



Course Description for Film Studies Minor-Paper 4

Name of the institute: Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

Course name: Film Studies Minor Paper 4- Narrative Cinema

(UG/ PG): UG, Semester 4

No. Of credits: 4 (60 hours)

Level: 3

Introduction:

This paper is devoted to the craft of film narration in the case of fiction films. Students are re-introduced to the fact that different cinemas in the world tell stories differently. They familiarize themselves with theories of narratology of two ancient civilizations: Greece and India. They learn about the predominant logic of the American film narrative: linear, chronological and causal. Time and Space is organized with the logic of the Dramatic-Analytic mode. With the Indian narrative technique the course brings in the 'Episodic'. Students learn how some Indian filmmakers have used the 'Episodic' for discursive purposes. Students learn how Indian filmmakers use Time and Space elements of cinema in specific ways. Through the semester, students work in detail on four filmmakers from four countries: France, Japan, India and the United States of America. They are also taught some basics of scriptwriting. They will write scripts for one three-minute long film, and one ten-minute long film.

The basic objective of this paper is to apply the different ways in which films from across the globe tell stories as they also 'tell' other things. The course also demonstrates the sum total of a theme, a plot-line, some discourses and some special meanings generated by the visual and sound tracks.