALES

Wed: Scarlet Street 1945/Leave Her to Heaven 1945

Thurs: The Lady From Shanghai 1946/Out of the Past
1947

FRI: Niagara 1953/Vertigo 1958

LOS ANGELES CLASSIC NOIR

MON: Murder, My Sweet 1944/Double Indemnity
1944

TUE: The Big Sleep 1946/Pitfall 1948

WED: White Heat 1949/Sunset Blvd. 1950

THURS: The Prowler 1951/Kiss Me Deadly 1955

FRI: Nightfall 1957/The Loved One 1965

HOLLYWOOD FILM NOIR 1940-1960

ENG 388 Second Summer Intersession

July 5-7, 10-14 Section **

3 Credits Undergraduate

Wednesday through Friday, Monday through Friday 5 to 10 pm

Catherine Judd * c.judd@miami.edu

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